

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

Venue: Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham. **Date:** Friday, 3 September 2010
Time: 9.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for Absence.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Questions from the press and public
6. Matters Referred from the Youth Cabinet
7. Communications

FOR DISCUSSION

8. Aiming High for Disabled Children – Short Breaks Services (report attached) (Pages 1 - 66)
9. Rotherham's Imagination Library Annual Report 2009/2010 (report attached) (Pages 67 - 93)

CORPORATE PARENTING

10. Corporate Parenting Review - Cabinet Response - Update (report attached) (Pages 94 - 99)

11. Inspection of Fostering Services - Summary of Report and Action Plan (report attached) (Pages 100 - 108)
12. Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children - July 2010 - verbal update

FOR MONITORING

13. Road Safety Outside Schools - Scrutiny Review (report attached) (Pages 109 - 115)
14. Children and Young People's Services - Performance Indicators Quarter 1 - 2010/2011 (report attached) (Pages 116 - 129)
15. Children and Young People's Services - Budget Update - verbal report

MINUTES

16. Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 2nd July, 2010 (copy attached) (Pages 130 - 133)
17. Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board held on 6th August, 2010 (copy attached) (Pages 134 - 141)
18. Minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services (copies attached) (Pages 142 - 162)

Attached are minutes of meetings held on 22nd June, 2010, 23rd June, 2010, 7th July, 2010, 20th July, 2010 and on 21st July, 2010

19. Minutes of a meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 25th June, 2010, 9th July, 2010 and on 23rd July, 2010 (copies attached) (Pages 163 - 171)

**Date of Next Meeting:-
Friday, 1 October 2010**

Membership:-

Chairman – Councillor G. A. Russell Vice-Chairman – Councillor License
Councillors:- Ali, Buckley, Dodson, Donaldson, Falvey, Fenoughty, Kaye, Rushforth, Sharp and Sims

Co-optees:-

Mrs. J. Blanch-Nicholson, Mr. M. Burn, Ms. T. Guest, Mr. M. Hall, Father A. Hayne, Mr. T. Marvin,
Mrs. K. Muscroft, Mrs. L. Pitchley, Dr. S. Warren and Parish Councillor N. Tranmer

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	3rd September 2010
3.	Title:	Aiming High for Disabled Children – Short Breaks Services
4.	Directorate:	Children & Young People's Services

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 24th 2009. This report, as requested by Scrutiny Panel on July 24th 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**
- **To provide scrutiny on the delivery of the Short Breaks programme**

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 31st 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 26th November, 2008
Paper to Cabinet Member meeting on 25th 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)

Contact Name:

Simon Perry, Director Community Services
Telephone: 823687
E-mail: simon.perry@rotherham.gov.uk

Peter Rennie, Children & Families Special Needs Service
Telephone: 336417
E-mail: peter.ennie@rotherham.gov.uk

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 17th March 2009 and a special production of the Pantomime 'Cinderella' at Rotherham Civic Theatre on the 21st 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 spoilt"

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

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council
Where Everyone Matters

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION/VISION	3
GENERIC INFORMATION	4
Borough-Wide Statistics.....	4
Rotherham Area Assembly and Ward Information.....	4
Service Providers and Users map.....	7
Number of Children Accessing Services.....	8
Disability Living Allowance.....	9
Definitions	10
National Child Disability Statistics	11
SPECIFIC INFORMATION FROM PROVIDERS OF SHORT BREAKS.....	12
Full Service Offer for the provision of short breaks	12
Rotherham Short Breaks Service Provision	12
Gender Specific Information	14
Age Appropriate Provision.....	15
Groups A, B and C	16
Culturally appropriate provision	17
Well-promoted information	18
Direct Payments	17
Complaints	18
Gaps in Provision	18
Consultation – Key Messages.....	18
Consultation – Briefing Sessions	18
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	22
APPENDIX 1 Short Breaks Eligibility Criteria.....	25
APPENDIX 2 Children and Young People Consultation	25
APPENDIX 3 Parent and Carer Consultation	28

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

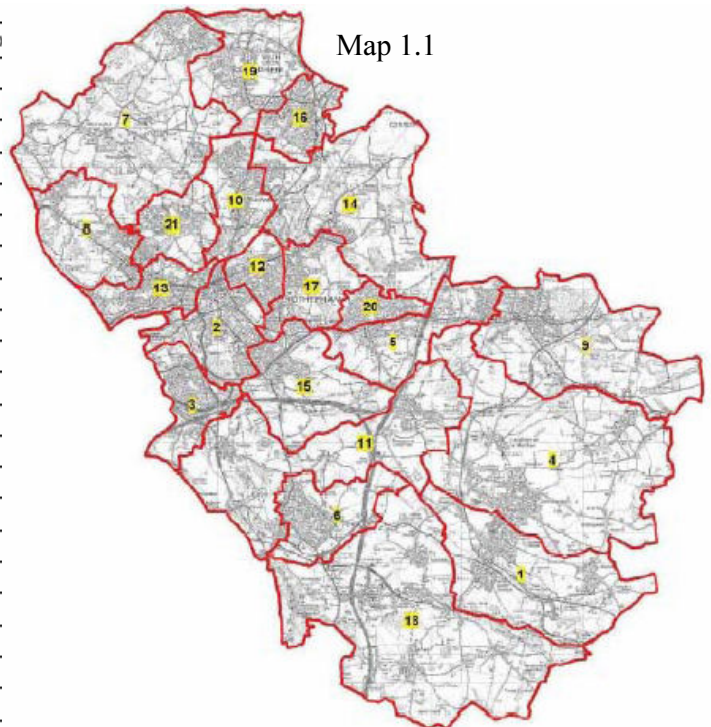
Borough-Wide Statistics

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	Hooper 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)

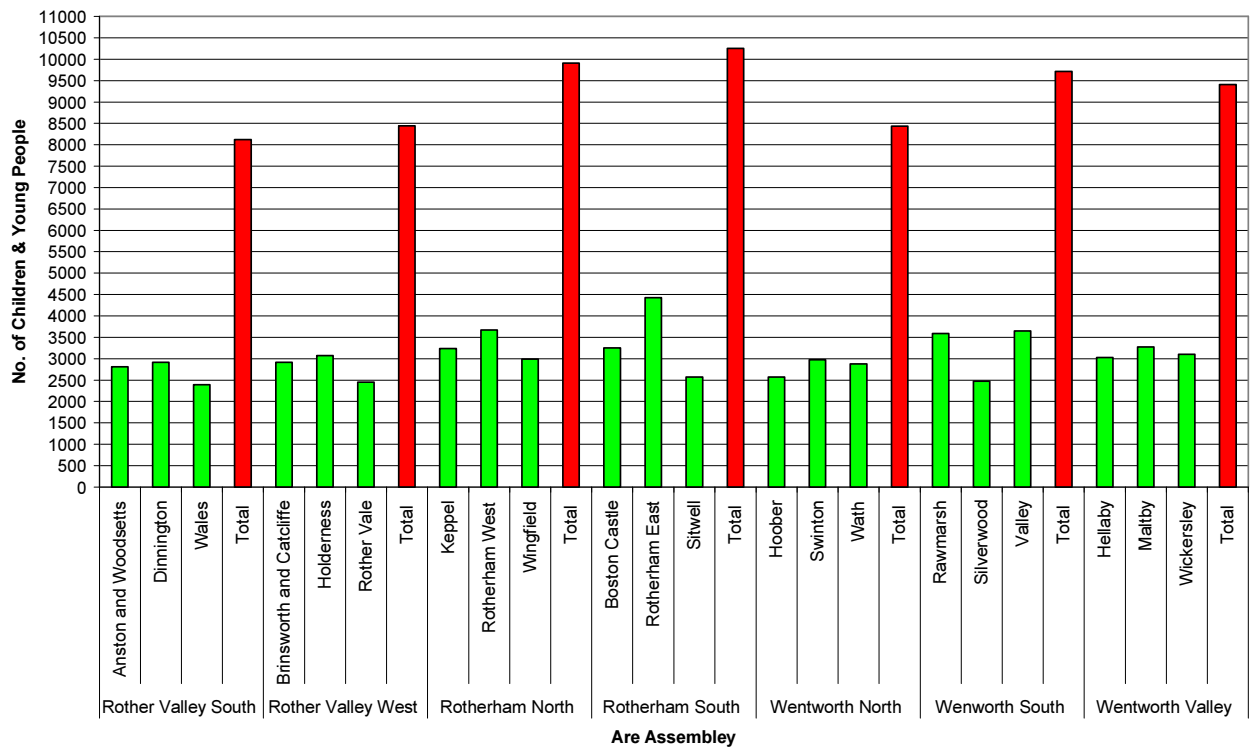
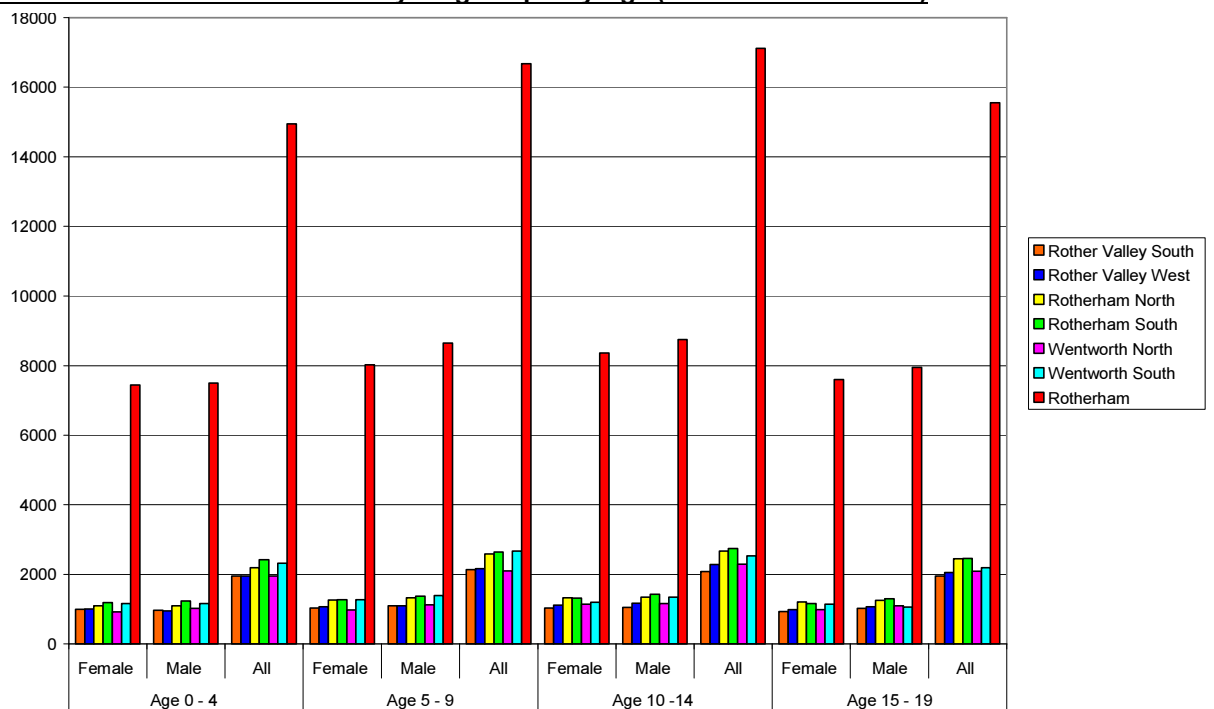


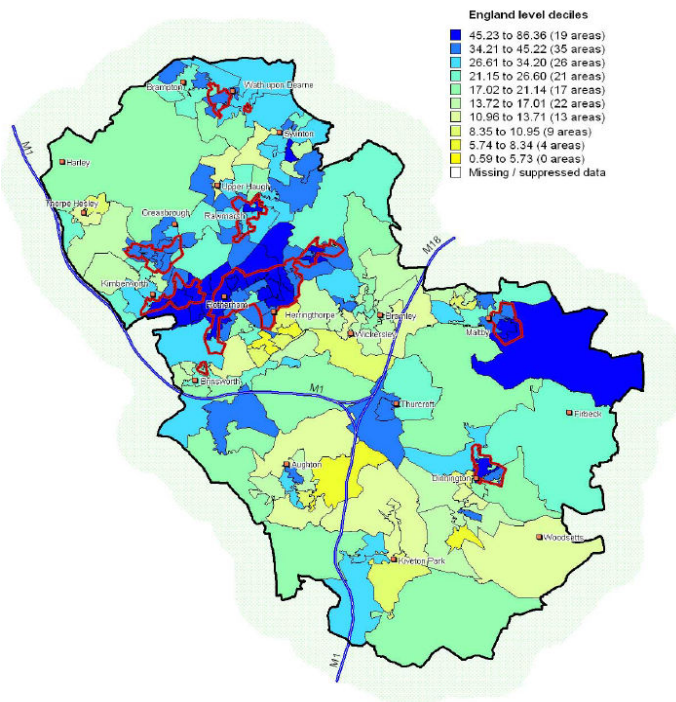
Chart 1.2 Distribution of Children & young People by Age (Source: 2001 Census)



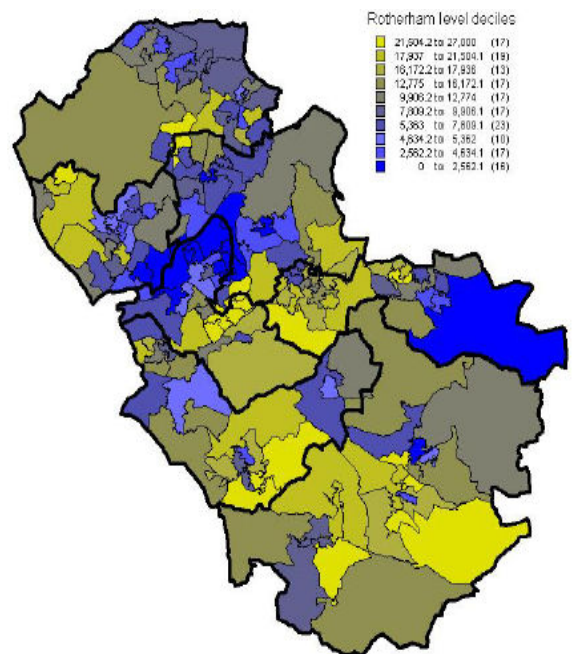
Information taken from the Rotherham Study of Deprivation 2007 shows that Rotherham has high levels of multiple deprivation and is ranked the 68th most deprived district in England out of 354 districts identified. When looking at more detailed Super Output Area (SOA) levels, 19 of the 166 SOAs across 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



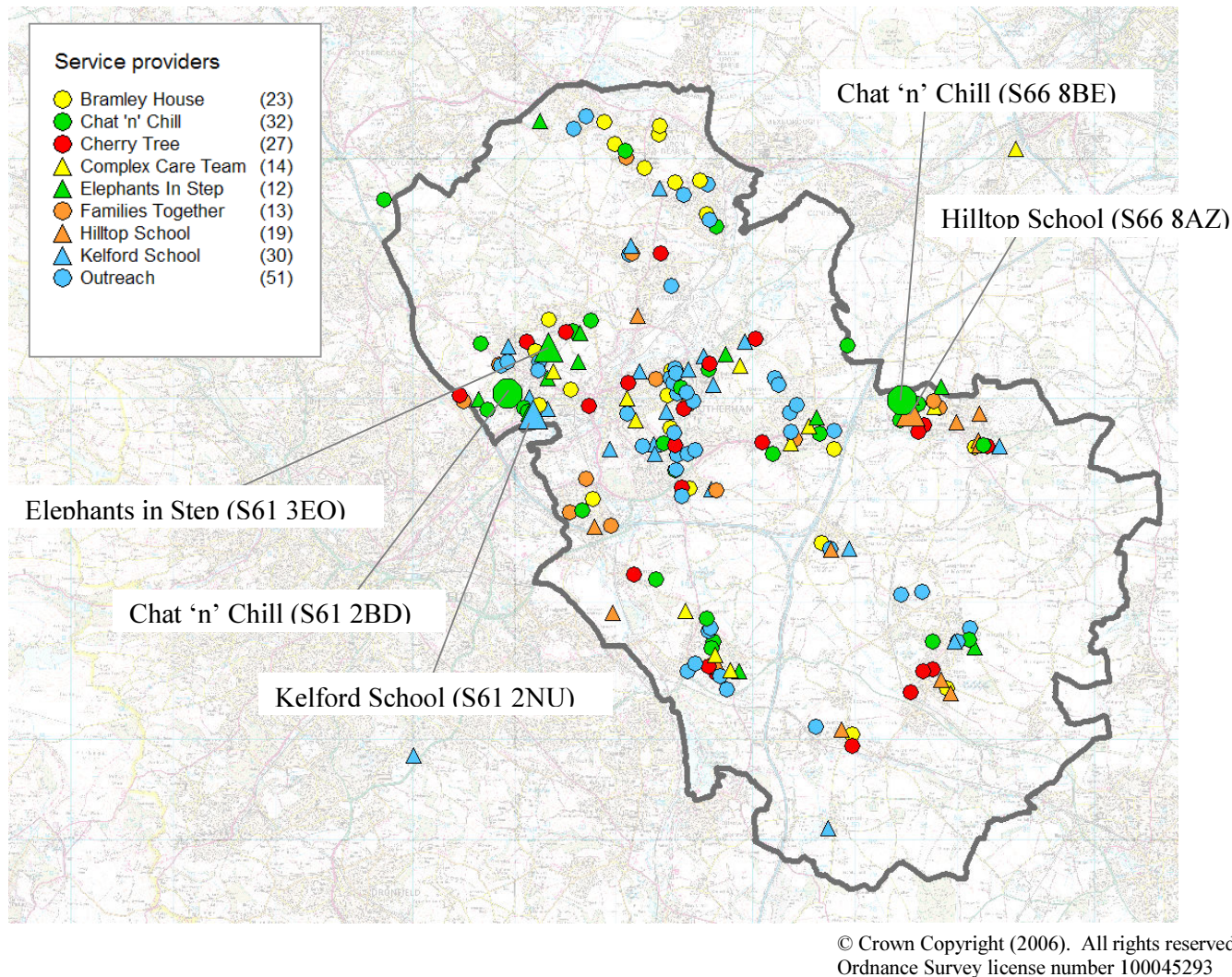
Map 1.3 – Income deprivation affecting children



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

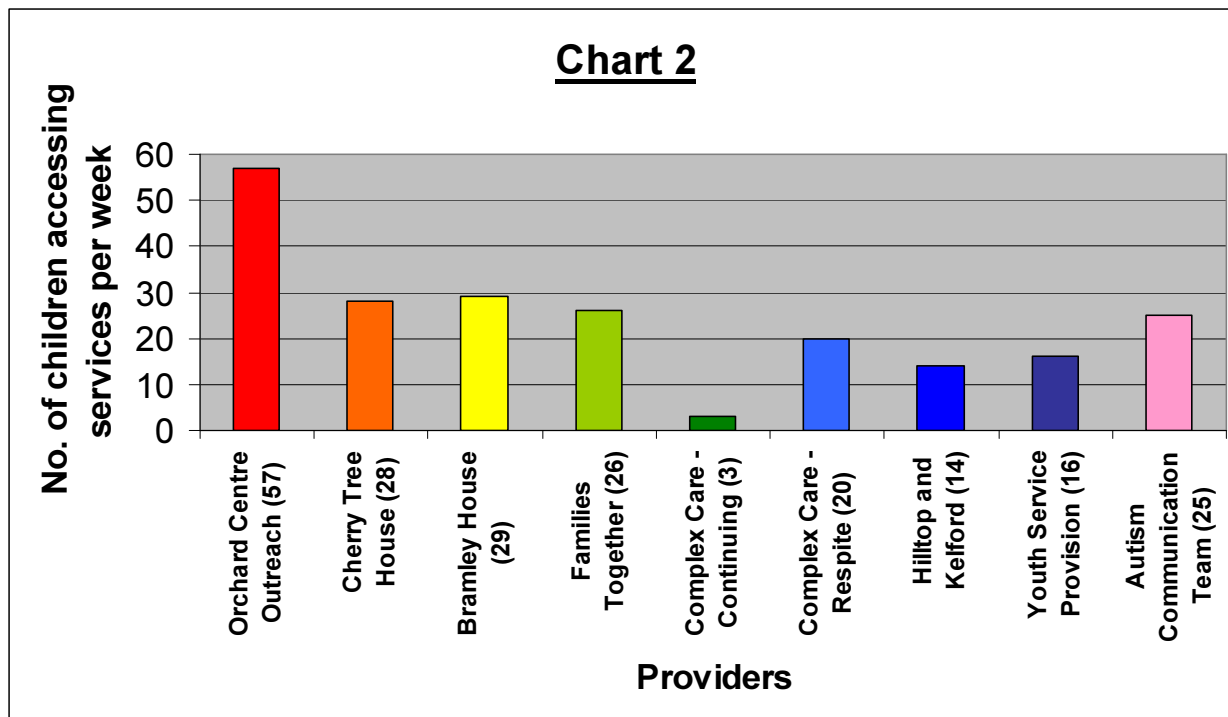
Map 1.4 Short Breaks providers and users (September 2009)



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.

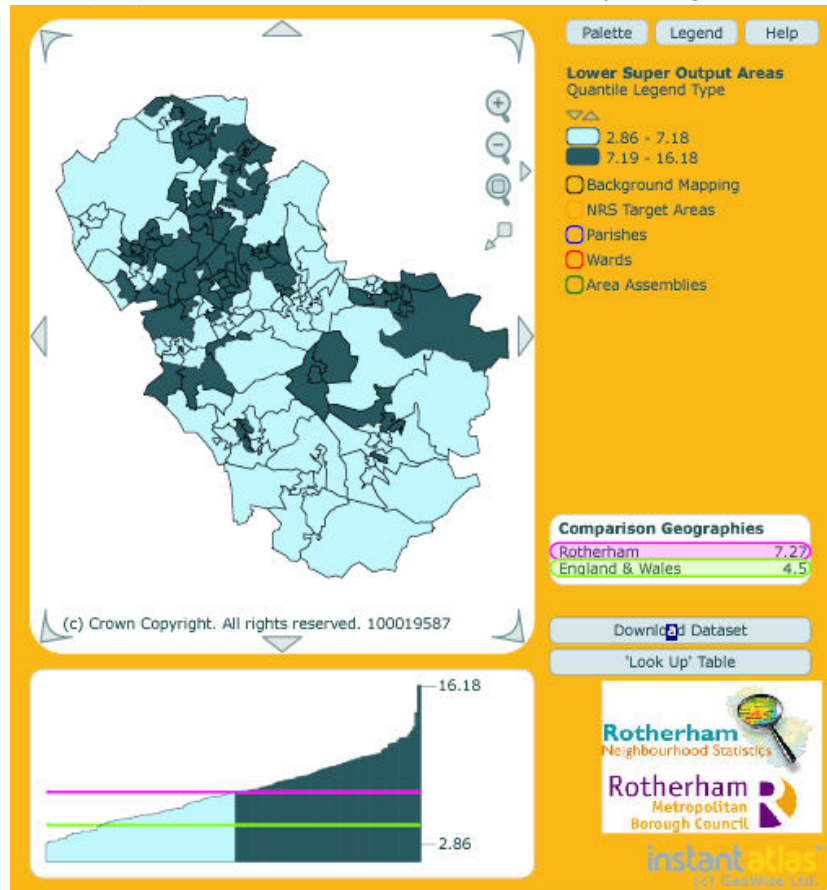
This research reflects the position in Rotherham where it has been difficult to calculate the actual numbers of C&YP in Rotherham who have a disability as little whole service research and data collection has taken place. This baseline assessment of need will use locally gathered service data to establish 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” “Health”

Physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development

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”.

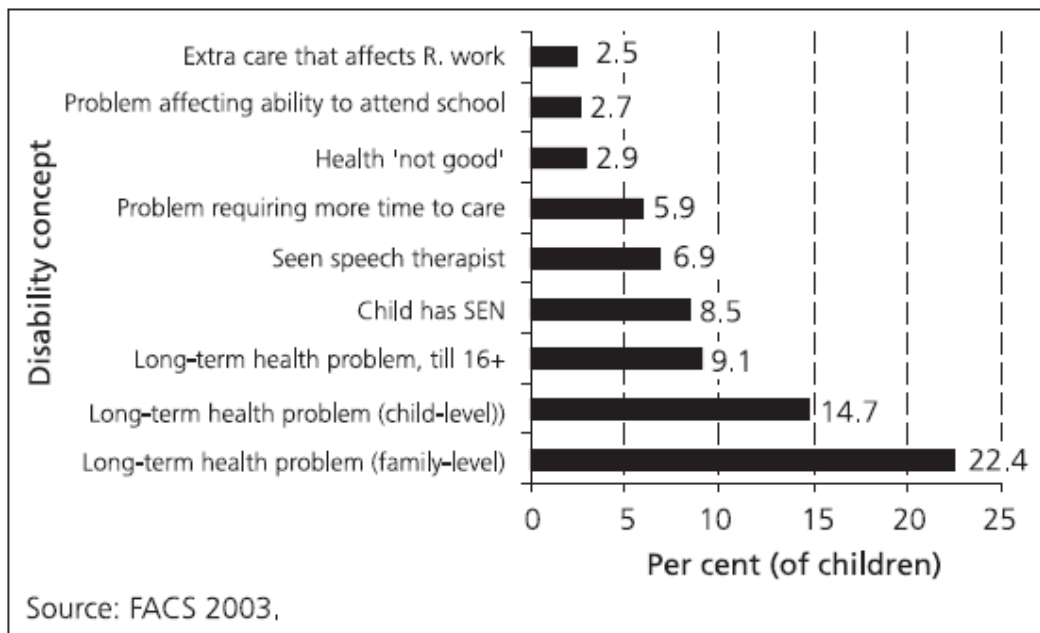
Children with complex needs will fall within these tiers of care – the interaction between the child’s needs and/or the number of needs exhibited will determine whether they have complex needs or not

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 17th March 2009 and a special production of the Pantomime ‘Cinderella’ at Rotherham Civic Theatre on the 21st 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.

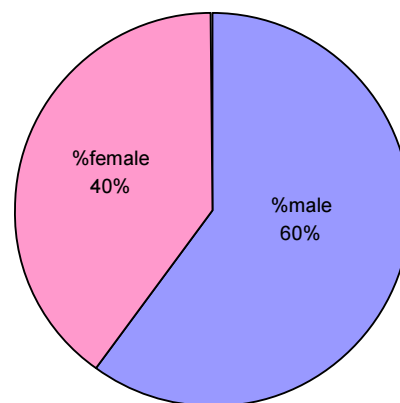
Children Accessing Services

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%).

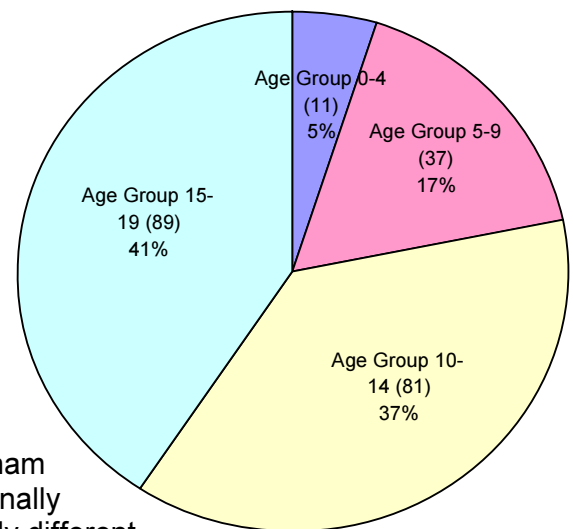
Age Appropriate Provision

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
Totals	11	37	81	89

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).

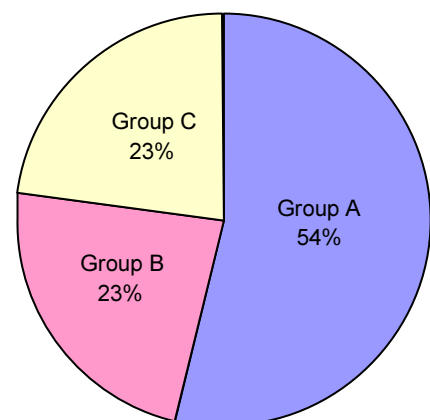
Chart and table below shows the numbers and percentages of children and young people that fall into groups A, B and C within current Short Break service providers (September 2009). Numbers shown are higher than the 203 reported service users throughout Rotherham as some children will access more than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

of Need

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
Totals	117	51	50

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



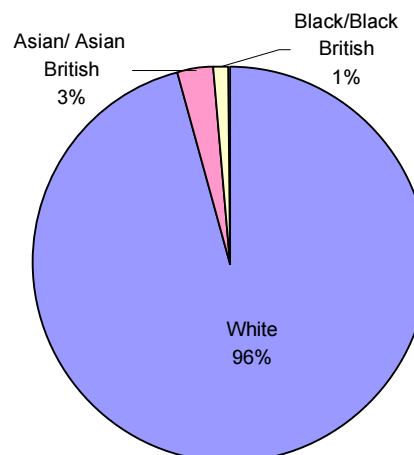
provision by providing a range of leisure activities. Since the establishment of an integrated Children & Families Special Needs Service, the Outreach Team have worked in partnership with schools and the HTHTS to contribute to a coordinated and holistic approach to provision for children with particularly 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
Totals	209	6	2	1

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.

	Direct Payments for Child Disability
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'

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

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 17th 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 4th 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 16-18 year 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.

Objective	Actions	Performance Indicators/measures	Responsibility	Resources	Risks
Engagement with parents and disabled children & young people					
The new eligibility criteria for short breaks is clear, understandable and well publicised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully implement revised eligibility criteria Publicise the new arrangements to parents/carers, young people and the CYPS Workforce through various communication routes 	<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"> There is continued parent representation at the Short Breaks Group Continue funding to meet parent forum running costs and parent expenses Encourage parents forum to become sustainable, through building project management and funding skills 	<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"> Continued funding of the 0.3 WTE AHDC Young People's Involvement Post Fund sessional Youth Worker to assist in Establish a fund for young 	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

	people's involvement running/activity costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of young people attending the Young People's Steering Group • There is young person (or advocate) representation at the Short Breaks Group 	Young People's satisfaction with the above process		budget)	
To ensure that there is a dedicated Information/ Communication service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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. • To fund a 0.5WTE Administrative Officer post, to support the information/ communication service in the timely dissemination of information and communication materials 	Information/Communication Officer in post by 1 April 2009 There is up-to-date/accurate information and advice, with a marked increase in the number of people accessing short breaks	Peter Rennie/ Jackie Parkin	£32,000 approx + on-costs (1WTE) £15,000 (0.5 WTE) £13,000 (0.5WTE)	Capacity to deal with increased volumes
To ensure that young people and their parents/carers have	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate with existing Short Break providers to undertake home visits and taster sessions 	Short Break service providers assisting families in the access to	Peter Rennie/ Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson	Within existing budgets	Capacity to deal with increased

the confidence and trust to access Short Break services	<p>with new entrant YP and their parent/carer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the above requirement within 2010/11 commissioning documentation for new provision • Process agreed and workforce development issues addressed. 	<p>short breaks, through providing confidence building for first time entrants</p> <p>Young People and Parent/ Carer satisfaction with the process</p>		There may also be a need to increase capacity in certain key services	volumes
To ensure that there is an effective short breaks communication strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 • Develop a quality branded brochure of provision, which gives clear information on eligibility and how the varied provision meets particular needs • Continue to commission branded short breaks materials and associated literature • Ongoing review of information provision 	<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>
Offer a significantly greater volume of Short Break Service Provision					

Disabled Children and young people have equal access to mainstream/ universal provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review accessibility issues with key services – to include Young People's and Leisure Services • Develop a plan for improved accessibility, with SMART targets and cost implications • Identify training needs of the CYPS workforce 	<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"> • Continue to have dialogue with the Young People's Service • The needs of disabled young people are fed into the My Place development process 	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"> • Evaluate the effectiveness of the re-configured Orchard Centre provision, which now caters for the most complex cases in line with AHDC criteria • Evaluate the effectiveness of the re-focussed Orchard Centre provision, which undertakes more preventative measures to mitigate placement breakdown. 	<p>Through evaluation and ongoing performance measures, it is evidenced that::</p> <p>The Orchard Centre caters for the most complex cases in line with AHDC criteria</p> <p>Placement breakdowns</p>	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	Refurbishment/ Adaptation costs (see capital)	Re-focussed service does not bring about required change

		are mitigated by the focus on preventative measures			
Ensure that appropriate outreach provision is available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to fund 3 x family support workers in the Outreach Team (over & above existing levels), to increase capacity 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. 	<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
<p>To successfully increase the number of family based overnight stays</p> <p>To successfully increase family based day care provision</p>	<p>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) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to employ an additional 1 WTE Social Worker to meet demand Payments to carers budget increased in light of increased number of carers 	<p>Additional Social Worker in post</p> <p>Through performance measures, it is evidenced that: the increased number of carers and placements are realised</p>	<p>Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson</p> <p>Sue May/ Simon Dewick</p>	<p>£40,000</p> <p>£90,000</p>	Increased resources do not bring about required increase in provision
To ensure that whole families have the opportunity to go on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research the various holiday provisions available Consider whether we could 	There are a range of quality holiday break options for families to	Elena Hodgson/ Peter Rennie/ Ian Atkinson/	£30,000	Insufficient number of providers

holiday for a break	<p>commission holiday provisions, attracting discounted rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the level of contribution that would be made Submit paper to DLT for consideration 	access	Paul Theaker		Costs are too prohibitive
To successfully increase group based short breaks during the day through specialist provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the employment of 3 additional Family Support workers, increase the number of group activities in accordance with young people's/parents requests Maximise the use of new dedicated space within the Kimberworth building (see Capital section) Increase the uptake of short breaks, through age specific provision 	<p>A diverse range of age appropriate group activities are delivered.</p> <p>Increase in uptake of short breaks evidenced</p> <p>YP/ parent satisfaction with provision</p>	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	See <i>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"> Re-fresh 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. <p>Specification to include school holiday, weekday evening, weekend activities and a befriending service.</p>	<p>There are a range of providers delivering high quality short breaks as per the wishes of young people and their parents/carers.</p> <p>There is a significantly enhanced geographical spread of provision – particularly in the North</p>	Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson	£450,000	Limited number of providers are engaged

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to tender issued (May 2010) • short break provision in place with an increased number of providers 	<p>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"> • 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. 	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"> • Through the 2010/11 commissioning process, ensure new providers are geographically wide spread, in order to minimise travel issues 	There is an easily accessible and responsive transport service that meets increased demand	<p>Peter Rennie/ Craig Ruding</p> <p>Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker</p>	To be determined	Transport arrangements do not adequately meet demand
Direct Payments					
To maximise the uptake of direct payments/ individualised budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote direct payments for the full range of services, through the communications strategy • Develop an effective system for monitoring direct payments and the services provided 	There is a significant and measurable increase in direct payments	Peter Rennie/ Marie Noone	To be determined	Increased uptake is not realised
To ensure that services purchased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map out individual short break providers 	There is an evidenced increase in the quality of	Peter Rennie		Providers do not take up

through Direct Payments are of a high quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage these providers to attend core competency training (see Workforce Development) and achieve a quality kite standard 	service provided			the offer of training
Capital projects					
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"> Ensure that the areas within the old Kimberworth Comprehensive building for Short Break provision – accessible and stand alone area, comes to fruition Young people to design their own youth space (emphasis on under 13 provision) Staff, parents and other stakeholders to design the group work areas Refurbishment underway <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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a plan for converting a property into a home style environment to teach life skills/ 	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

young people can take place	independent living or as a potential specialist emergency / crisis intervention facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit plan to JLT for consideration • Purchase and refurbishment of the property 				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"> • Monitor that the remaining refurbishment work at the Orchard Centre is on track • Monitor that the Orchard Centre garden development is on track 	Re-Configured Orchard Centre caters for the most complex cases & there is an improvement to the physical environment.	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	£50,000	
Workforce					
To ensure that essential posts are in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue funding key posts – including Project Officer and Communications Officer posts 	Key personnel in place	Peter Rennie/ Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson	Staff time	
To ensure that there is a competencies/trainin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the key competencies required for the workforce • Develop a key competencies 	Training programme in place and workforce trained to the standards	Peter Rennie/ Jackie Parkin	Staff time £30,000	Staff capacity

g framework in place	<p>framework which sets a standard for the training of staff in services commissioned for disabled children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map out the development needs based on the key competencies 	outlined in the framework			
To ensure that inclusive working practices are further developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include key competencies in the C&YP Workforce Development Strategy Consider training requirements of the overall C&YP workforce in terms of promoting inclusive practice Training programme in place 	Training programme in place and mainstream workforce trained to the required standard	Peter Rennie	<p>Staff time</p> <p>Training costs</p>	Poor take-up of training
Commissioning and market development					
To ensure there is a Short Breaks Group in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-visit Terms of Reference to ensure that the group is fit for purpose – membership to include continued parent and young people representation 	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
To ensure that there is a robust Short Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop contracts for all service developments Monitor contracts via quarterly 	There is a robust commissioning process	Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker	Staff time	Staff capacity

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

programme	projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs Analysis re-fresh to be undertaken in September/October 2010 • 2011/12 Commissioning Strategy to focus on programme sustainability 		Peter Rennie		is not flexible in dealing with cost pressures
-----------	--	--	--------------	--	--

Annex 4

AHDC Short Breaks Programme 2010 -2011



AHDC SHORT BREAKS 2010 - 2011

Summer/School Holiday Activities

Scope

Val Allan
Kirk House
Browning Road
Herringthorpe
Rotherham
S65 2LG Tel:01709 830820

School holiday provision of sports and arts based activities in partnership with the RMBC Sports Development Team.

Targeted at 10-18 year olds, there will be programme of activity sessions, within school holidays, commencing Summer 2010 through to March 2011. This will comprise of the following;

- 6 days during Summer 2010
- 1 day during October Half-term 2010
- 2 days during the Christmas break 2010

Each of the Holiday programme days will contain two sessions, running from 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1pm to 4pm. Each session will be able to accommodate up to 10 young people and there is a half hour slot available in between the two sessions for lunch if young people are staying for two sessions or the changeover.

The multi-Sports and Arts sessions will be held either at Scope's Rotherham base, using the outdoor space or indoor facilities, or at a range of local sports facilities organised by the Sports Development Team.

The range of activities that young people can participate in include: mini skills circuits, boccia, new age kurling, athletics, gymnastics, IT, drumming and arts and crafts. Scope will be able to provide transport for up to half of the attendees.

Autism Communication Team

Contact ACT on 01709 336421 or 01709 336422



Chat n Chill Youth Group – Summer Residential

For children aged 13 to 19 years old diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

2 day summer residential during the school holidays for young people attending ‘Chat n Chill’ Youth Group (See Weekday Evening section for more information)

RMBC Youth Service

Kerry Byrne
Youth Work Manager
Rotherham International Centre
Simmonite Road
Kimberworth Park
Rotherham
S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515424

Elephants In-Step – Arts Week

An exciting week-long summer school for 20 young people with disabilities aged 13 to 18, will be offered. Activities will include dance, drama, singing, drumming and visual arts. On the Friday, parents and carers will be invited to a BBQ with a chance to view the young people’s work and performances.

The sessions will take place at 3 different locations as follows:

- Elephants In Step – International Centre - 2nd - 6th August 2010
- Monkeys Whiskers – Thrybergh Youth Club - 16th - 20th August 2010
- Cats Miaow – Treeton Youth Club - 23rd - 27th August 2010

Each session will start at 10am and end at 4pm (2 x 3 hour sessions, with lunch and refreshments provided). Transport will be provided for attendees.

Residential

A residential project to provide a group based Short Break in the School Holiday for young people in “Group A” and their immediate families, at Habershon House in Filey. Transport will be provided for attendees.

The provision is aimed at the 14 to 19 age group and comprises:

1 x 5 day/4 night residential – 9th - 13th August 2010

Continuing Care Team

Tel: 01709 302454

Contact Gail Smedley

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.

Access: Children are already known to the Complex Care Nursing Team.

RMBC Youth Service

Kerry Byrne
Youth Work Manager
Rotherham International Centre
Simmonite Road
Kimberworth Park
Rotherham
S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515424

**Elephants In-Step – BME Project**

The Youth Service, working in partnership with REMA and Time 4 Play, are running 3 days of Short Breaks for up to 10 disabled young people from BME families aged between 13 and 18 years old and their siblings and parents/carers. The full day sessions will take place during the school summer holidays July/August 2010. The venue and times will be negotiated with parents and carers.

The young people who participate will be invited to the Eid party as a celebration event in September. All sessions will be lead by nationally qualified bi-lingual youth workers. Transport will be provided for attendees.

RMBC Youth Service

Colin Gratton-Rayson
Outdoor Learning Youth Work Manager
Rotherham International Centre
Simmonite Road
Kimberworth Park
Rotherham
S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515407

**Outdoor Sailing and Canoeing Activities**

The Youth Service are offering sailing and canoeing for young people with disabilities aged

between 13 and 18 years old and their siblings (minimum 8 years old) and parents/carers. The sessions will take place from Monday 16th August to Friday 3rd September with 2 sessions a day (09:30-12:30 & 13:30-16:30).

All sessions will be lead by qualified instructors from Rotherham Youth Service Outdoor Learning team, offering one to one support to disabled young people when sailing. Specialist equipment will be provided. Transport is available for attendees as and when required.

Haven Holidays / Wilf Ward Family Trust / Kids

Contact: Pip Wise, Parent Partnership
Tel: 01709 823627

Short Breaks

As part of 'Aiming High for Disabled Children' Rotherham Local Authority has been looking at developing the provision of Short Break services for children and young people with additional needs and their families. One of the packages currently being looked at 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 with between 10 - 20 hrs short break care and support being provided to the family whilst they are there.

How it works

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 could apply for support from the local Authority or a grant from the Family Fund towards the cost of the holiday.

The care/support package will be 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 will be 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.

The Authority is considering a trial of this Service with a number of families and has requested that those interested contact Pip Wise from Rotherham Parent Partnership Service on (01709) 823627

Early Years Inclusion Outreach Service

Aughton Early Years Centre
Main Street
Aughton
Sheffield
S26 3XH Tel: 0114 2872530
Contact: Carole Johnson



Short Breaks Summer Activity

Children aged 0-5 who have been referred for Early Years Inclusion Outreach Advice and

their families will be supported to access an additional average of 4 hours of Short Breaks per week during the 5 week Summer holiday. They will receive enhanced staffing appropriate to their individual needs.

Weekday Evening Activities

Independent Local Solutions (ILS)

Unit B6, Taylors Court
Parkgate
Rotherham
S62 6NU
Contact: Phil Rees
Tel: 01709 912422



Short Break Activities

Independent Local Solutions (ILS) are a consortium made up of the following voluntary and community sector organisations that will be putting on various Short Break activities from July 2010 to March 2011:

- Activate Youth Club
- Chantry YMCA
- Open Minds Theatre Company
- United Multi-Cultural Centre
- Families of Rotherham East (FORE)
- Rotherham United Community Sports Trust
- Swinton Lock

The range of activities will cater for children and young people of all age groups from 0 – 18 years. For a full list of activities or for further information please contact Phil Rees on the above number. Transport will be available if required, provided through Community Transport Services.

Kelford School

Nick Whittaker
Headteacher
Oakdale Road
Kimberworth
Rotherham
S61 2NU Tel: 01709 512088

The aim of the service is to assist young people aged 13-18 in accessing at least a weekly 3 hour Short Break session at Kelford School. Each session will cater for 10 young people or more and will draw initially from those at present receiving no short break provision.

The sessions will start in July 2010 and continue until March 2011. Each session will last

from 3.30pm to 6.30pm and will include transport if required.

Activities will be planned initially by appropriate staff, until a young person's steering group begins to develop its own. All activities will model a traditional youth club setting and will include activities such as pool, snooker, TV, computer games, social areas, physical activity/sport and craft type activities.

Hilltop School

Peter Leach
Headteacher
Larch Road
Maltby
Rotherham
S66 8AZ Tel: 01709 813386

The aim of the service is to assist children & young people aged 7 to 18, in accessing at least a weekly 3 hour Short Break session at Hilltop School. Each session will cater for 10 young people or more and will draw initially from those at present receiving no short break provision.

The sessions will start in July 2010 and continue until March 2011. Each session will last from 3.30pm to 6.30pm and will include transport if required.

Activities will be planned initially by appropriate staff, until a young person's steering group begins to develop its own. All activities will model a traditional youth club setting and will include activities such as pool, snooker, TV, computer games, social areas, physical activity/sport and craft type activities. There will also be a trip or visit each term organised by the young people.

Autism Communication Team

Contact ACT on 01709 336421 or 01709 336422

Chat n Chill Youth Group

For children aged 13 to 19 years old.
Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Come and join us every Tuesday or Thursday
6.30pm to 8.30pm 50p per session

Tuesday
Winterhill Young People's Centre
Little Common Lane
Kimberworth,
Rotherham S61 2BD

Thursday
Maltby Linx Youth Centre
Lilly Hall Road

Maltby
Rotherham S66 8BE

Play games, meet other young people, have fun and relax. Access via Self Referral

National Autistic Society (NAS)

Contact: Cheryl Wilson
Tel: 01709 320173



**New for
2010!**

NAS Rotherham Activity Club

**For children aged 6 to 13 years old.
Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**

Monday Evenings 5pm - 7pm, Willows Special School (Term-time only)

The NAS Rotherham Branch is continuing to deliver an out of school activity club to children and young people who have a diagnosis of an autistic spectrum condition. The club enables young people to socialise in a safe environment with trained staff and volunteers to assist them. Activities include indoor games, computer activities and outdoor activities. There will also be a monthly bowling activity for the young people and their families.

RMBC Youth Service

Kerry Byrne
Youth Work Manager
Rotherham International Centre
Simmonite Road
Kimberworth Park
Rotherham
S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515424



**New for
2010!**

Elephants In-Step – BME Project

The Youth Service, working in partnership with REMA and Time 4 Play, are running a youth club for up to 10 disabled young people from BME families aged between 13 and 18 years old. The sessions will take place once a month on a Tuesday evening between 5:30pm – 7:30pm at the International Centre.

Activities will include healthy eating, arts and crafts ‘quiet time’, aromatherapy/hand massage, drumming and drama. Siblings within the age range and parents/carers are welcome to attend the sessions should they wish. All sessions will be lead by nationally qualified bi-lingual youth workers.

Transport will be provided for attendees.

RMBC Sports Development

Amy Roden
Senior Sport & Physical Activity Development Officer
2nd Floor, Bailey House
Rawmarsh Road
Rotherham
S60 1TD Tel: 01709 822489



Increasing Access to Mainstream Sports Activities

The RMBC Sports Development team, working in partnership with the Rotherham Disability Sports Forum, are looking to increase access for disabled children and young people to existing Sports Clubs and Sports Centres in Rotherham.

Activities and taster sessions for disabled children and young people will be set up in mainstream Sports Clubs at various days and times between August 2010 to March 2011. Contact Amy Roden on the above number for further information.

Weekend Activities

RMBC Youth Service

Kerry Byrne
Youth Work manager
Rotherham International Centre,
Simmonite Road,
Kimberworth Park,
Rotherham S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515424

The provision of regular monthly youth groups in an inclusive setting for groups A and B young people. This will take the following form:

- Three Youth Groups per month at the following venues:
Elephants In Step – International Centre
Monkeys Whiskers – Thrybergh Youth Centre
Cats Miaow – Treeton Youth Centre
- The provision will be available to young people between the ages of 13 and 19.
- Each group will run once a month from 7pm to 10pm and will primarily be aimed at young disabled people in Groups A and B.
- The activities within the provision will be age appropriate and will include disco, karaoke, healthy eating supper, arts and crafts, 'quiet time', aromatherapy/hand

massage and drama.

- Young people will be involved in the planning of activities and will select the themes of specific theme nights throughout the year.

The next sessions are as follows:

Good Vibrations Beach Party BBQ

- Friday 15 July 2010 Cat's Miaow Club, Treeton 7.00 pm to 10.00 pm
- Thursday 22 July 2010 Monkey's Whiskers Club, Thrybergh 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm
- Thursday 29 July 2010 Elephant's In-Step Club 7.00 pm to 10.30 pm

For more information about any of the above events or to pre book please contact:

International Centre: Tracey Donnelly on 01709 515400 or Claire Haddon 01709 515404

Cat's Miaow: Trevor Grossett (0114 2695286)

Monkey's Whiskers: Jeanette Hamilton (01709 851131)

RMBC Youth Service

Colin Gratton-Rayson
Outdoor Learning Youth Work Manager
Rotherham International Centre
Simmonite Road
Kimberworth Park
Rotherham
S61 3EQ Tel: 01709 515407



Outdoor Sailing and Canoeing Activities

The Youth Service are offering sailing and canoeing for young people with disabilities aged between 13 and 18 years old and their siblings (minimum 8 years old) and parents/carers. The sessions will take place on the following dates: 21st August, 4th September, 2nd October, 9th October and 31st October.

Each of these dates will have 2 sessions a day (09:30-12:30 & 13:30-16:30).

All sessions will be lead by qualified instructors from Rotherham Youth Service Outdoor Learning team, offering one to one support to disabled young people when sailing. Specialist equipment will be provided. Transport is available for attendees as and when required.

Scope

Val Allan
Kirk House,
Browning Road,
Herringthorpe

Rotherham
S65 2LG Tel:01709 830820

Weekend provision of sports and arts based activities in partnership with the RMBC Sports Development Team.

Targeted at 10-18 year olds, there will be programme of activity sessions taking place fortnightly on a Saturday, commencing 3rd July 2010 through to March 2011.

Each of the Saturdays will contain two sessions, running from 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1pm to 4pm. Each session will be able to accommodate up to 10 young people and there is a half hour slot available in between the two sessions for lunch if young people are staying for two sessions or the changeover.

The multi-Sports and Arts sessions will be held either at Scope's Rotherham base, using the outdoor space or indoor facilities, or at a range of local sports facilities organised by the Sports Development Team.

The range of activities that young people can participate in include: mini skills circuits, boccia, new age kurling, athletics, gymnastics, IT, drumming and arts and crafts. Scope will be able to provide transport for up to half of the attendees.

Weekday / Weekend Activities

Friendship 2 Inclusion

Contact:

Rziah Asif (New Life - Navi Zindagi) 07989105716

Nasreen Azizz (SAFRA) 07756239426

Nick Whittaker (Kelford School) 01709 512088



BME Befriending Service

Kelford School, New Life and SAFRA have formed a new partnership called Friendship 2 Inclusion, to provide a Befriending Service supporting BME families of disabled children across Rotherham to access Short Breaks activities.

This support will include Befriending surgeries, outreach and home visits to families, taster sessions and an advisory group.

For more information please contact Rziah, Nasreen or Nick on the above details.

Families Together Scheme

Social Care Team

4th Floor

Crinoline House

Rotherham

Tel: 01709 742340

c/o Simon Dewick

Contact simon.dewick@rotherham.gov.uk

Parents of a Disabled Child

Can take a valuable, sometimes necessary break from caring responsibilities, comfortable with the knowledge that their child is enjoying time with a carer.

If your child has a diagnosed disability you can apply for an assessment for a short break to allow you to shop for a few hours or spend time with a sibling or just relax and recharge your batteries.

Carers can offer a short break in your home too.

All requests for Families Together Short Break provision need to be approved by Rotherham Short Break Panel.

**Contact Access Team on:
(01709) 382121**

Interested in being a Carer?

Please contact our recruitment worker on (01709) 823976.

A worker will visit your home to discuss arrangements to enable you to proceed, subject to satisfactory checks. Allowances are payable to cover expenses.

The Orchard Centre – Outreach Team / Family Support

Orchard House Children's Centre

St Bedes Road

Masborough

Rotherham

S60 1HD

Tel: 01709 380574

Outreach Service provides disabled children and young people with flexible good quality childcare and family support, designed to promote confidence. This is achieved by providing a stepping stone to accessing social outlets within the child's local community and by providing new and stimulating activities and experiences.

Family Support is offered through:

- Direct Family Support Work
- Family Workshops
- Post Diagnosis Support

All requests for Outreach Short Break provision need to be approved by Rotherham Short Break Panel.

Early Years Inclusion Outreach Service

Aughton Early Years Centre

Main Street

Aughton

Sheffield

S26 3XH Tel: 0114 2872530
Contact: Carole Johnson



Short Breaks Enhanced Activity

Children aged 0-5 who have been referred for Early Years Inclusion Outreach Advice and their families will be supported to access an additional average of 3.5 hours of Short Breaks per week. They will receive enhanced staffing appropriate to their individual needs. The activity will take place between July 2010 and March 2011.

PLAY IN THE PARK – FAMILY FUN & ACTIVITIES

Clifton Park – Saturday 31st July & Sunday 1st August 10am – 4pm

Grab nannan & granddad, pack a picnic and bring the whole family down to Clifton Park – come and join in the fun, meet a selection of Aiming High for Disabled Children providers and attempt the challenge of the ZORB!!!

It promises to be a fun packed filled weekend and will have activities for **all** children and young people aged between 0-19 years. There will be sport activities, games, arts & crafts, giant snakes & ladders, connect 4, dance, trampolines, bungee jump and lots more. Rotherham's Major Rose McNeely will also be making an appearance though there's no guarantee that she'll take the challenge of the ZORB!!!

Come rain or come sunshine, we hope to see you there.

Special parking arrangements for **blue badge holders only** within Clifton Park entrance via Middle Lane. **Free taster vouchers** will be available at the event for children and young people to access Aiming High for Disabled Children's normal programme of activities between August–Dec 2010.

The Play in the Park event is partly funded by the Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme of Funding.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel
2	Date:	3 September 2010
3	Title:	Rotherham's Imagination Library
4	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5 Summary

The Imagination Library is a book-gifting scheme for Under 5s. RMBC made a decision to host the scheme in a bid to improve educational and economic opportunity for the community of Rotherham.

Children who register with the Imagination Library receive a good quality, age appropriate book each month, free of charge, which is addressed to them and posted through the family's letter-box.

6 Recommendations

- **That the Rotherham Imagination Library's Annual Report 2009 – 2010 be received.**
- **That members of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel reaffirm their support for the Imagination Library.**

7 Proposals and Details

Rotherham's Imagination Library's Annual Report (2009–2010) attached.

8 Finance

- The Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce funded the Imagination Library activity prior to the completion of the formal procurement process (£53,183) and contributed a further £21,817 in the financial year 2008-09. A further £75,000 has been promised for the lifetime of the initial Dollywood contract (June 2012); £25,000 of which was received in 2009 – 2010.
- An allocation from the Local Authority Business Growth Initiative of £325,000 has been received and spent.
- The Payroll Deduction scheme for RMBC employees has raised £1,907.92
- Gifts and donations have been received totalling £1,231.50.
- A fundraising week has raised in excess of £1,231.13.
- NHS Rotherham has made a donation of £30,000.
- Originally an LAA Reward Grant of £250,000 was awarded to the Imagination Library (to contribute to the cost of books, postage and project work). However the award has since been reduced by £50,000 to £200,000.

9 Risks and Uncertainties

Educational Attainment

The performance data for children in statutory education shows that, from the earliest ages, Rotherham's children experience difficulties in communication, language and literacy skills. This pattern of performance is then replicated throughout the later Key Stages through to GCSE and beyond. Failure to achieve functional levels in these key areas impacts negatively on the overall achievements and life chances of children and young people in the borough.

Finance

If the success of the scheme continues, and if we succeed in reaching 75% of all under-fives in Rotherham during 2010-2011, we anticipate a shortfall of £32,000 in this financial year – due to the reduction in the LAA Reward Grant. If the number of registrations continues to grow the cost of the scheme in 2011-2012 is likely to be in the region of £300,000+. Failure to secure significant sources of income will necessitate an urgent review of the project.

10 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

This initiative will address the Corporate Priorities for:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Regeneration: | - improving the image of Rotherham.
- providing sustainable neighbourhoods of quality, choice and aspiration. |
| Equalities: | - promoting equality.
- promoting good community relations. |
| Sustainability: | - improving the quality of life.
- increasing employment opportunities for local people. |

together with the outcomes for Enjoy and Achieve contained within the Children's Plan.

11 Background Papers and Consultation

Contact Name: Alison Lilburn
Project Manager, Imagination Library
Telephone: 01709 822623
E-mail: alison.lilburn@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY



ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

**ROTHERHAM'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT
2009 – 2010**

Contents	Page(s)
1. Background	3
2. Aims	4
3. Local Need - Why Rotherham? Why Literacy?	5
4. The national need to improve Literacy	6 - 8
5. What does the Imagination Library have to offer?	9
6. Achievements and Progress	10 - 12
7. Registrations	13
8. Fundraising & Donations	14 - 15
9. Finance - Balance Sheet	16
10. Measuring Impact	17 - 18
11. Challenges	19
12. Governance	20
13. Contacts	21
Appendix A	Imagination Library poster
Appendix B	Chart: Registrations & Graduations per month
Appendix C	Family Learning Delivery



Imagination Library - Background

Dollywood

Dolly Parton's vision

In 1996, Dolly Parton launched an exciting new scheme to benefit the children of her home county in east Tennessee. Dolly wanted to foster a love of reading among her county's pre-school children and their families. She wanted children to be excited about books and to feel the magic that books can create. Moreover, she could ensure that every child would have books, regardless of their family's financial situation.

So she decided to give a brand new, age appropriate book each month to every child under 5 in Sevier County and send it directly to their home via the post. With the arrival of every child's first book, he or she could now experience the joy of finding their very own book in their letterbox.

Establishment of Dollywood Foundation UK

The Dollywood Foundation wanted to find a way for other communities to participate and in 2007 the Dollywood Foundation of the United Kingdom was launched - the Imagination Library was now available to communities throughout the United Kingdom. Penguin Books UK was chosen as the exclusive publisher for the programme, Royal Mail for delivery, and a UK panel of experts to choose the books.

The Imagination Library in Rotherham

Following the launch, in December 2007, a small group of Rotherham families were invited to pilot the *Imagination Library* until a formal procurement process for the provision of the books and postage was completed at the end of May 2008. The commissioning and procurement process was undertaken in line with standard OJEU regulations and requirements. The legal contract was written as a Framework Agreement and this innovative approach means that Rotherham has done the ground work to enable other local authorities, throughout the United Kingdom, to enter into the Book Service, with the same provider, without having to enter into separate, costly and time consuming commissioning and procurement exercises.

A contract between Dollywood and RMBC was signed in July 2008.

Aims of Rotherham's Imagination Library

The Imagination Library helps children in Rotherham to start fulfilling their potential very early in their life. By providing children and parents with opportunities to explore all kinds of books and enjoy reading at an early age it gives the child a positive experience and a strong foundation for future learning. The scheme is intended to form part of a range of complementary provisions in Rotherham aimed at improving young children's communication, language and literacy skills.



It specifically aims to:

- Develop the early home learning environment by encouraging reading to a child 'early and often' and thereby improve the child's ability to succeed right from the start of their formal education
- Develop a child's imagination
- Narrow the gap in outcomes for children - to help break the historic link between disadvantage and low educational attainment

Objectives:

- To encourage a love of books and reading
- To improve a child's reading, thinking, listening and social skills
- To improve the quality of the early home learning environment
- To promote parents' involvement and interest in their children's education

Local Need – Why Rotherham? Why Literacy?

Child Well Being

In terms of Child Well-Being, Rotherham ranks 305 out of 354 districts in England (within 14% lowest well-being), suggesting many Rotherham children are disadvantaged from the outset.

Children

Publication of past Early Years Foundation Stage Profile¹ results for five-year-olds has shown that the communication, language and literacy gap between children in Rotherham and those in the rest of the UK is already marked by the time they start school.

Educational attainment 2007-2009						
Early Years Foundation Stage – age five						
The 'National' columns reflect the % achieving the expected level						
	2007		2008		2009	
	National	Rotherham	National	Rotherham	National	Rotherham
Language for communication and thinking	81	65	79	70.2	82	79.3
Linking sounds and letters	63	53	71	64.1	74	71
Reading	72	59	70	62.3	72	66.8
Writing	61	48.6	61	52.6	62	58.9

Adults

Current analysis suggests about 40% of the adult population in Rotherham have some difficulty with literacy skills.

Rotherham has a 42% lower proportion of adults qualified to Level 4, and a 56% higher proportion with no qualifications, compared to England.

Employability

Rotherham has a poorly qualified workforce and needs to improve so that higher skilled employment can develop in the long term.

¹ The Foundation Stage Profile records each child's progress and learning needs at the end of the Foundation Stage. Profiles must be completed in any government-funded setting in which children complete the Foundation Stage. For most children, this is at the end of the reception year in primary school. The Foundation Stage Profile is based on early childhood practitioners' observations and assessments in six areas of learning: personal, social and emotional (PSE) development; communications, language and literacy (CLL); mathematical development; knowledge and through effective practices in the early years understanding of the world; physical development; and creative development. Staff must complete summary profiles for each child reaching the end of the Foundation Stage, four weeks before the end of the summer term (when children are four to five years old).

The national need to improve Literacy

Literacy is the combination of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills we all need to fulfil our potential. These life skills are essential to the happiness, health and wealth of individuals and society.

In the UK, 40-50% of children are starting primary school without the basic speech and language skills they need to learn and make friends. A quarter of young people do not recognise a link between reading and success.

One in six people in the UK struggle with literacy. This means their literacy is below the level expected of an eleven year old.

Which is the most significant reason for focusing on literacy skills in the UK today?

23% Economic competitiveness
25% Social mobility
25% Community cohesion
28% Happiness/ health

(National Literacy Trust Poll - February 2010)

Literacy in the Workplace

Concerns over staff literacy are widespread. Of employers who rate the competency of their low-skilled staff as poor or satisfactory, over half report problems with literacy.

Concern about basic numeracy and literacy is especially acute in retail and manufacturing – 69% of firms in retail and 50% in manufacturing report problems with literacy.

Men and women with poor literacy are least likely to be in full-time employment at the age of thirty.

Poor literacy skills can also be a serious barrier to progressing once in employment. 63% of men and 75% of women with very low literacy skills have never received a promotion.

There are too many adults who lack basic literacy skills. In 2006 a Government sponsored review into basic skills, found that more than five million adults lack functional literacy, the level needed to get by in life and at work.

92% of the British public say literacy is vital to the economy, and essential for getting a good job.

Literacy as an agent of social change

Literacy is frequently seen as solely relating to individuals and educational structures but it is also an agent of social change. It can change the lives of communities as well as individuals.

Evidence shows that individuals with good literacy are significantly more likely to trust people in their own community. This trust translates into a feeling of safety.

Individuals with poor basic skills are more likely to report being “not at all” interested in politics (42% for men with poor basic skills and 17% for men with good basic skills and 50% and 21% respectively for women).

Low levels of literacy impact on participation in democracy. Men and women with the lowest literacy skills were the least likely to have voted in the 1987 and 1997 general elections.

Partnerships beyond the school have a role to play in raising literacy standards.

(National Literacy Trust, June 2009)

**Gordon Brown, Prime Minister
January 2008**

“It’s not just the joy of reading, father-to-son or in the classroom, it’s also the benefits of reading. It’s probably one of the best anti-poverty, anti-deprivation, anti-crime, anti-vandalism policies you can think of....”

A survey of nursery workers showed that 89% are worried that the occurrence of speech, language and communication difficulties amongst pre-school children is growing. **The lack of adult and child time spent talking together** was highlighted as the key reason by 92% of them.

ICAN, 2004

Poor children do worse academically and make less progress in learning throughout the early years. The differences between poor children and others are greatest for communication, language and literacy; mathematical development; and personal, social and emotional development.

Children with a positive home learning environment achieve better in the early years and throughout primary school, and this can really help counter the effects of poverty on children's learning and development.

Narrowing the gap in outcomes for young children through effective practices in the early years. 2009. C4EO

Although the average age for babies' first words is ten to eleven months, almost one in six parents reported their children had problems learning to talk and four per cent had not spoken by the age of three.
YouGov Poll

We need to develop more active, fun, stigma-free, 'non-educational' and non-judgemental reading activities that involve the whole family in reading and give members of the household the chance to develop positive and pleasurable associations with reading.

Honor Wilson-Fletcher, May 2009

The worst scenario (unfortunately far too common) is those children who get to age seven, find that most of their peers are reading fairly well, recognise that they are failing, and turn to other ways of "being somebody". School, though compulsory, becomes boring. Even remedial lessons, though helpful, tend to underline their lack of success. Such children in their unhappiness often become classroom problems and playground bullies. They eventually enter secondary school without enthusiasm, begin to truant, find trouble, (or trouble finds them) and so on.

*Erica Hailstone,
Literacy through Storybooks*

"I don't think parents are aware that what they do with their baby at six months affects their GCSE results,"

Mary Campbell, Talk Matters, Leicester

What does the Imagination Library have to offer?

The Imagination Library:

- encourages a love of books
- is available to all families of under-fives living in Rotherham – eliminating any potential stigma
- helps to develop bonding between a child and a parent/carer
- provides an emotional outlet for children - giving a child a way to deal with emotions and fears by putting those concerns into words and offering them comfort in learning about characters in similar situations
- provides a range of age appropriate books selected by a panel of experts – offering variety and reassurance to the parent
- provides books personally addressed to the child - creating a sense of ownership and worth
- posts book to the home address – making literacy 'convenient' for the reluctant or 'stuck' families
- is consistent, long-term and encourages a 'reading' routine - starting from birth and lasting for five years
- is available at the most crucial formative years of a child's life
- provides up to 59 good quality books, free of charge to the family
- creates 'Book Families' and a language rich home environment
- engages parents, who are the first and most important educators of their children, to share stories and rhymes with their children
- helps children develop their communication, language and literacy skills by equipping them with pre-reading skills
 - listening to the tone and rhythm of a voice
 - looking at pictures
 - holding a book
 - exposure to vocabulary and word use
 - focusing and lengthening attention spans
 - making sense of a story
 - expanding the imagination

Achievements & Progress 2009 – 2010

- **A 20% increase of take-up which means that 66% of the under-five cohort are registered with the Imagination Library**
- **Registrations ahead of predicted figures**

Rotherham's target take-up was originally set at 70% of its under-five population. This population has risen from 15,200 in 2007 to approximately 15,400 today.

70% of 15,400 = 10,780

30% of the target figure by the end of Year 1 would have equated to 3,234 children.

Growth was then predicted at 20% a year, on average, which would mean that by the end of Year 2 we should have reached 50% (5,390 children).

By the end of Year 3 most projects would have reached 60% of their projected target (6,468).

Two and a half years following its launch Rotherham's Imagination Library is sending out books to 10,000+ children, which exceeds the predicted target figure.

The predicted target take-up is based upon norms for the USA and Canada and it may prove to be different for UK projects. However at present there are no other authorities in the UK that have been operating on the same scale, or for the same length of time, so it is hard to demonstrate 'like for like'. Rotherham's registration figures, together with details of participating schemes in the UK, are listed on page 13.

- **Establishment of Imagination Library Steering Group and Board**
- **Excellent support from the Registrars 'Tell Us Once' team and NHS Rotherham Health Visitors.**

The 'Tell Us Once' team have supported the Imagination Library above and beyond the call of duty. In 2009, in addition to the distribution of Imagination Library forms, the Tell Us Once team began completing forms on parents' behalf when they came to register their child's birth. This, together with the same advocacy and support from the NHS Health Visitors, has meant that we are now capturing the majority of new-borns.
- **Creation of an IDeA Podcast**

Made by the Podcast Company for IDeA - Partnership and Places library http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0i1jfzuK_I

- **Inclusion of the Imagination Library Registration Form in the back of the NHS Rotherham Baby Book.**
- **Communication Friendly Spaces Training programme.** *CFS™ Bags for Families* helps parents and carers to explore ways to maximise the use of space within the home context to facilitate and enhance communication skills. The training programme operated between May and July 2009 and twenty colleagues from a range of Services across Children and Young People's Services took part. The initiative was financed by Inspire Rotherham.



Creation of Communication Friendly Spaces

- **Imagination Library DVD July 2009**
Twelve Year 10 students on work experience at Rawmarsh City Learning Centre's Media Department spent two weeks scripting, shooting and editing a short film on Rotherham's Imagination Library. NB Figures in the film refer to July 2009. The DVD can be viewed by visiting: www.rotherham.gov.uk/imaginationlibrary
- **Expenditure (outside of Books, Postage and Salaries) was kept to under £600)**
- **Family Learning Delivery (See Appendix C)**
- **Design of an Imagination Library poster – produced by RCAT students and printed free of charge by B&B Press, Parkgate. See Appendix A**
- **A comprehensive analysis of take-up across Rotherham**
- **On-line Registrations and Change of Address facility**
www.rotherham.gov.uk/imaginationlibrary
- **A £30,000 donation from NHS in March 2010**
- **The creation of a six month Apprenticeship Post**

- **BBC documentary on Dolly Parton (including reference to Rotherham's Imagination Library October/November 2009)**
- **An 'Inspire Rotherham' research project to explore the use of Imagination Library books within the home**
- **Imagination Library Fundraising Week**
- **Distribution of monthly Imagination Library Update by e-mail**
- **Accolades**

RMBC's Imagination Library won the Local Government Yorkshire and Humber Make a Difference Awards in the 'Looking Beyond Our Shores' category in November 2009. The award recognises where authorities have successfully worked with individuals, partners and organisations outside of the UK to exchange knowledge and experience and/or develop new practice and improve outcomes.



**Making a Difference in Yorkshire and Humber
'Looking Beyond Our Shores' Award, November 2009**



**CYPS Team of the Month
February 2010**



**Rotherham Ambassadors
December 2009**

Imagination Library Registrations 2009 – 2010

- By the end of March 2010 a total of 12,416 children had registered with Rotherham's Imagination Library since the scheme was launched
- 10,105 children were 'active' members of the Imagination Library
- Of these 10,105 children - 4809 were female and 5296 were male
- 10,105 is 66% of Rotherham's under-five population of 15,200
- 2,402 children have 'graduated' from the scheme
- 367 children have 'left' the scheme
- Over the last twelve months the average number of registrations and graduations per month were 444 and 122, respectively.

List of UK schemes, eligible under-five populations and take-up rates (April 2010)

(NB Strategy: N = Newborn and U = Universal)

Community	Eligible Population	Current Enrolment (April 2010)	Strategy	Months Mailing	% of Eligible Registered	Rate or Registration (Number of Children Per Month)	% of Registration (% of Eligible Population Registered Per Month)
Luton	15800 (3,100 births /year)	30	N	1	1%	30	1%
Reading	445 (90 births/year)	175	N	8	194%	22	24%
Wigtown	300	130	U	23	43%	6	2%
Sheerness	800 (160 births/year)	27	N	8	17%	3	2%
Bryn	600	98	U	3	16%	33	5%
Ince	700	104	U	3	15%	35	5%
White City	500	174	U	12	35%	15	3%
Westbourne	150	75	U	5	50%	15	10%
Fernwood	500	108	U	11	22%	10	2%
Rotherham	15,200	10,442	U	29	69%	360	2%

Appendix B shows the number of registrations and graduations each month in Rotherham during 2009 - 2010.

Fundraising & Donations

- The Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce funded the Imagination Library activity prior to the completion of the formal procurement process (£53,183) in 2007 and contributed a further £21,817 in the financial year 2008-09. A further £75,000 has been promised for the lifetime of the initial Dollywood contract (June 2012). £25,000 was donated in 2009-2010.
- Gifts and donations have been received totalling £1,231.50 to date.
- The Payroll Deduction scheme for RMBC employees has raised £1,319.42.
- An Imagination Library fundraising pack was introduced and Early Years settings, Children's Centres and Foundation Stage Units in Schools were invited to raise funds for the Imagination Library during the first week of March, raising in excess of £1,000.
- NHS Rotherham have made a donation of £30,000.
- An LAA Reward Grant of £250,000 has been awarded for a two year period 2010–2012 (to cover the cost of books, postage and project work).

Fund Raising Week 1 – 7 March 2010

The Meadows Children's Centre at Catcliffe put a magnificent fundraising week together - deciding to link their fundraising activities for the Imagination Library with the launch of the 'Every Child A Talker' (ECAT) Parent Packs. During the week the Children's Centre organised a variety of events including: a Nursery Rhyme Trail, Sponsored Nursery Rhymes, a Bring and Buy Book Sale and a Fancy Dress day based around favourite characters from story books.





Above & Left: Meadow's Children's Centre' Fund-Raising week.

Cortonwood Children's Centre

Cortonwood Children's Centre organised a Book Character Fancy Dress & Sing-a-long Day on 4th March (see below).



Imagination Library - Balance Sheet 2009-2010

Holding Account:

EL0126	-	Imagination Library Holding Account
	-	
-1,319.42	-	Donations made by RMBC employees via payroll deductions
-1,000.00	-	Donation from a school
-231.50	-	Private donations
-30,000.00	-	NHS Income
-928.25	-	Donations raised during the fundraising week
-33,479.17		Total donations to 31st March 2010

Revenue Accounts:

E99801		Imagination Library - Books
85,230.04		Total cost of Books
122,032.04		Total cost of Postage
207,262.08		Total cost of Books and P&P April 2009 to March 2010
207,262.08		Balance to be covered by Labgi funding
E99802		Imagination Library - General
49,291.59		Total salary costs
548.44		Total other costs (training, travel, supplies & services)
49,840.03		Total expenditure April 2009 to March 2010
49,840.03		Balance to be covered by Labgi funding

Summary

-250,654.00	Total Labgi funding carried forward from 2008-09
257,102.11	Total expenditure April 2009 - March 2010
	Labgi funding fully spent - balance covered by Chamber of Commerce Income
6,448.11	
-25,000.00	Chamber of Commerce Income
-18,551.89	Balance to be carried forward to 2010-11

Measuring Impact

The Rotherham Imagination Library is still in its infancy and so it is too early to secure substantial quantitative evidence of impact on reading standards in the borough. In time, the success of the Imagination Library will be evidenced through the KS1 and KS2 results.

However Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results, regarding communication, language and literacy, for five-year-olds in Rotherham, already demonstrate steady improvements (see table on page 5). This is due to a number of complementary initiatives: a focus on Language (Every Child a Talker); a Phonics programme – delivery of Letters and Sounds; ‘Communication Friendly Spaces’ and the introduction of the Imagination Library.

“As Curriculum Adviser for Early Years Foundation Stage I can state that the Imagination Library is a very important partner in Rotherham LA - achieving the targets set within the Early Years Outcome Duty especially ‘narrowing the gap’. The Imagination Library encourages and supports parental involvement in their child’s learning from birth to five. Not only does the initiative support the love of books and the development of communication, language and literacy for children and families but it also supports the development of personal, social and emotional aspects of a child and parents well-being which underpin all learning. The Imagination Library has also contributed to the Every Child a Talker programme that Rotherham CYPS are part of. Looking at books; developing communication friendly spaces and encouraging parents to talk to children has had an impact on the conversational language of children which in turn has impacted on the improved Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results for 2009.”

**Kathy Higson, Early Years Adviser, School Effectiveness Service,
RMBC September 2009**

“GROW works with families living in the most disadvantaged communities of Rotherham. Many of the families do not have any books in the house, or would not consider reading time as a valuable family experience - “reading is done at school”.

Increasingly we are finding that parents and children are talking about the “parcels” that arrive, the children are thrilled that it’s for them. The parents who initially were suspicious “Why are they being sent? What is it for?” etc, now eagerly await the next stories to arrive.

We welcome the Imagination Library as a partner in our work with families. The books give us a hook to talk about the benefits of families learning together.”

**Sue Barratt, Chief Executive, GROW (Women Making Informed Choices)
Rotherham**

"The Imagination Library provides the children who access the Refuge an opportunity to develop an understanding and love of books. Mothers have commented that receiving a book regularly encourages them to think about the importance of books, and how much they enjoy sharing the experience of reading with their child. Receiving a book in the post is an important and exciting time for the Mother and Child and is a huge benefit for families who often have very little."

Sue Wynne, Rotherham Women's Refuge

"Health Visiting teams promote the benefits of imagination library to families as the benefits of introducing books to a child's routine include positive time where parents can read and interact with their child, building on not only a positive parent child interaction but stimulating imagination and educational attainment. The books are high quality, interesting and interactive. It is a pleasure to promote, with the confidence that children look forward to a new adventure arriving in the post."

Debbie Carter, Advanced Practitioner - Health Visitor, Rotherham NHS

Parental endorsement

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for these wonderful books, my daughter is now three years old and has been receiving them since you first started. We eagerly await the post every month to see what book is going to arrive and Hollie sits and lets me read them to her all day, then her brother reads them to her when he comes home from school."

"I am a great believer in reading as I am an avid reader myself, and think it is really great that more children are being offered the love of books just as I was when I was a child."

Imagination Library research project

Louise Ritchie and Margaret Lewis from the University of Sheffield are currently setting up a research project exploring how Imagination Library books are used and shared in Rotherham homes. They are in the process of recruiting 10 practitioners who work with families with babies and young children and who would like to take part in the project, which will take place between March and April 2010.

Throughout the research process, support will be provided by the university researchers as and when requested by each practitioner. The families themselves will be the key data gatherers, using FLIP video and disposable cameras to capture the ways in which Imagination Library books are used and shared; the research should be an enjoyable experience for both the families and the practitioners. In addition, it will provide valuable knowledge about book-sharing practices in Rotherham families, as well as enhancing the personal and professional development of the practitioners who take part.

Challenges 2010 - 2011

- To encourage take-up:
 - in the most disadvantaged geographical areas of Rotherham
 - by the families/guardians of the most vulnerable children
- To spread key messages re: the importance of sharing books with under-fives
- To identify long-term sources of income
- To embed the Imagination Library in elements of the Early Years' curriculum
- To develop the use of the Imagination Library books in the home environment
- To secure sufficient administrative support
- To ensure there is the capacity to transfer the Imagination Library registration data to an appropriate database to enable future measurements of impact
- To develop a progression route for children once they graduate from the scheme

Imagination Library – Governance

The Imagination Library has both a Board and a Steering Group.

Imagination Library Board

The aim of the Board is to oversee the implementation and development of the Imagination Library scheme in Rotherham.

The current membership is:

RMBC

Cllr Paul Lakin	(Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children)
Cllr Amy Rushforth	(CYPS Scrutiny Panel)
Joyce Thacker	(Strategic Director, CYPS)
Dorothy Smith	(Senior Director, Schools and Lifelong Learning, CYPS)

BRCC

John Lewis	(Chief Executive)
Chris MacCormac	(President)
Rob Hannon	(Past President)
John Wainwright	(Past President)

Imagination Library Steering Group

The aim of the Steering Group is to provide a forum for steering the work of the Imagination Library, sharing information and ideas and generating practical suggestions for improving performance, delivery and the quality.

It will also ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved, on time and within the approved budget, and that the project is managed in a manner consistent with RMBC's policies and procedures and in keeping with the details outlined in any Service Level Agreements/Partnership arrangements.

The current membership is:

CYPS	Dorothy Smith (Chair)
Community Learning & Well Being	Helen Shaw
Imagination Library Project Manager	Alison Lilburn
Imagination Library Admin Officer	Kate Ashton
School Effectiveness	Frances Hunt
Finance	Donna King
Libraries/Bookstart	Mark Heaton
Communication	Steve Pearson
Family Learning	Sarah Cairns
Educational Psychologist	Adela Bingham
Inspire Rotherham	Deborah Bullivant

Health

Dawn Wilson/Deborah Carter

Imagination Library – Contacts

Dollywood Foundation / Imagination Library Contact Details:

The Dollywood Foundation of the United Kingdom

Natalie Hunter, 60 Louisville Road, London SW17 8RU

07984 346592

nhunter.imaginationlibraryuk@gmx.com

The Dollywood Foundation of the USA

David Dotson, 1020 Dollywood Lane, Pigeon Forge, TN 37863,

USA 865-428-9604

ddotson@dollyfoundation.com

Imagination Library – Rotherham

Project Manager – Alison Lilburn

01709 822623

alison.lilburn@rotherham.gov.uk

First Floor, Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham, S65 1AS

Admin Assistant – Kate Ashton

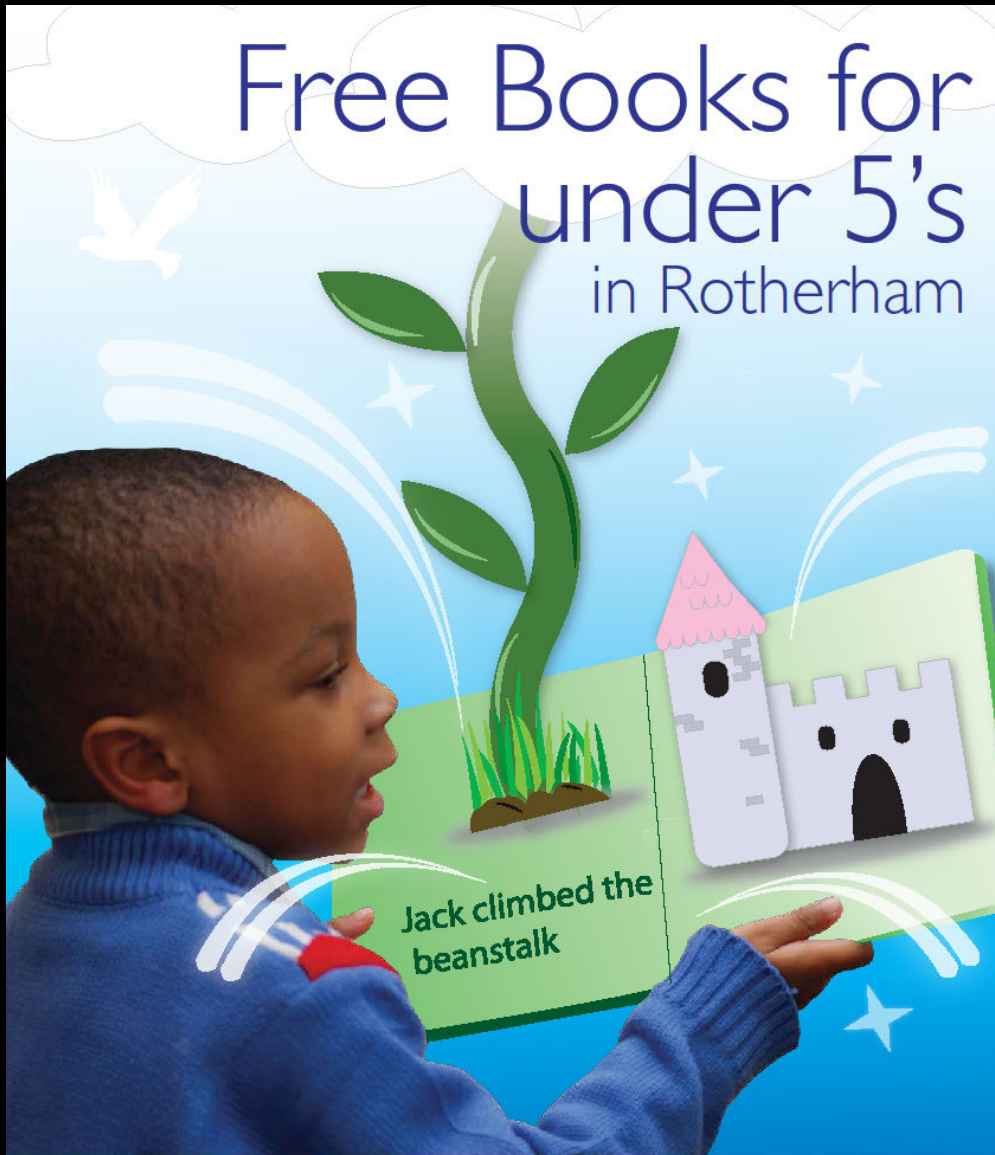
01709 822463

kate.ashton@rotherham.gov.uk

First Floor, Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham, S65 1AS





Appendix A

IMAGINATION LIBRARY POSTER



Free Books for
under 5's
in Rotherham

Jack climbed the
beanstalk

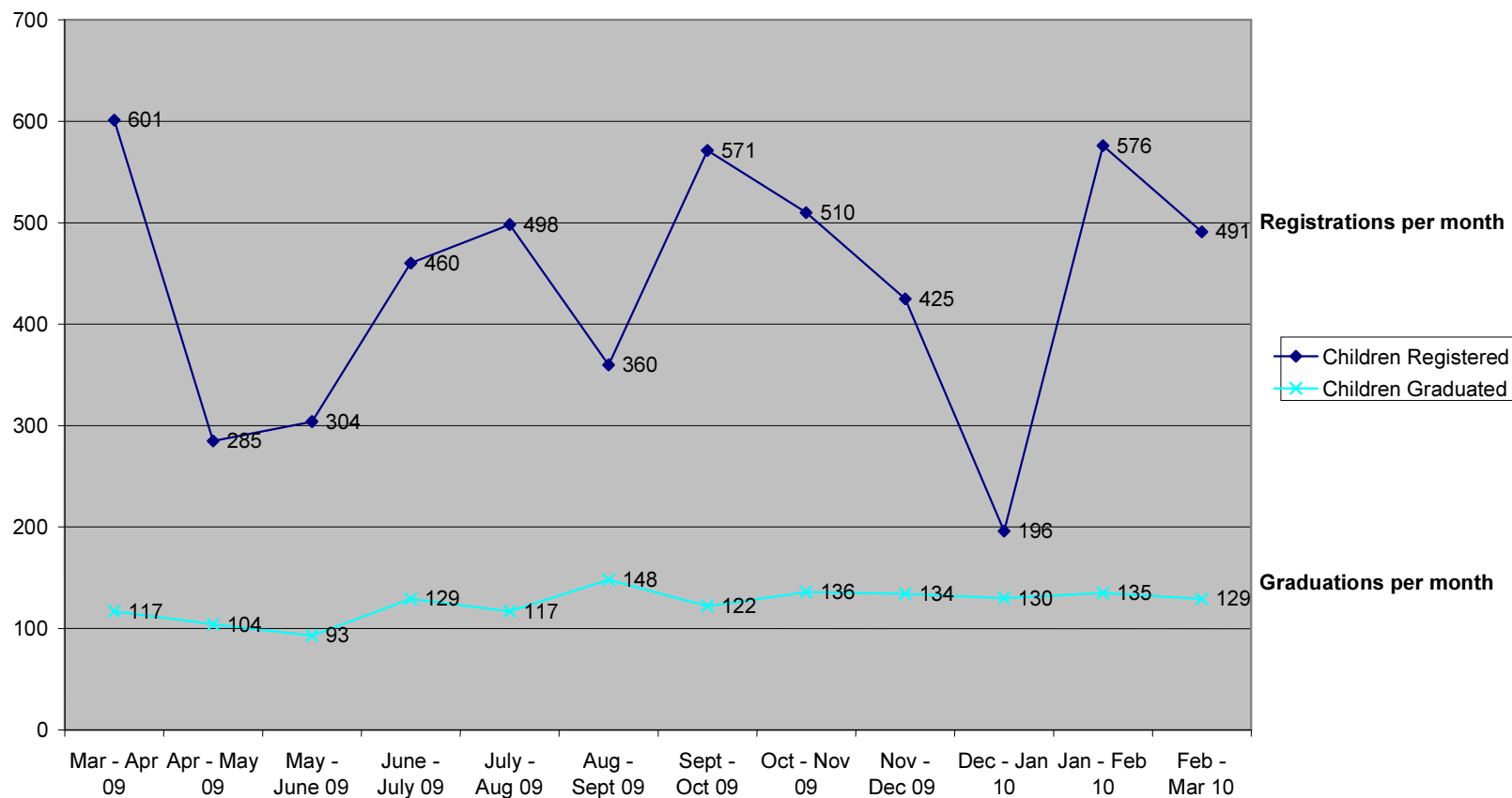


To register for the Imagination Library please visit:
www.rotherham.gov.uk/imaginationlibrary
or telephone 01709 822463 or 822623

The Rotherham Imagination Library is available to children living within the borough of Rotherham. Registered members receive a good quality, age-appropriate book once a month until their fifth birthday. Books are personally addressed to the child at their home address.

Appendix B

Number of Graduations and Registrations per month 2009-2010



Appendix C

Family Learning Delivery

Family Learning Delivery Jan 2009 - April 2010

'Imagination Library' and 'Riddle and Rhyme' workshops are 3 – 4 week courses delivered to the parents and carers whose children are in the Foundation Stage.

The emphasis is on the value of using nursery rhymes and sharing and reading books from an early age. A selection of 'Imagination Library' books is used in the delivery of the course and parents and carers are encouraged to share how their children have benefitted from the scheme.

The majority of workshops have been delivered in Children's Centres but they have also taken place in Primary Schools and the Rowan Centre for young parents.

Parents make a Nursery Rhyme sack to use with their child – which extends learning in the home. The activities promote and develop children's early communication skills. The workshops promote the reading of books from an early age and encourage parental involvement in their child's learning and development from birth.

Julie Ripley, Family Learning

Family Learning delivery

Jan 2009 - April 2010

Imagination Library Workshop Jan 2009 - July 2009

23 courses delivered

Families attended

Thrybergh Rainbow CC	8
Dinnington CC	8
Cortonwood CC	7
The Brookfield Centre	9
The Arnold Centre	11
The Valley CC	7
Silver Birch CC	8
Rockingham CC	11
Maltby Stepping Stones CC	7
Kimberworth Community CC	13
Rawmarsh CC	8
Sue Walker CC	9

Meadowview Primary	5
The Meadows CC	7
Thornhill Young People's Centre	7
Aughton Early Years	8
Aughton Early Years	7
Wath Victoria CC	9
Park View CC	4
Thornhill Primary	4
The Willow Tree CC	7
The Rowan Centre	6
The Rowan Centre	12

Total: 182 families

Riddle and Rhyme September 2009 - Feb 2010

8 courses delivered	Families attended
The Willow Tree CC	6
Dinnington CC	6
Valley CC	6
Kimberworth Community CC	8
The Brookfield Centre	5
Thorpe Hesley CC	8
Rockingham CC	7
Rawmarsh CC	3

Total: 49 families

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	Friday 3rd September, 2010
3.	Title:	Corporate Parenting Strategic Review
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

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 Cabinet, who accepted the Scrutiny Sub-Panel 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, including recommendations, is attached.

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

Contact Name: Gani Martins,
Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting
Extension 23905
Gani.Martins@rotherham.gov.uk

Joyce Thacker, CYPS Strategic Director
Extension 22677
Joyce.Thacker@rotherham.gov.uk

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review of Corporate Parenting Arrangements

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	Current Position <i>(action taken since the review was reported)</i>	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
1. Ensure sign up to the Looked After Children Pledge by all Council services and supporting its adoption by partner agencies.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That further work is undertaken to complete and adopt the draft pledge developed by the LAC Council. • 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. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010
2. That the Council's 'Pledge' to Looked After Children is incorporated into the CYP Single Plan and informs the Corporate Parenting Strategy.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pledge has been incorporated into the LAC Statement and has informed the Corporate Parenting Strategy. • The CYP Single Plan contains a focus area on LAC which references the Pledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Voice and Influence Service will undertake further work with the LAC Council on the Pledge. 	Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
3. That support is given to regular celebration events for Looked After Children, Care Leavers and their Carers.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Authority seek enhanced funding to enable a more formal celebration of Carers achievements and an annual large celebration of all LAC achievements. 	Linda Cawley, Service Manager, Looked After Children	September 2010

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision (Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)	Current Position (action taken since the review was reported)	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
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.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Corporate Parenting Board. Develop Terms of Reference for the Corporate Parenting Board. Membership of the Board to include the Lead Member. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	July 2010
5. That the portfolios of the Lead Member and other Cabinet Members are amended to explicitly reflect their corporate parenting responsibilities.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Cabinet agrees to amend portfolios as part of current review. 	Martin Kimber, Chief Executive	June 2010
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.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further work by the LAC Council and Elected Members to be completed on the draft Pledge. Explore means by which the Corporate Parenting Board and LAC Council can work together. Ensure shared ownership of the Pledge so that the participation of looked after children is at the heart of its work. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
7. That the Corporate Parenting Board acts as a governing body to the virtual school.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A virtual head teacher post has been developed to oversee the education of LAC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise the governance arrangement of the virtual school. Establish process to enable the Corporate Parenting Board to act as the Virtual School Governance. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Martin Fittes, Assistant Head of School Effectiveness	September 2010

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision (Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)	Current Position (action taken since the review was reported)	Cabinet Response (detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
8. That the Corporate Parenting Board has formal links to the work of the Looked After Children's Council.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LAC Council is now supported by members of the Voice and Influence service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the voice of the LAC Council is central to service development. Further work is necessary to establish the best means by which to achieve this aim. Include in the Terms of Reference of the Corporate Parenting Board the link between the LAC Council and the Board. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
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.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	July 2010
10. On the creation of a Corporate Parenting Board, to minimise duplication between respective bodies, that the LAC Scrutiny Sub-Panel is disbanded.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pending the outcome of the review, no meetings of the LAC Scrutiny Panel have been scheduled. However, CYP Scrutiny have assumed oversight of LAC issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny Services	September 2010
11. That action is taken to ensure local compliance with the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Corporate Parenting Board membership will include all key partners including the PCT. The TOR will reflect this requirement. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision (Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)	Current Position (action taken since the review was reported)	Cabinet Response (detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
12. That a training programme for Members is developed, reflecting different levels of corporate parenting responsibilities.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a co-ordinated training programme for Members. The training to include different levels of Corporate Parenting responsibilities. 	Jenny Lingrell, Policy, Planning and Research Officer Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	Dates to be identified by September 2010, programme delivery to commence October 2010
13. That role definitions are developed for Members on the Adoption and Fostering Panels.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the job description of Members on both Panels address their responsibilities as an Elected Member. That this is addressed in conjunction with the development of the TOR for the Corporate Parenting Board. Review Panel induction for Elected Members. 	Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	September 2010
14. That an annual report on all Corporate Parenting Board activity is presented by the Lead Member to full Council	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That arrangement is made to ensure the full council receives appropriate information about the service and the work of the Board. An annual report is produced and presented to full Council. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	March 2011
15. That quarterly bulletins are issued to all Members with updates on corporate parenting performance and activity.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That quarterly reports on all Looked After Children's activities is issued to all Members. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010
16. That work is undertaken to establish the role of Safeguarding Member Champions in localities with appropriate training and support.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member training is planned for 4th July using the IdEA Safeguarding Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is undertaken to clarify the role of the Safeguarding Champion's in each Locality. Training to be provided to the Members on the role. 	Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	September 2010

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	Wednesday 3 rd September, 2010
3.	Title:	Inspection of Fostering Services - Summary of the Report and Action Plan
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report summarises the main findings of the inspection of the Fostering Service undertaken by Ofsted, week commencing 21st June, 2010, and presents the action plan devised to address the recommendations of the Inspectors.

The overall judgement of the inspection is 'Satisfactory', with 'Good' being achieved in:-

- Helping children to be healthy.
- Achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- Make a positive contribution and;
- Achieving economic well-being.

6. Recommendations

That the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel note the Fostering Service Inspection report and action plan arising from it.

7. **Proposals and Details**

The purpose the inspection is to assure children and young people, parents, the public local authorities and Government of the quality and standard of the service provided. The inspection was carried out under the Care Standard Act, 2000.

The Inspectors concluded that 'Rotherham MBC operates a **satisfactory** fostering service that provides good outcomes for children in many respects. Children are well supported with their health and well consulted on the care provided for them. The authority has made a good start in involving looked after young people in the running of the authority and provides fostered children with strong support for their education'.

However they note that 'a lack of sufficient rigour in some areas, particularly the quality assurance monitoring of the day to day work of the service, means that some weaker areas of practice are not identified and addressed well enough. For this reason the outcome areas of 'staying safe' and 'organisation', whilst sound are not judged as strong areas of work', thus limiting the overall judgement to satisfactory.

The report highlights many aspects of the work of the service that are identified as providing good support to children in foster care.

Overall Judgement

Practice that contributed to a judgement of good in stay healthy is the good training and advice received by carers in respect of children and young people's physical, sexual and emotional health and the support given to them to deal with any specialist health needs of children. The work of the looked after children's nurse and the health support worker is highlighted as giving good support to children and young people, including care leavers.

Staying Safe

In the area of staying safe the inspectors note that, as in other authorities the pressure to find placements for children is high, but conclude that the service works effectively in placing children with carers who are an appropriate match and takes care to monitor and support when placements are made outside carers' approval terms. They also note the reduction in the use of exemptions. These are significant findings in light of the criticism of practice made in a previous inspection. The inspectors conclude that the authority has safe staff recruitment processes in place.

Achieve Well and Enjoy

The inspectors find practice in respect of helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do to be good. They highlight the careful consideration that is given to matching children with carers who meet their needs particularly the practice that underpins the placement of children with disabilities and complex needs. The work of the Get Real team is noted as offering 'very good support' and the Families Together service as offering 'good, individualised and flexible support'.

Make Positive Contribution

The work undertaken to improve the participation of children and young people has contributed to a good judgement in the area of helping children to make a positive contribution. The inspectors conclude that children are 'involved and listened to regarding the provision of their care..... foster carers take notice of their opinions and support them to express these in care planning discussions' and they 'are consulted for their reviews and those of their carers'. The work undertaken on developing the Pledge is noted.

Achieving Economic Well-Being

The inspectors regard the support given to young people to prepare them for adulthood as good. They note that the Foster Carers' Handbook provides carers with good information in this respect and the Get Real and LAAC teams encouraged young people to have aspirations for their adult life. It is noted that there is 'a relatively high number of young people remaining in their foster homes beyond their 18th birthday and those attending or planning to attend higher education'

Organisation

In the organisation section the inspectors found the 'promotion of equality and diversity is good. The service is working to approve carers from a range of backgrounds and cultures'. They are satisfied with the statement of purpose and the children's guide and note that elected members and senior managers are 'committed to the effective operation of the Fostering Service'. They find that carers' reviews are robust and children's records well maintained. They note the improvement in practice in respect of the assessment of family and friends carers and describe a recent assessment and match as 'an excellent piece of work'.

The Inspectors identify in the report a number of areas in which practice needs to improve. Whilst in general they consider information sharing about children's health to be good they express concern that the arrangements regarding the delegation of consent to medical treatment are not always clear and may cause a delay in a child receiving treatment.

In respect of the organisation of the service they note a number of issues that they consider undermine the services capacity to keep children safe. In particular they note that there is not robust quality assurance system in place and this means that necessary checks are not always completed and that on one occasion Panel was not quorate. They also identify that there is a weakness in monitoring outcomes and actions following an allegation against a carer. Some risk assessments and safe care plans are weak and not sufficiently individualised and they report that some carers have received conflicting information about permitted and prohibited forms of discipline. Carers' records are not always well maintained.

The Inspectors highlighted the delay in some young people being allocated a leaving care Personal advisor and the consequent delay in producing a Pathway Plan.

Recommendations

The inspectors made no requirements but did make a number of recommendations that they believe will secure future improvement. These are

- Ensure that, before a placement begins, the carer is provided with clear procedures governing the consent for the child to receive medical attention. Specifically, that the level of delegation of responsibility for consent is clearly identified in every case.
- Ensure that foster carers and social workers are fully aware of, and in agreement with, the permitted and prohibited measures of discipline in relation to fostered children
- Ensure that foster carers' safe caring guidelines are cleared with the child's social worker
- Ensure that safe care policies and risk assessments are individually prepared for the young person
- Ensure that panel minutes accurately reflect the discussion of Panel, its quoracy for all cases presented to it and recommendations made
- Ensure that no business shall be conducted by Panel unless it is quorate as set in the regulations
- Ensure that each young person preparing to move to independent or semi independent living is allocated a personal advisor sufficiently promptly to provide the support needed to help them in their decision-making and their transition to independence
- Ensure there are clear day to day procedures for monitoring and controlling the quality of day-to-day activities of the fostering service
- Ensure that foster care records held by the fostering service are accurately and completed maintained (sic)

An action plan to address the recommendations is attached as appendix 1

8 Finance

None

9 Risks and Uncertainties

A well functioning Fostering Service is central in providing a quality service to looked after children. The risk of not embedding improved practice and not maintaining the momentum of change in the Fostering Service is first and foremost that the wellbeing of children in care will not be assured and improved outcomes will not be secured; the Authority would not maximise the benefits for looked after children and young people it hopes to achieve in setting up new dedicated LAC social work teams.

Demand for foster placements continues to be high and the service hopes to respond in the autumn with a high profile recruitment campaign. Raising practice standards at a time of service growth will require careful management and a service improvement plan that will incorporate the Ofsted action plan is being developed to meet and monitor this demand.

An essential element of the service improvement plan will be the development of the fostering module on ESCR and there may be a capacity issue in both the IT and Fostering services and there will be a high training need for some fostering social workers.

10 **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

A failure of the service to achieve 'good' in its next inspection is likely to limit progress in the annual inspection of the Authority's services for looked after children.

11 **Background Papers and Consultation**

- Fostering Services National Minimum Standards
- Ofsted Inspection Report of Fostering Service 21.06.2010

Contact Name: Liz Shingler
Telephone: 23444
E-mail: liz.shingler@rotherham.gov.uk

**Rotherham MBC
Children and Young People's Services
Fostering Inspection Action Plan: 2010**

ECM AREA	NMS	RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION	By Whom	By When	PROGRESS
Be Healthy	12.2	Ensure that, before placement begins, the carer is provided with the clear procedure governing consent for the child to receive medical treatment. Specifically, that the level of delegation of the responsibility for consent is clearly identified in every case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be discussed with LMs – LMs to disseminate to TMs & CSWs LM & CTM to ensure monitoring via file audit For existing placements, FSWs to ensure that the Foster Carer has the medical consent & understand the identified level of responsibility for consent; this is to be recorded on the Supervisory Visit Record For new placements, this is to be confirmed at each Initial Placement Meeting FTM to monitor via supervision & audit 	LACSM LM CTM FSW FSW FC CSW FTM	29/6/10 Ongoing 31/9/10 Meetings from July 10 Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed with LMs for dissemination Locality Audits ongoing
Stay Safe	9.1	Ensure that foster carers & social workers are fully aware of & in agreement with the permitted & prohibited measures of discipline in relation to fostered children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster Carer information regarding measures of discipline (included in the FC Handbook) to be re-sent to all FCs & CSWs FCs to sign the Supervisory Visit Record where the issue was discussed 	LACSM FSW FC	7/7/10 31/9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant information sent to all FCs & CSWs with letter of explanation FSW yet to be briefed regarding this action point

Fostering Inspection Action Plan 2010

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">FCs to sign a form to confirm that they have received the Handbook information regarding disciplineFTM to monitor via supervision & auditThis to be part of the Induction Programme of SWs	FSW FC FTM TM	31/9/10 Ongoing Ongoing	
9.3	Ensure that foster carers' safe caring guidelines are cleared by the children's social worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CSW signature to be incorporated in safe caring policy (to denote agreement), specific to each child in placementTo ensure that CSW signatures are obtainedCompliance to be monitored via supervision & file audit	LACSM FSW FTM	24/7/10 From 24/7/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safer Care Policy amended to include the CSW signature on all new or updated agreementsCompliance yet to be measured	
9.1	Ensure that safe care policies & risk assessments are individually prepared for the young person they relate to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Risk Assessments to be prepared on each individual young personRisk Assessments are reviewed by IROs (at Foster Carer Reviews)Compliance to be monitored via supervision & file audit	FSW IRO FTM	From 24/7/10 At Each Review Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A small number of risk assessments were "copied & pasted" for each sibling; this is not acceptable practice & it has been reinforced that this is not current practice	
30	Ensure panel minutes accurately reflect the discussion of panel, its quoracy for all cases presented to it & the recommendations made	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Panel Minute Takers to be recruitedNew minute taking format to be developed	DH LACSM	May 10 Aug 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Panel Minute Takers recruitedMinute Taking Format being devised	
30.1 Breach of Reg 25(1)	Ensure that no business shall be conducted by fostering panel unless it is quorate as set in the regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Quoracy of Panel to be subject to stringent controlLegal Advisor on each panel	LACSM AF	Sept 09 Sept 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Panels since Aug 2009 have been subject to more stringent control & have been quorate	

Fostering Inspection Action Plan 2010

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel Advisor post to be created & advertised • Items discussed in August 09 to be re-presented at panel 	LACSM	July 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel Advisor post created & advertised • Items sent to panel members in July 10
Enjoy and Achieve		No recommendations				
Positive Contribution		No recommendations				
Economic Wellbeing	14.5	Ensure that each young person preparing to move to independent or semi independent living is allocated a personal adviser sufficiently promptly to provide the support needed to help them in their decision making & their transition to independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with Action For Children under re-negotiation • Meeting to be arranged to finalise & monitor performance 	LACSM PT	July 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with Action For Children under re-negotiation - contract amendment drafted & agreed in outline • Meeting took place on 9/7/10 - discussion document prepared; follow-up meeting arranged for 3/9/10
Organisation	4.1	Ensure there are clear procedures for monitoring & controlling the quality of day to day activities of the fostering service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New interim management structure in place and delegated areas identified • Interim management arrangements to be finalised into the permanent structure • Monitoring procedures to be developed & implemented • Develop an effective, electronic recording process 	LACSM GM	May 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New interim management structure in place & delegated areas identified • Permanent structure agreed in principle by GM; needs to be actioned • Initial strategies developed & implemented – further development required

Fostering Inspection Action Plan 2010

	25.3	Ensure that foster carers' records held by the service are accurately & completely maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File audit activity to include detailed tracking of approval & amendments to carer agreements Findings from audits to be shared with FSWs 	LACSM FTM LACSM FTM	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First audit findings shared with the FSWs - a small number of mistakes in detail were identified Audit activity is in accordance with the performance policy
Equality & Diversity		No recommendations				

Key

Acronym	Person
LM	Locality Manager
CTM	Children's Team Manager
CSW	Children's Social Worker
LACSM	LAC Provider Service Manager
FTM	Fostering Team Manager/Deputy Team Manager
FSW	Fostering Social Worker
FC	Foster Carer
LAC	Looked After Child
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officer
DH	Diane Hyner, Support Services Manager
AF	Anne Fisher, Local Authority Solicitor
PT	Paul Theaker, Commissioning Team
GM	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	3 September 2010
3.	Title:	Progress Report on the Joint Children and Young People's Services/Regeneration Scrutiny Review into Road Safety outside Schools
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

To provide an update on progress with the implementation of the recommendations of the joint scrutiny review into road safety outside schools.

6. Recommendations

The Scrutiny panel is asked to:-

- **Note the progress with the implementation of the recommendations of the joint Children and Young People's Services/Regeneration Scrutiny Review into Road Safety outside Schools**

7. Proposals and Details

This report sets out the progress with implementing the recommendations as approved by Cabinet of the joint review by the Children and Young People's Services and Regeneration Scrutiny panels into Road Safety outside schools which began in January 2009 and reported in early June 2009. The main concerns relate primarily to issues of congestion, speed and inappropriate parking around local schools.

The review made a number of recommendations and progress with each is listed in Appendix 1.

8. Finance

The financial implications of each of the Review recommendations are outlined in Appendix 1.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The risks associated with each of the Review recommendations are outlined in Appendix 1.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The recommendations of the review are in line with the objectives set out in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, and the associated Road Safety and Casualty Reduction Strategy, for improving road safety. In addition, the proposal is in line with the Councils' main themes of Safe and Achieving.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

See Appendix 1

A Scrutiny Review into Road Safety outside Schools – May 2009.

Report to Cabinet on 29 July 2009.

Contact Name : Stuart Savage, *Senior Engineer, Ext. 22969,*
stuart.savage@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Progress with implementing the recommendations of the joint Children and Young People's Services/Regeneration Scrutiny Review of Road Safety outside Schools

Recommendation	Progress	Risks	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
1 That the findings and recommendations from this review be taken into consideration as part of the response to the Department for Transport "A Safer Way: Making Britain's Roads the Safest in the World".	<p>Complete. The findings and recommendations of the review were taken into consideration when producing the response, which was submitted to the Department for Transport in mid July 2009.</p> <p>N.B. It should be noted that the new coalition Government has indicated that they will be reviewing "A Safer Way..." with a view to preparing their own road safety strategy</p>	No risks	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage	July 2009
2 That a comprehensive risk assessment of road safety issues is carried out at all schools in the borough. Following this, an appropriate system for prioritising risks to identify the schools in greatest need of road safety measures and education be developed. All risk assessments to be carried out by April 2010.	<p>A risk assessment methodology has been produced and has been used to carry out a road safety risk assessment of the road outside each school entrance. The results from this exercise have been used to prioritise risks and hence to identify school entrances in greatest need of attention.</p> <p>This exercise, which was completed in December 2009, has been managed from within existing resources and involved a significant amount of work given that there are 102 Primary, 16 Secondary and 6 Special schools in the Borough, some of which have more than one entrance.</p> <p>The risk assessment took into consideration the issues at the schools identified in the Review. Area Assemblies have been informed of the results of the Review.</p> <p>The prioritised list is now being used to direct schools road</p>		T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage	April 2010

	safety ETP work with visits already having been made to Wath and Dinnington Comprehensive schools.			
3 That a minimum requirement of road markings, signing, barriers and anything else deemed appropriate for improving road safety outside schools be determined and implemented ensuring that these meet the minimum standards required by the introduction of School Keep Clear TROs.	<p>The positions of all school keep clear markings, signs, pedestrian crossings, speed limits and traffic calming measures on roads outside schools have been recorded and are available to view on the MapInfo GIS.</p> <p>Facilities Management, who manage the school crossing patrol service, have been consulted to see if they require any changes making to signing and/or the position and length of school keep clear markings at locations where patrols operate.</p> <p>As part of the process to implement school keep clear TROs in the Wath, Swinton, Brampton and West Melton areas (see recommendation 6) the lengths of school keep clear markings have been reviewed, and will be amended where necessary. Markings will also be reviewed during the process of introducing TROs in the remaining areas of the borough.</p> <p>This audit has being linked to the risk assessments referred to in 2 above.</p>	See above	T Finnegan-Smith / S.Savage/	Linked to Recommendation 2 and 6
4 That the current speed review of all A and B class roads be extended to include all roads outside schools in the borough. In line with the Government's Department for Transport's consultation paper, support should be given to a speed limit of 20mph outside schools, wherever possible. Where this cannot be implemented, the speed limit outside schools does not exceed 30mph.	<p>The speed limit review of all A and B class roads is now complete. The process of introducing the changes arising is now underway with the aim of having them in place by the end of 2010, as required by the DfT and in accordance with the approved SY Speed Management Plan. [This document has been prepared by the SY Casualty Reduction Partnership which includes South Yorkshire Police]. Only when these changes have been implemented will we be in a position to start reviewing speed limits outside schools.</p> <p>The financial implications of this have not yet been established although the cost is likely to be similar to the £40,000 that has been set aside in the 2010/11 Highways Capital Programme to process the speed limit changes on A and B class roads and make the necessary changes to</p>	<p>The police may not support revised speed limits.</p> <p>Any changes must be in line with the South Yorkshire Speed Management Plan</p>	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage/ A. Butler	No target date is suggested but it is envisaged that work will not start until late 2010 when the changes to speed limits arising out of the review of speed limits on A and B class roads have been

	<p>signs and road markings.</p> <p>This is to be phased and managed from within existing resources based on a programme to be determined and prioritised in line with the risk assessments in 2 above and in conjunction with each Area Assembly.</p>	Lack of resources may influence progress.		implemented.
5 That work is undertaken with South Yorkshire Police to ensure that revised speed restrictions outside schools are enforceable.	Any changes to speed limits outside schools that arise from 4 above will be discussed with the Police on an individual schools basis as part of the normal consultation procedure. However, any changes to speed limits that are not in accordance with the SY Speed Management Plan and Circular Roads 1/2006 will be unlikely to receive the support of the Police.	The police may not support revised speed limits	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage/ A. Butler	Ongoing
6 That the impact of the Traffic Regulation Order to be rolled out to Rotherham Schools is monitored and reported appropriately.	<p>Steps are currently being taken to extend 'School Keep Clear' TROs to the Wath, Swinton Brampton and West Melton areas, as agreed by Cabinet Member for ED, P & T in April 2009. It is currently envisaged that the TROs will become operational in these areas in Autumn 2010. A timetable for rolling out TROs to the remaining areas of the Borough has still to be drawn up, although it is likely that schools in the Rother Valley South area will be looked at next. Once the TROs are introduced appropriate monitoring arrangements will be put in place.</p> <p>£20,000 has been set aside in the 2010/11 Highways Capital Programme for the introduction of TROs in the Wath, Swinton Brampton and West Melton areas. It is expected that a similar amount will be needed to introduce TROs in other areas and this will have to be taken into account when producing future years Highways Capital Programmes.</p> <p>This is to be phased and managed from within existing resources based on a programme to be determined and prioritised in conjunction with each Area Assembly.</p>	The TROs may not be as successful as expected given the limited enforcement resources available	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage/ A. Butler	Ongoing
7 That the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services identifies a specific budget for schools road safety	<p>£30,000 has been set aside in the 2010/11 Highways Capital Programme for school road safety measures.</p> <p>In line with the results of the risk assessments</p>	Making funding available for school road	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage	April 2010 as part of consideration of 2010/11

measures from the Highways Capital Programme.	investigations are ongoing into using this funding to deal with issues outside Wath Comprehensive school on Sandygate and Dinnington Comprehensive school on Doe Quarry Lane.	safety measures has taken money away from other schemes that have proven benefits		Highways Capital Programme
8 That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services works with schools and school governing bodies to ensure that the impact of School Travel Plans is monitored and reviewed annually and that STPs and initiatives to improve road safety (including walking buses, safer cycling and use of cycle helmets), are promoted to each new intake of pupils and parents. The effectiveness of STPs to be reported to the appropriate Scrutiny Panel.	Initiatives to improve road safety are already promoted to each new intake of pupils on a limited basis given staff numbers and calls on their time from other road safety education, training and publicity projects (see also recommendation 9 below). The School Travel Planning Advisor in the Transportation Unit in EDS has still to report to CYPS Scrutiny on the effectiveness of STPs.	Staff resources may prevent road safety awareness and STPs being adequately promoted to each new intake of pupils at all schools	T Finnegan-Smith/ G Sinclair	No target date given but the intention is to report bi-annually to CYPS Scrutiny
9 That the RMBC website be improved to provide clear and user-friendly information regarding current and planned road safety schemes, outlining the criteria by which decisions are taken.	<p>A new road safety website has been developed (www.rotherham.gov.uk/roadsafety) which contains information and downloadable materials about road safety education, training and publicity initiatives as well as sustainable school travel. It is intended to make schools aware of the website to assist with the promotion of road safety awareness to new intakes of pupils.</p> <p>In addition we already make limited use of the Council's website as part of the consultation process for proposed schemes but it is acknowledged that this could be expanded and improved. It is therefore proposed to review the information that is posted regarding current and planned schemes with a view to expanding this and incorporating it into the new road safety website.</p>	No risks	T Finnegan-Smith/ S.Savage	Ongoing

<p>10 That proposals are developed to ensure that road traffic safety work in schools is sustainable once DfT/DCSF funding for the School Travel Plan Adviser post ends in 2011. This should include consideration to 'mainstream' the funding for the post as appropriate.</p>	<p>Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity (ETP) work in Rotherham is generally under resourced when benchmarked against other local authorities and compared to Government Best Practice Guidelines. However, given the current budgetary pressures this is likely to remain the case and means that it will be difficult to justify 'mainstreaming' the funding for the School Travel Plan Adviser post beyond March 2011.</p> <p>Financial support has, however, recently been secured from the South Yorkshire Casualty Reduction Partnership to employ a road safety assistant for a 12 month period to assist with road safety ETP work. This additional member of staff started work on the 1st April this year. Further funding is unlikely to be available post March 2011 to enable this person to continue in post.</p>	<p>Due to budgetary pressures the Council may not be able to fund the School Travel Plan Advisor post March 2011.</p>	<p>T Finnegan-Smith/ G Sinclair</p>	<p>April 2011</p>
<p>11 That each Area Assembly be approached to financially support the distribution of the Wentworth South Area Assembly produced Road Safety DVD to each school pupil in the borough.</p>	<p>Wentworth South Area Assembly have been contacted to find out how much the DVD cost to distribute in their area. From this the total cost of distributing the DVD to the remaining schools in the borough has been estimated at approximately £12,000. However, little interest has been shown by the other Area Assemblies in funding the DVD in their respective areas. As a result of this a copy of the DVD has been sent to the remaining primary schools for the schools to promote themselves.</p> <p>Attempts have also been made to put the DVD on the Council's website. However, while this is technically feasible the picture quality is of a poor standard and it has been decided not to take this any further at the present time.</p>	<p>Schools may not promote the DVD sufficiently</p>	<p>G Sinclair/ S.Savage</p>	<p>No target date given</p>

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	3 rd September 2010
3.	Title:	Performance Indicators Children and Young People's Services Performance Indicator Report - 2010/11 Quarter One Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome Appendix B – 'CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – 2010/11 Quarter One [Wards affected – All]
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report and accompanying appendices outline performance at the end of 2010/11 Quarter one against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

6. Recommendations

- That the Performance Report be received and performance noted
- That the recommendations regarding performance clinics (within Appendix A) be approved.

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 2010/11 quarter 1 performance to 2009/10 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 Ofsted Comprehensive Area Assessment for CYPS (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 and the Audit Commission have been abolished. There is no indication that the CYPS/Ofsted CAA will change in the short/medium term.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Children and Young People’s Services 2009/10 Performance Indicator Quarter One, Two, Three and outturn Reports (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)

Contact Name :

Stephen Booth	Performance Management Officer
Tel: [82]2619	stephen.booth@rotherham.gov.uk

Deborah Johnson	Performance Manager
Tel: [82]2524	deborah.johnson@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham Children and Young People's Services

Assessment of Performance by Every Child Matters Outcome

2010/11 Quarter One Report

This report outlines performance at the end of 2010/11 Quarter One against targets, with comparisons against previous performance and statistical neighbour and national data where possible.

It should be read in conjunction with the 'CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – 2010/11 Quarter One (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 DFE Local Area Interactive Tool.

Performance Summary – All themes

Number of Indicators: 24

Number of Components: 30

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

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

EA = 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	2	50%	6	67%	2	33%	4	50%	1	33%	15	50%
✗	Has not met target	2	50%	3	33%	3	50%	2	25%	2	67%	12	40%
- / n/a	No targets set (ie new and/or baseline yr)	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	2	25%	0	0%	3	10%
Total Number of Indicators		2		9		4		6		3		24	
Total Number of Components		4		9		6		8		3		30	

Direction of Travel “DOT”

DOT	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
↑	Top performance or improvement	2	50%	7	78%	3	50%	3	38%	2	67%	17	57%
→	Performance has maintained	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%
↓	Performance has declined	2	50%	2	22%	1	17%	2	25%	1	33%	8	27%
- / n/a	No comparison can be made	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	3	38%	0	0%	4	13%
Total Number of Indicators		2		9		4		6		3		24	
Total Number of Components		4		9		6		8		3		30	

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	1	25%	3	33%	2	33%	2	25%	1	33%	9	30%
●	On target	1	25%	3	33%	0	0%	2	25%	0	0%	6	20%
▲	Below target	2	50%	3	33%	3	50%	2	25%	2	67%	12	40%
- / n/a	No targets set (<i>ie new and/or baseline year</i>)	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	2	25%	0	0%	3	10%
Total Number of Indicators		2		9		4		6		33		24	
Total Number of Components		4		9		6		8		3		30	

Performance against Statistical Neighbours

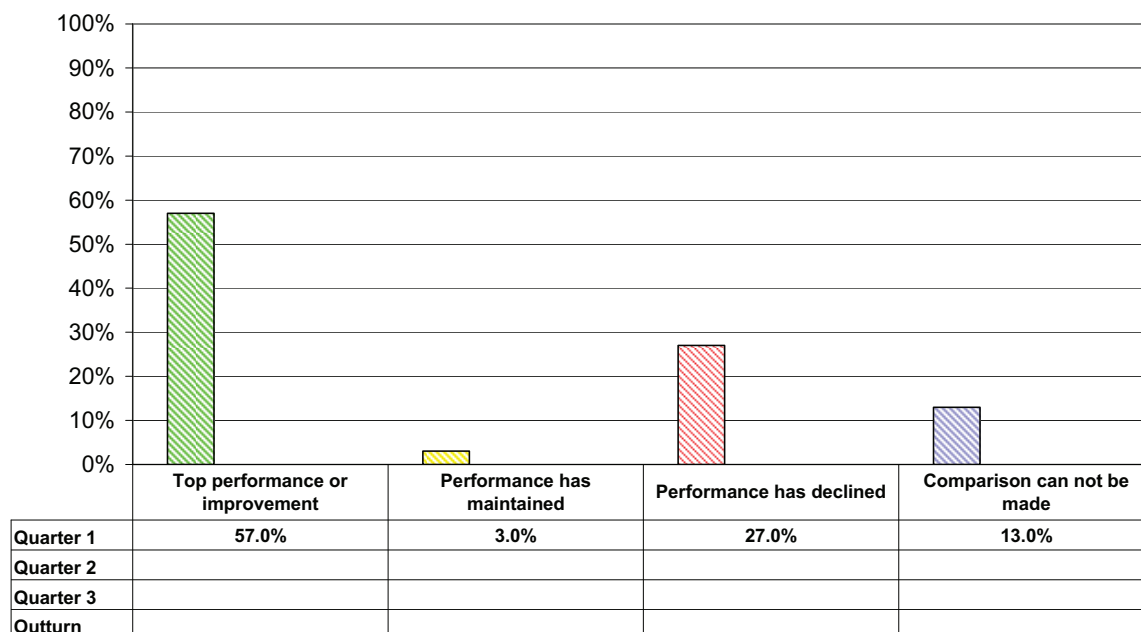
Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above statistical neighbour or top performance	2	50%	6	67%	2	33%	1	13%	1	33%	12	40%
●	Same as statistical neighbour or above by less than 2%	0	0%	1	11%	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	2	7%
▲	Below statistical neighbour	2	50%	2	22%	1	17%	2	25%	1	33%	8	27%
- / n/a	No statistical neighbour data to compare	0	0%	0	0%	3	50%	5	63%	0	0%	8	27%
Total Number of Indicators		2		9		4		6		3		24	
Total Number of Components		4		9		6		8		3		30	

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	25%	6	67%	2	33%	0	0%	1	33%	10	33%
●	Same as national or above by less than 2%	0	0%	2	11%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	7%
▲	Below national	1	25%	1	22%	1	17%	2	25%	2	67%	7	23%
- / n/a	No national data to compare	2	50%	0	0%	3	50%	6	75%	0	0%	11	37%
Total Number of Indicators		2		9		4		6		3		24	
Total Number of Components		4		9		6		8		3		30	

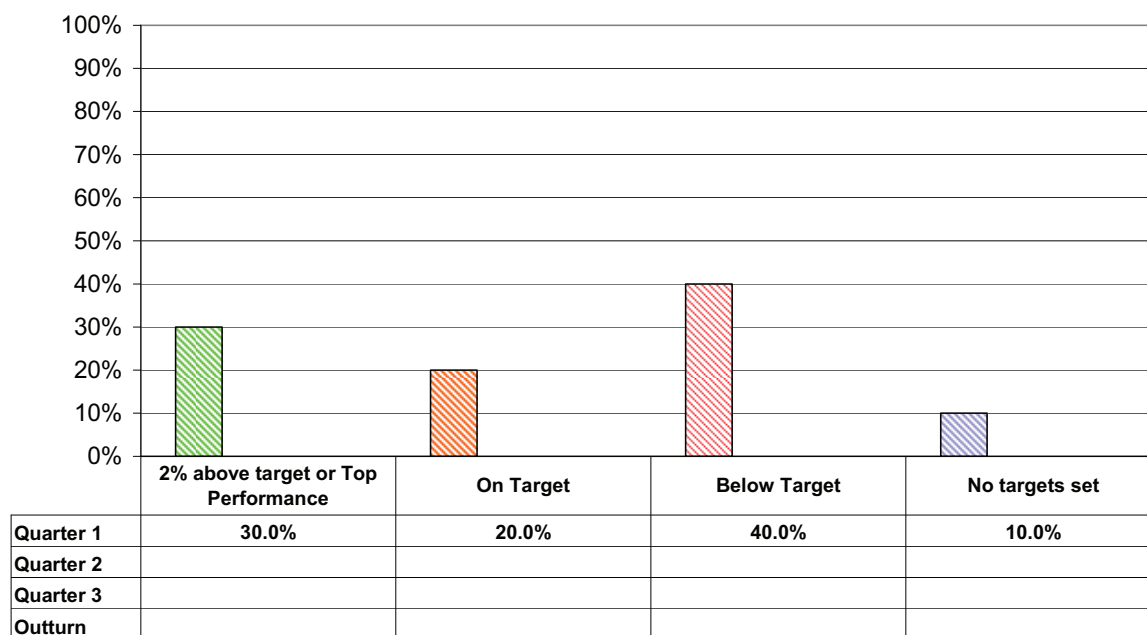
Progress Over Quarters 2010-11

Direction of Travel - All Themes



Progress Over Quarters 2009-10

Performance Year to Date - All Themes



Notes on overall performance

- Across all themes, 50% of the National Indicator components targets have been met. This is a 2% decrease from 52% in the 2009/10 outturn report. It must be noted, however, that the number of indicators collected quarterly is significantly reduced compared to outturn and therefore this affects the %. There has been a significant increase in the Staying Safe theme which has 67% indicators on target compared to 36% at outturn.
- There are still, however, 40% of all indicators which are not meeting targets. The Enjoying and Achieving theme is particularly underperforming with 67% of indicators not meeting targets, although only three indicators components were collected. Future targets are being reviewed with managers to ensure that they are appropriate and realistic, whilst continuing to drive improvement.
- Across all themes, 57% of the National Indicator components in Quarter One (Q1) have shown improvement from the 2009/10 outturn. This is particularly evident in the Staying Safe theme which shows 78% of components improving. Performance has declined in 27% of components in comparison with 2009/10 outturn performance. This can be seen predominantly within the Achieving Economic Wellbeing theme which shows 33% of components having a downwards direction of travel although this relates to only 1 out of 3 components.
- This quarter, the benchmarking data downloaded from the Local Area Interactive Tool shows that 40% of indicator components are inline or above the national average with only 23% being below. Comparison against statistical neighbours show that 47% of components are inline or above and 27% are below the statistical neighbour average.

Areas of Success

Being Healthy

- Take up of primary school lunches (No 1a / NI52a) continues to improve. An outturn figure of 43.9% has been achieved against a target of 40.5% and there has been a further increase to 45.9% in Q1 against a target of 41.9%. This is 6.6% above the latest available national average of 39.3%.

Staying Safe

Two indicators are performing at least 2% or better above target. These are;

- Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time (No 8 / NI65) has reduced from an outturn figure of 13.8% to 7.4% for Q1. This exceeds the target between 10% and 15%, and is better than both National and Statistical Neighbour averages of 13.5% and 11.7% respectively.
- Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales (No10 / NI67) has maintained top performance of 100% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 99.8% and the national average of 99.1%.

Enjoying and Achieving

- Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks (No 15 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 92% with a top performing Q1 figure of 100%. This is an improvement on 2009/10 outturn figure of 97.4% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 94.4% and the national average of 82%.

Making a Positive Contribution

- First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17 (No 20 / NI111 a & b). The number of first time entrants (part a) was 248 and number of first time entrants per 100,000 population (part b) was 917. Both of these components significantly exceed the targets of 514 and 1900 respectively. It must be noted however, that whilst these figures are good for this indicator they will have an adverse effect on other indicators, such as young people receiving a conviction who are sentenced to custody and young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment.

Achieving Economic Wellbeing

- Care leavers in employment, education or training (No 24 / NI148) has a Q1 figure of 87.5% which is above the target of 67% and shows an improvement on 2009/10 outturn of 63.6%. This is above both the statistical neighbour average of 58.2% and the national average of 63%.

Areas of Under-Performance

Being Healthy

- Take up of secondary school lunches (No 1 b / NI52 b). Q1 performance of 33.1% is below the target of 34.2% and has a downward direction of travel against the 2009/10 outturn of 35%. It must be noted however, that this was a seasonally difficult period and results are encouraging for annual performance to exceed the target.

Staying Safe

- Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption (No 5 / NI61). This however, is a cumulative indicator therefore performance will improve through the performance calendar. There is a new focus within family finding which ensures the adoption of children who have waited the longest. This will mean that there will be an initial dip in performance but is an essential part of the recovery plan and overall performance is therefore on trajectory to improve.

Enjoying and Achieving

- Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category (No 14a / NI89a). This indicator has historically been a major area of success with no schools being in Special Measures from December 2006 until the 2009/10 academic year. Performance at Q1 however, shows five schools in special measures. This has increased from two at 2009/10 outturn and is not hitting the target of 0. Ofsted procedures make it unlikely any of the schools will be released from special measures before Spring 2011; however, all but one have demonstrated at least Satisfactory progress on Ofsted monitoring visits in the last term and are, therefore, on track for release during 2010/11. This dip in performance can be attributed to a harder test for schools in their inspections.

Making a Positive Contribution

- Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody (No 17 / NI43). This National Indicator performance of 11% does not meet the target of 5.0% and shows a downward direction of travel from 7.1% in the previous quarter. Performance is also worse than both the statistical neighbour average of 4.4% and the national average of 5.8%. Whilst custody figures are beginning to decline in real terms, (38 in 2009/10 as opposed to 46 in 2008/9), The rate of custody continues to be below target due to the success of reducing the number of first time entrants (NI 111) which continues to drop quarter on quarter.
- Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment (No 18 / NI45). This National Indicator performance of 68.2% does not meet the target of 78% and shows a downward direction of travel from the previous quarter performance of 71%. 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 suitable accommodation (No 23 / NI147). National Indicator performance of 87.5% does not meet the target of 92% and shows a downward direction of travel from 100% at 2009/10 outturn. This is also below the statistical neighbour and national averages of 89.3% and 89.6% respectively. It must be noted however, that the impact on the performance against the target of one young person being in unsuitable accommodation is high because of the small number in the cohort.

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. Ad-hoc Performance Clinics, Turning the Curve workshops and additional internal challenge events have also been held on JLT request.

Previous Clinics

Due to the recent Ofsted inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services no performance clinics have been held since the 2009/10 outturn.

■ 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	Significant targeted improvement work has been directed at these areas including a Corporate Improvement Board clinic in January, and improvement has been made this quarter. It is still, however, going to be subject to internal scrutiny to ensure continued improvement and that targets are met.
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. A corporate performance clinic is planned to take place on 3 rd September 2010.

■ 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
- Recent Inspection recommendations.

Inspected and regulated services profile

Inspection outcomes against regulated services feature strongly in the Ofsted 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. The table below provides details of the outcomes of new inspections which took place between April 2010 and the end of quarter 1 (June 2010). 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 As at Mar 10	NEW INSPECTIONS BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE 2010					Total number of providers	% good or better As at Jun 10	DOT
		Total	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate			
Children's homes	0%	0	0	0	0	0	6	0%	→
Secondary Schs	50%	0	0	0	0	0	15	53%	↑
Primary Schs	65%	6	0	5	1	0	99	65%	→
Childminders	50%	13	1	8	4	0	259	51%	↑
Childcare non domestic	56%	6	0	2	4	0	77	56%	→
Childcare Domestic	NA	1	0	1	0	0	1	100%	
Special Schs	100%	0	0	0	0	0	6	100%	→
PRU's	20%	1	0	0	1	0	4	0%	↓
Colleges	0%	0	0	0	0	0	3	0%	→
Maintained Nursery	100%	0	0	0	0	0	3	100%	→
LA Fostering Agency	0%	1	0	0	1	0	1	0%	→
LA Adoption Agency	100%	0	0	0	0	0	1	100%	→
Private Fostering Arrangements	0%	0	0	0	0	0	1	0%	→
General FE and Tertiary Colleges	50%	0	0	0	0	0	2	50%	→

Children & Young People's Service
CYPs Performance Monitoring Table – 2010/11 Quarter 1

APPENDIX B

Latest Comparative Data																
No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	09/10 Perf	10/11 Target	10/11 Q1 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
BEING HEALTHY																
1	NI 52	Take up of school lunches														
a	a	Primary	HIGH	43.5%	41.9%	45.9%	✓	↑	★	In a seasonally declining period the results are very encouraging for the annual performance to exceed the annual target in both sectors	48.10%	▲	39.30%	★	41.9%	42.3%
b	b	Secondary	HIGH	35.0%	34.2%	33.1%	✗	↓	▲		44.80%	▲	35.10%	▲	34.2%	34.5%
2	NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth														
a	a	Prevalence	HIGH	28.9%	32%	28.7%	✗	↓	▲	Coverage target not achieved. Interventions including peer support groups, staff training and audits are in place and should contribute to increased duration rates (and the prevalence target). Implementing the Unicef Baby Friendly Initiative will also contribute to increased prevalence/duration.	25.80%	★	N/A	N/A	32%	-
b	b	Coverage	HIGH	94.2%	95%	96.3%	✓	↑	●		92.90%	★	N/A	N/A	85%	-
STAYING SAFE																
3	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	HIGH	74.6%	87.0%	84.1%	✗	↑	▲	The recruitment to vacant posts and use of agency staff for cover is beginning to have positive impact. Close monitoring of performance both with regards to quantity and quality is being maintained.	71.60%	★	71.80%	★	81.0%	82.0%
4	NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	HIGH	79.0%	87.0%	87.3%	✓	↑	●		80.40%	★	78.20%	★	87.0%	87.5%
5	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	HIGH	72.0%	85.0%	0.0%	✗	↓	▲	Family finding has received a new focus and direction with a plan to ensure the adoption of children who have waited the longest, this has been made the subject of a performance clinic and all issues explored. This has resulted in a short term overall dip which will be recovered over the remainder of the year..	77.80%	▲	75.80%	▲	85.0%	86.0%
6	NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	LOW	11.1%	10.5%	8.9%	✓	↑	●		10.80%	●	10.70%	●	10.5%	10.0%
7	NI 64	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more	LOW	4.0%	4.0%	0.0%	✓	↑	★	On target to meet performance, however as this is a cumulative target the performance will not remain at 0 but should still meet good performance	5.10%	★	5.80%	★	4.0%	3.5%
8	NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	LOW	13.8%	10-15%	7.4%	✓	↑	★		11.70%	★	13.50%	★	11.0%	10.5%
9	NI 66	Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	97.1%	97.0%	97.0%	✓	↓	●	Target could be at risk as there is going to be staff turnover within the team over the coming months. Performance broadly on target and is being monitored monthly.	92.40%	★	90.90%	★	93.0%	94.0%
10	NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	100.0%	100%	100.0%	✓	↑	★		99.80%	★	99.10%	★	100%	100%
11	NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	HIGH	59.5%	70.0%	64.5%	✗	↑	▲	The placement of an experience social worker in the access team is beginning to have positive impact and it is envisaged that this target will be met.	69.20%	▲	63.80%	●	57.0%	60.0%
ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING																
12	NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	HIGH	69%	90%	69.0%	✗	→	▲	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%
13	NI 88	Number of Extended Schools	HIGH	96%	100%	97.5%	✗	↑	▲		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%
14	NI 89	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category								5 Primary schools were placed in Special Measures between December 2009 and Easter 2010. There are no Special or Secondary schools in an Ofsted category. Ofsted procedures make it unlikely any of the schools will be released from SMs before Spring 2011; however, all but one have demonstrated at least Satisfactory progress on Ofsted monitoring visits this term and are, therefore, on track for release during 2010/11.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
a	a	Number	LOW	2	0	5	✗	↓	▲		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
b	b	Time	LOW	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	09/10 Perf	10/11 Target	10/11 Q1 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
15	NI 103	Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks														
a	a	Excluding exceptions	HIGH	100.00%	95%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	103a) of the 9 total number of statements issued this quarter, if we exclude exceptions, 7 were issued all within 26 weeks	97.20%	★	91%	★	95%	95%
b	b	Including exceptions	HIGH	97.4%	92%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	103b) of the 9 final statements issued this quarter, all were issued within 26 weeks.	94.40%	★	82%	★	92%	94%
MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION																
16	NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	LOW	0.28	0.97	Awaiting Data	Awaiting Data			This indicator runs a quarter behind as counts cohort established in Jan March 2010. The annual figure for 09/10 will be available for the end of July 2010 once re-offending data had been verified	1.1	N/A	1	N/A	0.97	-
17	NI 43	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	LOW	7.1%	5.0%	11.0%	✗	↓	▲	Whilst custody figures are beginning to decline in real terms, (38 in 2009/10 as opposed to 46 in 2008/9). The rate of custody continues to be below target due to the success of reducing the number of first time entrants (NI 111) which continues to drop quarter on quarter.	4.40%	▲	5.80%	▲	5.0%	-
18	NI 45	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment	HIGH	71.0%	78.0%	68.2%	✗	↓	▲	This is becoming a challenging target to meet as the number of first time entrants decline and it becomes increasingly difficult to find educational and job opportunities for young people.	75.60%	▲	73.10%	▲	78.0%	-
19	NI 46	Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation	HIGH	98.6%	98.0%	99.4%	✓	↑	●	This Indicator has now been discontinued by the Youth Justice Board	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	98.0%	-
20	NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17								The introduction of Triage and the South Yorkshire Police restorative initiative have had further impacts in the number of young people coming into the Youth Justice System, and Rotherham is experiencing significant drops in first time entrants. Whilst good for this indicator the low numbers have perverse effects on other indicators. (NI 43 & 45).						
a	a	Number	LOW	212	514	248	✓	↑	★		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	514	-
b	b	Per 100,000 10-17 Population		784	1,900	917	✓	↑	★		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,900	-
21	NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 24 year olds								Quarter 1 performance has been relatively good with proactive approaches resulting in improved partnership engagement, co-ordinated outreach and robust local performance management.						
a	a	Coverage	HIGH	25.0%	35%	7.5%	✓	N/A	●		16.20%	★	N/A	N/A	35.0%	-
b	b	Prevalence	LOW	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	-
ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING																
22	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	LOW	7.9%	7.10%	7.7%	✗	↑	▲	1) The latest verified position for 16-18 year olds NEET stands at 7.7% representing a 10.1% reduction in comparison to May 2009 when it was 8.6%. The NEET figure is in profile with agreed monthly target with Connexions partnership 2) For the first time in the last 12 months the percentage of young people aged 16-18 NEET is lower than in comparison to previous years showing considerable improvement in performance. 3) 51% of the NEET cohort (336) are 18 – 19 year olds are now NEET and the majority of these young people are seeking work only. 4) Participation in learning has continued to rise. As of May 83.8% of 16-18 year olds were in learning against a mean for statistical neighbours of 82.8%.	8.60%	●	6.70%	▲	7.10%	-
23	NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	HIGH	100.0%	92%	87.5%	✗	↓	▲	Young person in custody. Impact on the performance against the target of one young person being in unsuitable accommodation is high because of the small number in the cohort	89.30%	▲	89.60%	▲	92%	-
24	NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	HIGH	63.6%	67%	87.5%	✓	↑	★	This cohort is closely monitored and jointly tracked with connexions, of the two unemployed NEET one is USAC and one has a disability	58.20%	★	63%	★	70%	-

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL 2nd July, 2010

Present:- Councillor G. A. Russell (in the Chair); Councillors Ali, Buckley, Dodson, Falvey and Sims.

Also in attendance were:- Councillor Lakin, Mr M Hall, Mr A Martin and Mr M Burn.

Apologies were received from:- Councillors Fenoughty, Kaye, Sharp and Mrs J Blanch-Nicholson.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

18. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Tracy Peacock, a member of the public asked for an explanation as to why the funding had been cut in respect of "Aiming High" the project for children with disabilities.

It was confirmed that there was a number of funding pressures as a result of Government announcements of cuts and it was the Authority's responsibility to ensure that available funding was used for the delivery of priorities. The funding stream relating to "Aiming High" was currently unaffected and therefore the project would be continuing, although there was no guarantee as to how long for.

The Chair reported that there would be further discussion relating to this at a future meeting and that Tracy would be invited to attend.

19. MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE YOUTH CABINET.

There were no issues to report at this meeting.

20. COMMUNICATIONS.

Caroline Webb announced that the Young Champions of Rotherham event was taking place on Wednesday 7th July 2010 at 6.00 pm at Magna. The Mayor would be presenting the awards and all members were invited to attend. Expressions of interest should be made to Martin Smith, Manager of Get Real Team or Caroline Webb.

21. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE REVENUE OUTTURN 2009/ 10

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Finance Manager in respect of the Children and Young People's Directorate Revenue Outturn 2009/ 10.

The unaudited Outturn (excluding schools delegated budgets) for 2009/ 10 showed an overspend of £3,944,414 against a net cash limited budget of £37,957,288 which represented a variation of 10.39%.

The report stated that this outturn was before adjusting for the carry forward of traded balances (£45,881). The adjusted variance to budget was £3,990,295 overspent (10.51%).

In addition to the above the report also contained a request for an earmarked balance to the value of £3,709.

It was noted that a detailed report on Schools delegated balances would be submitted to Cabinet Member in late July once information regarding planned use of balances had been obtained from the schools with balances higher than the DCSF threshold (5% Secondary, 8% other phases)

The outturn position showed an improvement of £387k on the March 2010 reported budget monitoring position.

Reference was made to the increase in unit costs which had increased from £400k+ to £900k+ which represented an increase of 267% and an explanation was sought. It was confirmed that the demand for providers for looked after children had increased. It was noted that steps were being taken to drive down these costs.

Concerns were raised about the overspend relating to agency costs, when there were vacancies on establishment. Confirmation was given that there needed to be a 6% vacancy factor applied in order to achieve a balanced budget.

Reference was made to the costs of employing interpreters and a query was raised as to the possibility of using volunteers from the community. It was confirmed that in some instances people were recruited from the community but with regard to social care matters it was necessary to use interpreters from accredited agencies. However the Authority were looking to go out to tender for interpretation services which would hopefully bring the overall cost down.

A comment was made about the Children First Review which had highlighted that the service was underfunded. It was queried as to how the service would be managed in the future. Confirmation was given that independent benchmarking had taken place and that a number of areas and issues were being worked through.

A discussion ensued concerning out of authority placements and whether these could be reduced and more in authority provision made available. It was agreed that this required a more in depth discussion and that a detailed report be presented to a future meeting.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received

(2) That the recommendation to the Strategic Leadership Team and Cabinet to approve the carry forward request contained within the report be supported

(3) That it be noted that the planned use of school balances would be reported to a future meeting.

(4) That a report be presented to a future meeting in relation to how residential services are commissioned for looked after children.

22. FOSTERING INSPECTION UPDATE

Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services reported on the recent Fostering Inspection which had taken place between 21st June 2010 and 25th June 2010.

She confirmed that it had been a successful inspection with significant improvements being made since the last inspection.

It was agreed that a report would be brought to the next Scrutiny Panel meeting with full detail of the inspection.

23. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 4TH JUNE, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 4th June, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Falvey's apologies.

24. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE CABINET MEMBER AND ADVISERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES HELD ON 2ND JUNE, 2010 AND ON 9TH JUNE, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 2nd June 2010 and 9th June 2010 be noted.

**25. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY
OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 11TH JUNE, 2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 11th June 2010 be noted.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD Friday, 6th August, 2010

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Andy Buck, Shona McFarlane, Inspector Parker, Joyce Thacker, Caroline Webb, Julie Westwood and Janet Wheatley.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Russell Byrnes, Alan Hazell and Richard Tweed.

D1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21ST JUNE, 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Children's Board held on 21st June 2010, were approved as a correct record.

D2. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Voluntary Sector

Janet Wheatley reported that the Voluntary Groups including Homestart were at risk. It was agreed that she would report to the next meeting on the impact of Government proposals on the future of Voluntary and Community Groups, including such as Homestart.

NHS Rotherham

Items for next meeting

- NHS White Paper – Effect on Commissioning Children's Services
- Future of Children's Trust and Statutory Requirements.

Agreed:- That the implications of the NHS White Papers referred to above be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

D3. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD PARTNERSHIP PROTOCOL

Julie Westwood, Director of Resources, Planning and Performance presented the submitted report regarding the development of a Partnership Protocol in respect of membership, terms of reference and governance arrangements for the Children and Young People's Trust Board.

The draft protocol had been circulated to all members of the Children and Young People's Trust Board for consultation and feedback.

Feedback had only been received from small number of members and

this had not proved conclusive. In the light of this, the draft protocol had only had minor amendments at this stage and details of the feedback that had been received was given at section 7 of the report.

A discussion ensued and the following issues were raised:-

- It was felt that the protocol was too large to be effective and it was suggested that an informal, easily understood document be produced.
- A query was raised as to whether there should be a separate legal trust
- Reference was made to the budget and whether this would lead to pooled budget arrangements. It was agreed that this needed to be debated in more depth in the future.

Agreed:- That the protocol be deferred pending clarification of the future role of the Board and the commissioning and future funding arrangements for Children's Services.

D4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES PLAN COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME

Julie Westwood, Director of Resources, Planning and Performance presented the submitted report in respect of the Children and Young People's Plan Communication Programme.

It was noted that the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013 was now approved and published.

A great deal of consultation and engagement had been included in the review of the previous plan and the development of the Plan and all project plan milestones were met.

In order for the implementation stage to be successful a roll out programme had been devised to communicate to key stakeholders and this was summarised at Appendix A of the report.

The communications programme would involve Directors and key managers across the CYPS partnership in leading discussions with key stakeholders. This would ensure that contributors were able to receive feedback in relation to how their contribution had influenced the shaping of the plan and its priorities. Furthermore, it would be a key tool to engage with stakeholders who were vital to the successful delivery of the priorities and areas of focus. The Director of Community Services was taking the strategic lead on the implementation of the programme.

Agreed:- (1) That the Communications Programme be approved and fully supported.

(2) That an all Members Seminar be arranged during September.

D5. VALUE FOR MONEY REVIEW (VFM) - EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SCOPING PAPER

The Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report in respect of the VFM Review for Early Intervention and Prevention Scoping Paper.

It was proposed that the VFM review would specifically focus on the following two areas:

- Alcohol services/interventions
- Children with complex needs

Examining these areas offers the potential to identify how better outcomes can be achieved for clients and cost savings and efficiencies. It also provides an opportunity to explore collaborative approaches to delivering the vision for Rotherham emerging in the Corporate Plan and Public Health Strategy.

The proposed key outcomes were:

- To understand what the spend across Rotherham was and how it compared with statistical neighbours
- To identify service partnership models which deliver VFM improvements through collaboration and co-ordination
- To develop a VFM improvement plan, which makes explicit what should be done to deliver the improved outcomes for clients and potential efficiency gains.

The proposed approach was to engage with all partner agencies and stakeholder groups to gather information/evidence in order to:

- Map relevant early intervention and prevention resources and services commissioned by the council and its partner agencies
- Establish current services/intervention pathways and performance of all services across all agencies
- Understand customer satisfaction with the relevant services
- Benchmark cost, performance and customer satisfaction with statistical neighbours
- Undertake detailed case-studies and obtain the views of focus groups
- Produce a report on the finding to VFM panel
- Develop a forward action plan.

The proposed Project Team were:

Project Sponsor
Project Manager

Joyce Thacker/Dr John Radford
Joanna Saunders

Project Management Support
Project Team Members

Davinder Kaur El-Harti
Peter Hudson
Joanne Robertson
Julie Slatter
Tim Littlewood
Andrew Lee

Input would also be required from CYPS, NHS Rotherham, NAS, South Yorkshire Police/SRP/EDS and VAR and the Voluntary Sector.

The timescales were as follows:

VFM Project Team Activity	Timescale
Proposed scope signed off by SLT	2nd August 2010
Preparation – desk research	30 th September 2010
Initial baseline report to VFM Panel	Early October (tbc)
First draft – VFM report/recommendations	31 st October 2010
Final VFM report and Implementation report - approved/signed off	30 th November 2010

Agreed:- (1) That the proposed scope of the Review be approved.

(2) That the proposed Project Team, timescales and partnership working be approved.

(3) That further discussions on the arrangements take place between Council and NHS Rotherham staff.

D6. COMMON ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK TEAM FUNDING

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report which laid out the current financial arrangements to develop, implement, monitor and administer the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Strategy in Rotherham, particularly in relation to the use of Common Assessment Framework (CAF).

Prevention/Early Intervention and integration was one of the work streams agreed with the DCSF as an area for improvement following the unannounced Ofsted inspection in August 2009 and the resulting notice to improve for Rotherham's Children and Young People's Service (C&YPS)

The work is lead by the Director of Community Services in C&YPS and strategically supported by the Deputy Director of Strategic Planning at NHSR. Significant progress had been made and favourably commented

on and most importantly case examples were emerging which evidence the success of early intervention.

More than 600 frontline staff had benefited from multi agency training, including around 100 Managers, and feedback from participants had been positive.

Work had taken place with, and on various IT systems and there was now a comprehensive performance system for the recording and monitoring of CAF.

The PEI Strategy was launched in April, and a comprehensive Implementation Plan was now in progress, regularly reviewed by a Multi-Agency Working Group and reported through to the Improvement Panel. At the start of the year a target of 600 CAF's were agreed by the Improvement Panel for the year and ratified by the CYP Board. By the start of July the total completed was 350.

A previous report to the Board in March 2010 highlighted the challenges faced across the country to the successful embedding of the CAF. It was noted that the answer to some issues was around resources, particularly administrative support. CYPS had managed to secure temporary funding for a post that would start to collate and co-ordinate all of Rotherham's CAF forms and RIEP funding was sought to establish 3 CAF co-ordinator posts.

We were successful in the application to RIEP and awarded £120k for 2010/2011. As agreed the money had been used to establish 3 CAF co-ordinator posts and confirm the CAF Administrative post; part of the role of the Co-ordinators was training.

The REIP funding was for one year only and consideration needed to be given to how these posts were to be retained. The Council had identified £29,050 toward the team, and it was proposed that the constituent members of the Trust Board contribute as a partnership to the funding of the remainder of these posts, initially for two years, by which point it was intended to undertake a comprehensive review of the PEI Strategy.

The real test of whether we can embed the use of CAF and genuinely make the shift to prevention and early intervention lay in the cultural change needed amongst all front line disciplines, agencies and organisations working directly with children and families. Structures were now in place to provide a seamless process of risk identification and support and intervention from high quality universal services through to the most specialist and targeted support. This work however poses complex and challenging planning and implementation, and therefore it would need the right experienced people to ensue success. Funding had been agreed by the Council for a Senior Manager post to drive forward the strategic element of the task and the CAF Working Group determined that the PEI Team should be enhanced by two Operational Management

posts to devise, champion, "troubleshoot" and model the practical implementation. The latter posts were opened up to Partner agencies for a secondment opportunity, but no responses were received. Therefore, in order to maintain momentum, the Council had identified two individuals with the necessary drive to undertake the task. Funding for one of the posts had been committed by the Council, but the funding for the other was only confirmed for one year. The Trust Board were therefore requested to consider contributing to maintaining this post at a minimum for the period 2011-2013. The costs of the PEI Team were:

Strategic Lead, Prevention and Early Intervention - £66,020
2 x Prevention and Early Intervention Operations Manager - £106,322

The Council contribution was £119,181, leaving a shortfall of £53,161.

Agreed:- (1) That a further report be submitted to the Board on the funding options for 2011/12 before arrangements could be agreed.

D7. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDICATORS REPORT - 2009/ 10 OUTTURN

Julie Westwood, Director Resources, Planning and Performance presented the report prepared by Stephen Booth, Performance Manager in respect of the performance at the end of 2009/10 against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbours and national data.

Attention was drawn to Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome, which provided details of performance by each Every Child Matters Theme including:

- Performance against targets
- Direction of travel analysis
- Year to Date Performance
- 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 were provided at Appendix B which was referenced throughout the Performance Assessment.

Agreed:- (1) That the Performance Report be received and the performance noted.

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

D8. CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGIC REVIEW

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report in respect of the Corporate Parenting Strategic Review.

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

The Review had been considered by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team, who recommended agreement to the Scrutiny recommendations. An Action Plan was attached for consideration.

Joyce reported on the Action Plan in place and progress being made.

Agreed:- (1) That the proposals be fully supported and the action plan endorsed.

(2) That the training for Councillors as Corporate Partners be welcomed

(3) That the Annual Report be submitted to Partner Organisations together with a relevant update report.

D9. RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report concerning identifying and managing risk on the delivery of the "Four Big Things".

At the previous meeting the Board discussed the development of a risk register which would identify risks to the delivery of the priorities in the new Children and Young People's Plan and sought ways of mitigating those risks. It was agreed that this action would be best undertaken as a workshop activity.

It was also agreed that prior to the workshop taking place, members of the Board should consider what would be the purpose and what types of risks would be included.

The Children and Learners Strategic Adviser had offered to facilitate the workshop, and the proposed format for discussion was for the Board partners to assess how well placed they felt that the children's trust partnership and each of the constituent partners were in delivering the "Four Big Things".

It was suggested that the first part of the workshop activity could consist of using elements of the "Getting Ahead" tool – a self assessment tool which

had been piloted with a number of Children's Trusts to assist with early identification of risks to delivery.

Once the key risks had been identified, the Board both collectively and as individual partners could then put forward proposals on how these risks would be managed and mitigated. This work can then be integrated into the corporate and respective partners risk registers.

Agreed:- (1) That the issues set out in the report be noted.

(2) That a facilitated Workshop take place to undertake a Risk Assessment.

(3) That the Workshop lead to the development of a Risk Register.

D10. FEEDBACK FROM FOSTERING AND SAFEGUARDING/ LAC INSPECTIONS

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director gave initial feedback from the Inspection.

Agreed:- (1) That the overall position be noted.

(2) That everyone be thanked for their hard work and commitment.

(3) That a further report be submitted to the next Board meeting, to include the reports.

D11. MINUTES OF THE ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDRENS BOARD HELD ON 11 TH JUNE, 2010

Agreed:- That the minutes of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Board held on 11th June, 2010 be noted.

D12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Family Intervention Project

A request was made for an update to be brought to the Board on how this Project would develop.

Agreed:- That a report on the Family Intervention Project arrangements be submitted to a future Board meeting.

Serious Case Reviews

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director gave an update in respect of the Serious Case Reviews.

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES 22nd June, 2010

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Councillors Havenhand and Littleboy.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Currie.

D18. APPOINTMENT OF LEA SCHOOL GOVERNORS

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

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

New Appointments

Meadowview Primary	Councillor Simon Currie	01.07.2010
Thurcroft Junior	Mrs. Helen Ramsey	22.06.2010
Clifton Community Arts	Mrs. Alison Mary Burgin	22.06.2010
Swinton Comprehensive	Councillor Neil License	22.06.2010
Saint Pius X	Mrs. Susan McCarthy	22.06.2010

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

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Currie and Havenhand.

D19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9TH JUNE, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th June, 2010 be approved as a correct record subject to an amendment to Minute 17 (Education Catering Services Trading Statement Report 2009-2010) that the report be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

D20. AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN - SHORT BREAKS SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Peter Rennie, Children and Families Special Needs Service, which provided details on Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC), the Government's transformation programme for disabled children's services in England.

Further information was provided on the Strategic Vision for the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme, along with a Needs Assessment, Commissioning Strategy and spending plan for Year 2 of the Short Breaks programme, which was received by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel on 24th July, 2009.

This report, therefore, gave an update on Rotherham's delivery of the Aiming High for Disabled Children National Core Offer (NCO), summarised the outcomes of the first year of the Aiming High for Disabled Children Short Breaks programme in Rotherham and progress towards achieving the Short Breaks Full Service Offer (FSO) four programme objectives.

In considering the contents of the report particular reference was made to the five elements of the NCO grouped under three headings monitored through NI54 informed by the parent survey, the evaluation of the delivery of Year 1 of the FSO, the updated needs assessment, revenue and capital funding, development of the existing provision and newly commissioned services with the voluntary and community sector.

Discussion ensued on the risks to finance and information provided to indicate that this funding provision was ring-fenced and would continue to be closely monitored on a monthly basis. NHS Rotherham were committed to the programme, contributing financially and working closely with the Council on planning and delivery.

It was noted that the Aiming High for Disabled Children Grant would continue to be allocated and it was currently indicated that from April,

2011 as part of the Area Based Grant with the expectation that the level of short break provision in place as of 31st March, 2011 would be sustained.

Consideration was to be given during 2010 – 2011 to the degree to which new short break provision commissioned through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme may become self-financing from April, 2011. No activity had been commissioned beyond 31st March, 2011 in order to allow for this planning to take place.

The capital element of the grant had been utilised for the refurbishment of the Orchard Centre, towards a Changing Place within the Eastwood Adventure Playground, financial support to the Kimberworth Project to refurbish the former Kimberworth Comprehensive School so as to include a comprehensive short term facility and contributions towards specific adaptations and equipment.

Whilst it was noted that there was no fee payable for the short break provision for those on benefits, it was felt that post March, 2011 and beyond any non-specialist service should have the potential to be self-sustainable.

Resolved:- (1) That the investment provided for the Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme be welcomed.

(2) That the achievements and work to date be supported, noted and taken forward.

(3) That an update report on the progress of the programme be submitted to the Cabinet Member in early 2011.

D21. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - PERFORMANCE INDICATORS OUTTURN REPORT 2009/10

Consideration was given to a report presented by Stephen Booth, Performance Manager, which outlined performance at the end of 2009/10 against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbours and national data.

Details were provided on the Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome' 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 levels were provided and explanations given to the areas of under performance.

Discussion ensued on the action plans to maintain performance on each National Indicator and the recovery plans in place for those areas of under performance.

With regards to the performance clinics it was suggested that future clinics take place on:-

- Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment and the percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within seven working days of referral.
- Looked after children reaching Level 4 in English and Maths alongside young offenders' entry into education, employment or training.

The Cabinet Member requested that along with the notice to improve the assessment of performance by Every Child Matters outcomes be submitted for monitoring on a monthly basis by exception and where this was possible and where updates on information were not reliant on annual data.

Resolved:- (1) That the Performance Report and be received and performance noted.

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

(3) That the assessment by performance on Every Child Matters outcomes be submitted to the Cabinet Member on a monthly basis by exception and identified under performance.

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

D22. SCRUTINY REVIEW - CORPORATE PARENTING

Consideration was given to a report presented by Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services, which outlined the review that had taken place of Corporate Parenting Structures by the Looked After Children's Scrutiny Sub Panel between November, 2009 and March, 2010 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 was subject to scrutiny from the Strategic Leadership Team.

The Strategic Leadership Team agreed with the sixteen recommendations and findings of the Scrutiny Review and requested consideration of the action plan with a view to completion of the new structure by September, 2010.

Reference was also made to the establishment of the Corporate Parenting Board as a sub-group of the Children's Board, which would disband the Looked After Children Scrutiny Sub-Group.

Discussion also ensued on specific training for Elected Members and how best this could be taken forward.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and the sixteen recommendations in the action plan be supported.

(2) That the report be submitted to Cabinet on the 7th July, 2010.

(3) That the report be submitted to the Children's Board on the 27th July, 2010.

D23. THE LEARNING REVOLUTION: MAKING IT HAPPEN – LEAD ACCOUNTABLE BODY STATUS

Consideration was given to a report presented by Sue Shelley, Acting Head of Service – Community Learning, which provided information on 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 supported informal adult learning through the Local Authority as the lead accountable body.

Further information was still awaited and a further update would be provided in due course.

Resolved:- That support for the service continue for it to become the Lead Accountable Body and that a further report be presented to the Cabinet Member following the receipt of additional information from the Skills Funding Agency on the responsibilities of the lead accountable body.

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
7th July, 2010

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Havenhand, License and G. A. Russell.

D24. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 22ND JUNE, 2010 AND ON 23RD JUNE, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

D25. AMALGAMATION OF THE MALTBY CRAGS INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

Further to Minute No. 169 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 28th April, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Programme Director (BSF) stating that there have been no objections to the proposed amalgamation of the Maltby Craggs Infant School and the Maltby Craggs Junior School.

Discussion ensued on the proposed leadership of the amalgamated schools and the potential timeline of inspections by Ofsted.

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

(2) That, in the absence of any formal objections, the Borough Council determines the proposal to amalgamate the Maltby Craggs Infant and the Maltby Craggs Junior Schools by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion and change of age range of the Infant School.

(3) That the Secretary of State for Education be informed accordingly.

D26. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2007-2010 - PROGRESS UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy and Planning Research Manager, which summarised progress against the commitments within the Children and Young People's Plan 2007-2010. Quarterly progress reports were collated for each commitment outlined in the Children and Young People's Plan 2007-2010. Previous progress reports showed significant progress having been achieved across the Children and Young People's Service and with the Council's partners in relation to the commitments agreed within the Children and Young People's Plan.

It was noted that the report provided the details of the current progress, supporting data and the status of each of the outstanding commitments within the Children and Young People's Plan as at the end of March ,2010, but with previously completed commitments not being included.

In summary the status of all the Children and Young People's Plan commitments showed five as Green, eleven as Amber, four as Red with sixty-one commitments completed.

Commitments that remained at red status were:-

- Continue to reduce the rate of under 18 conceptions by implementing of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy.
- Reduce the incidence of offending of Looked After Children by monitoring protocols of behaviour intervention in Children's Units and improve timeliness of multi-agency risk assessments.
- Target service to enable families to develop effective communication and integration into the community.
- Establish a data set to plan future resources and support (linked to above point).

It was also noted that this was the final update on the commitments contained within the Children and Young People's Plan 2007-2010 and that commitments that were still relevant had been included in the Action Plan for the new Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013.

The importance of monitoring the relevant areas in the ongoing plan was emphasised to ensure the high priorities for children and young people were delivered.

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

D27. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - RISK MANAGEMENT

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Risk and Regulation Manager which set out details of the comprehensive review of risks within Children and Young People's Services undertaken during January, 2010 following on from the Department for Education's Notice to Improve and the subsequent review of the Directorate and restructuring.

All Children and Young People's Services' risks were evaluated on RisGen (the Council's current risk management monitoring system) and reviewed and realigned during a workshop to reflect the new structure within the Directorate, the Business Plan and its priorities. It was noted, however, that a new risk management monitoring system would come on stream from September, 2010 onwards.

Risks at Strategic Leadership Team level were reviewed quarterly and a progress report was provided to them and the relevant Scrutiny Panel.

Risks at Children and Young People's Services level were reviewed quarterly with the appropriate Action Managers and information updated on RisGen to reflect the latest position. Action Managers were asked to provide details of any new or emerging risks for inclusion on the system. This was reported to the Directorate Leadership Team also on a quarterly basis.

Discussion ensued on various elements of risks particularly those related to Machinery of Government in relation to planning and funding for 14-19 year olds, mitigation of the red risks and their ongoing management action to improve their status, the need for a direction of travel of risk to be identified on future reports, plans for a workshop before the next Children's Board and the risks associated with the news about the BSF Programme.

It was suggested that further information be sought on the impacts and risks associated with the funding withdrawal for the BSF Programme and the effects this may have in the medium to longer term with consideration as to whether this formed part of the business case and how this may affect the proposed academy provision at Maltby.

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

(2) That the current position with regard to risk management activity within Children and Young People's Services, as now reported, be noted.

(3) That the frequency of formal reporting to this meeting continue to be on a quarterly basis in line with that done corporately.

D28. MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-GROUPS, WORKING PARTIES, PANELS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES ETC. FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010-2011

Consideration was given to the appointment of Councillors to represent the Council on various sub-groups, panels and forums for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

Resolved:- That the following appointments for 2010/2011 be approved, together with attendance at relevant meetings, seminars and conferences pertaining to the work of the committee/group/organisation shown:-

- (i) Adoption Panel
Councillors Falvey, Havenhand and Sharman
- (ii) Fostering Panel

- VACANT (New representative required)
- (iii) Redbarn Rowan Management Group
Councillor Burton and Falvey
 - (iv) Rotherham Partnership (Lifelong Learning Partnership Spoke)
Councillor Lakin
 - (v) Rotherham Partnership (Lifelong Learning Theme Board)
Councillor Currie
 - (vi) Rotherham Schools Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Partnership Board
VACANT (New representative required)
 - (vii) Rotherham Holiday Aid
Councillors Havenhand and Tweed
 - (viii) Rotherham Children and Young People's Board
Councillor Lakin
 - (ix) Safeguarding Children Board
Councillor Lakin
 - (x) Think Family Board
Councillors Burton and Lakin
 - (xi) Local Admissions Forum
Councillors Barron, Havenhand and VACANT (New representative required)
 - (xii) Visits to Children's Establishments
Evenings at 6.00 p.m. – dates to be confirmed
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services together with Advisers, who attend in rotation
Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel
Ward Councillor
 - (xiii) Education Consultative Committee
Leader and Deputy Leader
Cabinet Member and Advisers, Children and Young People's Services - Councillor Lakin
Chairman of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee - Councillor Whelbourn
Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel – Councillor G. A. Russell and Councillor Licence
 - (xiv) Rotherham Schools Forum
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services –

- Councillor Lakin
Chairman of Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel –
Councillor G. A. Russell
- (xv) Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
Councillors Sharman, Ali, Hussain and Littleboy (substitute
Councillor Tweed)
- (xvi) Hospital Teaching and Home Tuition Service
VACANT (New representative required)
- (xvii) Transport (Education) Appeals Panel
Councillors Dodson, Gosling, Hodgkiss, Rushforth and
Whelbourn
- (xviii) Rotherham College of Arts and Technology Board
Councillor License and Mrs. Joyce Thacker
- (xix) Thomas Rotherham College Board
Councillor Barron
- (xx) Children's Locality Safeguarding Champions
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Rotherham North | Councillor Barron |
| Rotherham South | Councillor McNeely |
| Rother Valley South | Councillor Havenhand |
| Rother Valley West | Councillor Austen |
| Wentworth North | Councillor Doyle |
| Wentworth South | Councillor G. A. Russell |
| Wentworth Valley | Councillor Rushforth |
- (xxi) Recycling Group
Councillors Falvey and Havenhand
- (xxii) Local Authority Governors Panel
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services –
Councillor Lakin
and Councillors Currie, Havenhand, Littleboy and Tweed
- (xxiii) 14 to 19 Board
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services –
Councillor Lakin
- (xxiv) Imagination Library Board
Councillors Lakin and Rushforth
Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services
Director of Learning Services
- (xxv) Inspire Rotherham Board

Councillor Lakin

- (xxvi) 2012 Legacy Project Board
Councillor Lakin
- (xxvii) Building Schools for the Future Project Board
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services –
Councillor Lakin
Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and
Transportation – Councillor Smith
Chair of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel –
Councillor G. A. Russell
- (xxviii) Yorkshire and Humberside Children and Young People Lead
Member Network
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services –
Councillor Lakin
(substitute: Chair of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny
Panel – Councillor G. A. Russell)
- (xxix) ABLE Project Steering Group
Councillors Pickering, McNeely, Whelbourn and Wyatt
- (xxx) Family Intervention Project Steering Group
Councillor Burton
- (xxxi) Yorkshire and Humberside Grid For Learning – Foundation
Committee
Mrs Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager, Children and
Young People's Services
- (xxxii) Wales Education Foundation
Councillors Sharp and Whysall

**(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM
IN ORDER TO PROGRESS A TIMETABLE FOR VISITS.)**

D29. CHILDREN'S HOMES

Consideration was given to reports that detailed the statement and purpose of the residential children's homes in Rotherham and the provision.

It was anticipated that the visiting arrangements for the children's homes would continue at dates/times to be agreed by the Cabinet Member. However, in light of forthcoming inspections it was suggested that visits be expedited in the next week to the two venues on the Orchard Centre site and Goodwin Crescent mainstream establishment and that the Operations Manager (Provider Services) be responsible for contacting the

relevant Members.

The Cabinet Member pointed out the importance of Corporate Parenting and that all Members needed to take responsibility in this area. It was his intention to involve newly appointed Members to the Corporate Parenting Board in the visiting process whilst maintaining sensitivity to the needs of the young people whose homes would be visited.

It was also noted that every effort was being made to benchmark performance on inspection outcomes with statistical neighbours and this would continue to be managed once neighbouring authorities replied.

Resolved:- (1) That the arrangements for the visits to the children's homes identified for the following week be arranged.

(2) That a proposed monthly timetable be developed in conjunction with the Cabinet Member.

D30. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

D31. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH JUNE, 2010 (COPY ATTACHED)

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Education Consultative Committee, held on 17th June, 2010, be noted.

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
Tuesday, 20th July, 2010

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

D32. APPOINTMENT OF LEA SCHOOL GOVERNORS

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

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

New Appointments

Maltby Hall Infant	Mrs. Debra Bonewell	20/7/10
Swallownest Primary	Rev. Laura Betson	20/7/10
Badsley Moor Lane Junior	Mrs. Saxon Bond	20/7/10
Kiveton Park Infant	Mr. Christopher Batty	20/7/10
Swinton Queen	Mr. Shaun Churm	20/7/10

Re-appointments

Bramley Sunnyside	Mr. Peter Hart	10/9/10
Harthill Primary	Mrs. Angela Adams	26/9/10
Swinton Fitzwilliam	Mr. Michael Hall	1/9/10

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
Wednesday, 21st July, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Councillor Currie (Policy Adviser).

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Havenhand.

D33. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY, 2010

Attention was drawn to the following comments/amendments to Minute No. 28 of the meeting held on 7th July, 2010:-

1. (iv) Rotherham Partnership (Lifelong Learning Partnership Spoke and (v) Rotherham Partnership (Lifelong Learning Theme Board) – Clarification was sought as to whether these were the same meeting
2. (x) Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership – as from September this would be known as the "Think Family Board"
3. (xviii) Rotherham College of Arts and Technology Board – delete Mrs. Joyce Thacker
4. (xix) Thomas Rotherham College – Dearne Valley College should also be included for which Mr. Matt Gladstone was the representative.

Resolved:- (1) That, subject to the above, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th July, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

(2) That a review be undertaken of the of the outside bodies to establish frequency of meetings, attendance etc.

**D34. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES NOTICE TO IMPROVE
- PROGRESS UPDATE**

Further to Minute No. 128 of 24th February, 2010, the Performance, Information and Quality Manager reported on progress made since the Notice to Improve had been received identifying a RAG rating and a direction of travel for the areas of improvement, some areas of good performance and key risks. Also highlighted were the issues to meet the stretching targets set for the Council and its strategic partners.

There were 44 individual actions covering the key performance measures in addition to the operational targets around Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Leadership and Management, Performance Management, Finance, Recruitment and Retention and ICT. Based on a RAG rating,

the current position as at 8th July, 2010, was:-

Red	2 (5%)
Amber	19 (43%)
Green	23 (52%) (out of which 14 were now deemed as completed)

The report highlighted:-

- High Risk areas (red risks)
 - o Expenditure on agency staff continued to be high - £219,464 for fieldwork staff and £21,639 for administration staff since 1st April
 - o Business Process Re-engineering
- Areas of Improvement
 - o Improve the quality of Serious Case Reviews – this had been fully re-evaluated by OFSTED and had now been rated as adequate. Now had OFSTED rating of Green
 - o NI60 – Increase in % of Core Assessments – between 1st April-7th July, 87.71% of Core Assessments had been completed in time, slightly higher than the March, 2011 target of 87%
 - o NI59 – trends over the last 6 months were showing a month-on-month improvement
 - o Fostering Inspection – shown significant improvement and had move from just adequate to almost good
- 14 actions had now been completed – details set out in the report submitted.

The DfE had agreed up to £150,000 financial support to assist with recovery, a further £125,000 had been secured from the RIEP to fund the work around implementation of Common Assessment Framework. The DfE funding was being used to supplement Social Work staffing resources and to employ independent staff to assist in the review and further improvement of and service quality activities. In order to strengthen financial management arrangements, all managers with budget holder responsibility attended specific training. The moratorium which had been in place since December, 2009, continued into 2010/11 to ensure that resources were directed to priority areas. In addition a savings work programme was in place to identify efficiencies and enable re-investment into priority areas.

Resolved:- (1) That the progress being made against the targets set in the Notice to Improve be noted.

(2) That the report be referred to Cabinet.

**3DCABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES -
21/07/10**

D35. SCHOOL BALANCES 2009/10

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Resources and Business Manager, summarising the 2009/10 position on school balances. The overall position showed a 34% fall from 2008/09 with no school having a balance exceeding the thresholds set by the DCSF at the year ending 31st March, 2010.

A comparison of Rotherham's school balances as at 31st March, 2009, showed that Rotherham's overall school balance as a percentage of the budget was 4.31%, compared to the statistical neighbour average of 6.62%, metropolitan average of 6.89% and Yorkshire and Humber region average of 5.40%.

In 2007/08 Rotherham had 42 schools whose balances exceeded the DCSF thresholds. This fell to 21 schools in 2008/09. In 2009/10 no school had a balance exceeding the threshold and therefore no clawback would be applied this year.

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

D36. EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS (ESF) 2007-2013

Further to Minute No. 25 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 1st July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the European Structural Funds NEETs Response Fund Manager detailing the progress in the management and delivery of the European Structural Funds (ESF) 16-19 NEETs Response Fund to 31st May, 2010.

The report focussed on the success of the ESF NEETs Response Fund in creating sustainable outcomes which had resulted in additional ESF funding and helped inform how the Council would manage its new post-16 statutory duties from 1st April, 2010:-

- The Authority's new statutory lead as from 1st April, 2010, to deliver full participation in learning to the age of 18 years old by commissioning 16-19 (25) learning provision funding from the Young People's Learning Agency which as a result:-
 - A new 5 year 14-19 (25) Learning Plan being developed focussing on these duties which would be reviewed each July
 - The Council would need to produce an annual Commissioning Statement each autumn setting out the 16-19 (25) learning priorities for the Borough.
- Broadening provision and developing a bespoke offer (as of 30th June, 2010)
- Securing an additional £500,000 of ESF NEETs Response Fund and

£150,000 of YPLA LR funding to commission Foundation learning Provision for 16-19 (25) year olds in 2010/11. An Invitation to Tender had been posted on the Council's procurement website

- Rotherham achieved its lowest ever NNET figure of 6.8% in January, 2009 which contributed to the Authority achieving its Local Area Agreement stretch target of 7.1% resulting in an additional £880,000 of funding to the Authority.

As of 31st May, 2010, the Authority had committed/spent £1.3M and drawn down £960,000 for achieving 368 young people starts and 175 progressions. In addition £1.3M was allocated for 14-16 NEETs prevention work (June, 2009 to September, 2010).

However, Michael Grove, Secretary of State for Education, had announced on 19th July that local authorities would no longer be responsible for the education provision of 16-19 (25) year olds – with exception of School Sixth Forms. Firm details were unknown at the present time. Officers have commenced discussions with YPLA colleagues on the implications for the LA of this announcement. Sub-Regional DCs are meeting on 21 July and will discuss what the Sub-Regional response might be.

The announcement did mean that the 14-19 learning plan, developed with partners and signed off at the beginning of the month, would no longer be a key decision for the Cabinet as it would not have the £37M post-16 funding attached to it.

Under the new proposals the authority would not be responsible for funding provision at the 2 Further Education Colleges and 1 Sixth Form College.

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

(2) That a further report be submitted in October once the implications of the new announcement are known by September.

D37. ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION IN RESPECT OF ENTRY IN THE 2012/13 ACADEMIC YEAR

Consideration was given to a report presented by the School Organisation, Planning and Development Manager stating that all admission Authorities must consult by 1st March, in the determination year, on the admission arrangements for those schools for which they are responsible. The consultation must take place for a minimum of eight weeks between 1st November and 1st March and a final determination made by 15th April. The report advised on the proposed admission policy/coordinated scheme for the admission year 2012/2013, which is in relation to the criteria used where a school is oversubscribed and any

**5DCABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES -
21/07/10**

changes required as a consequence of requirements arising under the new Admissions Code of Practice published by the Department for Education.

The Local Authority had previously supplied a hard copy of the 'Admission to School' booklet to every parent applying for Admission to Primary School and for Admission to Secondary School. The information contained in the booklets was available on the website together with details on how to make an on-line application. Prompted by the current financial position, booklets would now only be provided upon request. All parents would receive a short summary explaining how to apply for a school plan, a copy of the Common Application Form and information on how to access the on-line system.

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

(2) That the changes to the admission policy/co-ordinated scheme for the admission year 2012/13, as detailed in the report submitted, be noted.

(3) That the report be forwarded to the Local Admissions Forum for information/comment.

(4) That the appropriate consultation with School Governing Bodies/other Local Authorities shall take place, as usual, mainly in the Autumn Term, 2009 and up to 1st March, 2010.

(5) That a further report be presented to the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services on any feedback from the annual admissions consultation, during March, 2011.

D38. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION'S PROPOSALS FOR ACADEMY STATUS

The Director, Children and Young People's Services submitted a report summarising proposals by the Secretary of State for Schools to convert to Academy Status.

The Secretary of State wrote to the Head Teachers of all schools on 26th May, 2010, encouraging them to express an interest in becoming academies. In particular he wrote to the Head Teachers of outstanding schools encouraging them to consider "acquiring academy freedoms" from 1st September, 2010. This would be done under the Academies Bill which was currently being debated in Parliament.

An academy was an independently funded state school. If a school became an academy it would receive its budget from the Young People's Learning Agency which also managed funding for all 16-19 year olds. It would no longer receive the funding from the local authority. Staff and land would be transferred to the newly formed Academy Trust, an independent charity.

The DfE had published a list of schools who had expressed an interest in becoming an academy. 3 Rotherham schools had expressed an interest – Wales, Brinsworth and St. Bernard's. No primary school had expressed an interest. The DfE had assigned a Project Officer to the LA for Wales and Brinsworth to ensure the conversion is a smooth process and confirmed that they should be academies by 1st September, 2010.

Wales and Brinsworth had confirmed that they wish the Local Authority to continue the HR and Payroll Service and, for that reason, it had been agreed that they become Academies as from 1st October, 2010. A portfolio of services and Service Level Agreements had been drawn up that the Authority had to provide/which the Academy could buy-in.

Resolved:- (1) That the report and mitigating actions be noted

(2) That land and buildings be transferred to the new Academies on a leasehold basis.

D39. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 21ST JUNE, 2010

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Board held on 21st June, 2010 be noted.

D40. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT BOARD HELD ON 29TH JUNE, 2010

Consideration was given to the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board, held on 29th June, 2010.

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

D41. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

D42. RATIONALISATION OF PROPERTY PORTFOLIO: HERRINGTHORPE LIBRARY, CHAUCER ROAD/BROWNING ROAD, HERRINGTHORPE

The Director of Children and Young Peoples' Services presented a report proposed the appropriation of the former Herringthorpe Library as required in accordance with Item 76, Appendix C of the Council's Financial Regulations.

The vacant asset shown on the plan attached at Appendix 1 of the report submitted was surplus to requirements and held in the Property Bank. The property required refurbishment to bring it back into beneficial use.

The Director of Community Services had agreed in principle to the appropriation of the asset in order to expand the existing Youth Service provided in the adjacent youth centre.

Resolved:- (1) That the appropriation of the former Herringthorpe Library from the Department of Culture and Leisure to the Department of Community Services, at a value of £96,000, be approved, subject to the necessary operational funding being available.

(2) That the Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services complete the necessary documentation.

(3) That the Director of Central Finance amend the Council's financial records accordingly.

**(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM
TO ENABLE THE ITEM TO BE PROCESSED.)**

D43. "MY PLACE" YOUTH FACILITY PROJECT

The Design Consultancy Manager presented a report on the current situation with regard to the proposals for the "My Place" youth facility to be constructed on a site adjacent the Wharncliffe Flats in the town centre.

Discussion was taking place with the contractor to bring costs within budget without seriously undermining the basic design concepts favoured by the client.

The programme for the project, dictated by the funding regime, required completion of the project by August, 2011. In order to achieve that date, approval to accept a tender would need to be given in advance of the next scheduled Cabinet member meeting in September.

This had been discussed with Legal Services who were in agreement with the proposed way forward.

Resolved:- (1) That the project team continue to work closely with the Client and Contractor in order to bring costs within budget and to ensure that the scheme was completed and handed over within the site time period.

(2) That the appointment of the contractor, (Wildgoose Construction Ltd), be approved subject to the contractor submitting a tender price within the

project budget and meeting the financial and technical constraints of the project.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act - information relating to the financial/business affairs of any person (including the Council)).

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
25th June, 2010

Present:- Councillor Whelbourn (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Gilding, J. Hamilton, Jack, P. A. Russell, Steele and Whysall.

Also in attendance was Councillor Sangster (Chair of the Audit Committee)

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor McNeely); Councillors G A Russell and Swift.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

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

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

18. QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE

Julie Slatter, Head of Policy and Performance, presented the submitted report which provided analysis of the Council's performance and was the final quarter's performance report, focusing on the national indicator set and key local indicators.

The position at the end of Quarter 4 was that 62% of the corporate plan indicators that could be rated had achieved their target and 68% had improved or maintained their best score.

The position against the LAA 2008-11 as at Quarter 4 was that 58% of the 26 indicators currently rated were on target, with an overall improvement rate of 68%.

Julie gave a presentation detailing the following:-

- Future approach to performance management
- Response to changing circumstances
- Performance/ Improvement
- Areas of good performance
- Areas for concern
- Performance clinics
- Children's Services

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

- Monitoring/ reporting arrangements of the review of policy and performance
- NI68 percentage of referrals to children's social care going onto initial assessment
- Scrutiny role vital in the self regulation and review of performance management
- OFSTED's very statistical approach with little reference to context
- Progress towards meeting the targets set in the Notice to Improve
- NI 161 Learners achieving Level 1 qualification in literacy 2009/ 10 – Target 1581 Performance 1400
- NI 162 Learners achieving an entry level 3 qualification in numeracy 2009/ 10 – Target 2,950 Performance 500
- NI 136 People supported to live independently through Social Services (LAA target) 2009/ 10 – Target 3149 Performance 2414
- Performance clinics and scrutiny elected member attendance
- Need for analysis of long term effectiveness of performance clinics
- EMQC Corporate report : outstanding recommendations
- Notice to Improve : 20 out of 22 recommendations still outstanding
- Incorporation of equalities standards in reports template
- Disappointing outcome of Leave bid for a University Centre for the Dearne Valley
- Scrapping of the Future Jobs Fund
- Targeting of resources and support for vulnerable people

Resolved:- (1) That the position and Direction of Travel on key indicators and the corrective action required, as identified, be noted.

(2) That the abolition of the CAA framework and lessening of inspection requirements in the future be noted.

(3) That the position regarding data quality and target setting be noted and the proposal that Strategic Directors ensure these aspects are strengthened be supported.

(4) That the performance clinics to be conducted in Quarter 1 be supported.

19. RBT QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report summarising the performance of

RBT against contractual measures for January, February and March, 2010 and key areas of work for the year 2010/ 11 across the areas of Customer Access, Human Resources and Payroll, ICT, Procurement and Revenues and Benefits.

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

- latest position regarding the Rawmarsh joint service centre building to be opened during 2010/ 11
- timelines for the reporting of organisational development activity
- server visualisation
- despite being below target, performance was still top quartile in respect of RBO5 (Cumulative Council Tax Arrears as compared to Council Tax Year End Total Collectable Debt) and RB06 (Year End Council Tax Write Off as % of Collectable Debt)

Resolved:- (1) That RBT's performance against contractual measures for January, February and March, 2010 be noted.

(2) That the key areas of work for the new financial year 2010/ 11 be noted.

20. RBT YEAR END 2009/ 10 - PERFORMANCE

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report summarising the performance of RBT against strategic measures and key service delivery issues for the year 2009/ 10 across the areas of Customer Access, Human Resources and Payroll, ICT, Procurement and Revenues and Benefits

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

- 'Tell Us Once' service had been mainstreamed successfully into the Registration Service at no additional cost to the Council
- New Website: possible need for a short sharp review by the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel from a member and customer perspective
- VOIP telephony
- Potential for tracking customer perception and impact of usage on Aston Joint Service Centre.

Resolved:- (1) That RBT's performance against contractual strategic

measures be noted.

(2) That the key service delivery issues for 2009/ 10 be noted.

21. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th June, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

22. WORK IN PROGRESS

(a) Councillor Austen reported the need for elected members to receive information on a regular basis, in plain English, outlining the implications of ongoing changes for Rotherham across the board.

(b) Councillor Jack reported:-

- the diabetes review had commenced
- Andy Buck had given a presentation to the latest meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel
- The number of co-optees on the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel had been reduced

(c) Cath Saltis reported:-

- the first training session for co-optees had been held yesterday and alternative sessions had been arranged
- the need to establish a working group of scrutiny members to progress the joint working proposals with Sheffield University

Resolved:- That the Working Group comprise Councillors Austen, Steele, Whelbourn and Whysall.

23. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call in requests.

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
9th July, 2010

Present:- Councillor Whelbourn (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Gilding, J. Hamilton, Jack, P. A. Russell, Steele, Swift and Whysall.

Also in attendance was Councillor Fenoughty for item 27 (Scrutiny Review – Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor McNeely) and Councillors G. A. Russell.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

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

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

26. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY LEGAL ADVICE SERVICES

Zafar Saleem, Community Engagement Manager and Maxine Phillips, Advice Project Co-ordinator, VAR, presented the submitted report informing and updating the Committee on the review of community legal advice services which had been conducted by a multi-agency partnership.

An action plan had been developed with the following key tasks:

- to define clearly what constituted legal advice and to separate (non legal) advocacy and general non legal advice
- to clarify the available realisable funding to allocate to legal advice in the borough
- to improve cross agency referrals
- to improve public awareness of how to access services through the compilation of a directory of advice services
- to establish a new 'model' for delivering advice services in the borough
- to establish a common client recording system to determine accurately volume and complexity levels of advice being delivered by agencies
- to adopt a common quality assurance framework

Also submitted was the proposed response to the scrutiny review

recommendations at the time.

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

- advice sector core funding from RMBC of £590,000
- single common assurance system
- budgetary/resource position
- significant unused demand for advice and anticipated increase of such
- referrals
- monitoring and review of service provision and processes
- support for the use of electronic systems
- need to factor in training/learning to the public launch
- mapping to avoid duplication of service
- reference to the 'shelved' debt advice review and the debt recovery review
- hard to reach groups
- efficiency of smaller agencies
- use of volunteers
- reporting arrangements

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

(2) That it be noted that the report was to be considered by the Rotherham Partnership Chief Executives' Group.

(3) That learning/training issues be referred to the Members' Training and Development Panel.

(4) That a progress report be submitted in six months.

27. SCRUTINY REVIEW – PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION (PSHE)

Councillor Fenoughty presented the submitted report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE).

The review was received by the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 9th April, 2010. The review document was submitted.

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

The report covered:-

- review framework
- background information :
 - What is PSHE?
 - Why is PSHE important?
 - The national picture
 - The Healthy Schools Programme
- Where are we in Rotherham? :
 - Healthy Schools status in Rotherham
 - Approaches to teaching PSHE (September, 2009)
 - Curriculum space
 - PSHE staff support
 - Resources
- Overview of Meetings and Consultation
- Summary of key issues
- Recommendations

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

- Curriculum space and vying for timetable slots
- not only need to avoid repetition but also ensure that the content was relevant to the year group
- schools did not always know the needs and concerns of the local community and awareness process should be considered
- success of the recommendations dependant on schools and

governing bodies taking them on board

- concerns that monitoring by the Youth Cabinet at Rotherham Show may not be sufficient
- views of school councils should be sought

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

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

(3) That Cabinet's response be fed back to this Committee and the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel.

28. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

29. WORK IN PROGRESS

(a) Councillor Whysall reported that the meeting day of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel had changed from Friday to Wednesday and that the format of the meeting had changed to reduce the amount of paperwork.

(b) Councillor Jack reported that yesterday's meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel had considered:

- a presentation on the Hospital Aftercare Service
- revenue budget monitoring report
- Assistive technology review update
- patient transport service contract

(c) Caroline Webb reported:

- Cabinet had accepted the recommendations from the Corporate Parenting review
- Scrutiny Annual Report was finalised for presentation to Council on 28th July, 2010
- Cabinet had requested that a short scrutiny review be undertaken of the existing and proposed governance arrangements surrounding the role of the Local Authority and NHS Rotherham in addressing public health issues.

Resolved:- That the review group comprise Councillors Jack, Steele, Whelbourn and Whysall.

30. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call in requests.

31. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

32. BUDGET UPDATE

Andrew Bedford, Strategic Director of Finance, gave a slide presentation indicating the impact of known Government resources reductions. The slides identified the reduced/withdrawn funding levels in respect of the revenue and capital budgets and the resultant residual budget pressure on the revenue and capital budgets.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.