

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

**Venue: Room 3/4,  
Bailey House,  
Rawmarsh Road,  
Rotherham S60 1TD**

**Date: Wednesday, 21st July 2010**

**Time: 9.00 a.m.**

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

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for Absence.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th July, 2010 (Pages 1 - 7)
5. Children and Young People's Services Notice to Improve - Progress Update (Pages 8 - 22)
6. School Balances 2009/10 (Pages 23 - 27)
7. European Structural Funds (ESF) 2007-2013 (Pages 28 - 31)
8. Admissions Consultation in respect of Entry in the 2012/13 Academic Year (Pages 32 - 38)
9. Secretary of State for Education's Proposals for Academy Status (Pages 39 - 46)
10. Minutes of a meeting of the Children's Board held on 21st June, 2010 (Pages 47 - 53)
11. Minutes of a meeting of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board held on 29th June, 2010 (Pages 54 - 55)

12. 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 they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial/business affairs of any person (including the Council)).
13. Rationalisation of Property Portfolio: Herringthorpe Library, Chaucer Road/Browning Road, Herringthorpe (Pages 56 - 58)

**(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following item to enable the matter to be processed.)**

14. "My Place" Youth Facility Project (Pages 59 - 61)

**Date of Next Meeting:-  
Wednesday, 8th September, 2010**

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

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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) Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership  
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
  - (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.

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
------------------------------------------------------

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services – Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> July 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services Notice to Improve - Progress Update</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

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

### **6. Recommendations**

- i) That CYPS Cabinet Member notes the progress being made against the targets set in the Notice to Improve.**
- ii) That this Notice to Improve progress update report is referred to a full meeting of the Cabinet.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

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

There are 44 individual actions covering the key performance measures ( 3 social care indicators and the LAA improvements) in addition to the operational targets around Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Leadership and Management, Performance Management, Finance, Recruitment and Retention and ICT.

Based on a RAG rating the following is the current position as at 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Red: 2 (5%)

Amber : 19 (43%)

Green: 23 (52%) (out of which 14 are now deemed as completed)

### High Risk areas ( red risks)

#### Reduce the over reliance on agency staff

The expenditure on agency staff continues to be high, with costs since 1<sup>st</sup> April now totalling £219,464 for fieldwork staff ( social workers and team managers) and £21,639 for administration staff.

The positive impact of this however is the improvement in both the quality and timeliness of the key indicators that are subject to the Notice to Improve. Following recent permanent appointments the impact of this should start to be seen in the next few months.

#### Business Process Re-engineering

Although the BPR work has continued to complete those areas already identified as a priority, the remaining processes still need to be re-prioritised and completed. This work continues to be impacted by other work of a higher priority.

### Areas of Improvement

#### Improve the quality of serious case reviews

The Serious Case Review previously evaluated as inadequate has been fully re-evaluated by OFSTED following the submission of the challenge and we were informed on the 17<sup>th</sup> June that this has now been rated adequate. In addition, the one outstanding Serious Case Review judgement has now been received and this was assessed as adequate. The profile is now 1 good and 3 adequate, giving us an OFSTED rating of Green.

#### NI60 – Increase in % of core assessments

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> July 87.71% of Core Assessments have been completed in time, this is now slightly higher than the March 2011 target of 87%. Sample Core Assessments continue to be audited by the Practice Improvement Managers.

The NI59 indicator is the most important part of the process and trends over the last 6 months are showing a month on month improvement:

January: 72%

February: 76%

March: 77%

April: 80.17%

May: 76.01%

June 83.78%

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> April 80.16% of initial assessments have been completed in timescale.

### Fostering Inspection

Verbal feedback has been received which has yet to be confirmed in the formal report. The direction of travel was acknowledged to have shown significant improvement and has moved from just adequate to almost good.

#### **a) Completed targets**

14 actions have now been completed:

- PDR guidance has been issued to managers for 2010 with a May deadline set for the completion of PDRs
- The Director of Children & Learners at GOYH is now a member of the improvement panel.
- Additional administration staff are now in place in the social care locality teams with the resources having a positive impact.
- The Portal development for sharing social care reports for social workers and managers is in place
- Social work staff now have access to the VPN home working solution with the roll out of laptops completed and SWIFT desk guides have been issued to localities
- The Safe and Well Protocol has been updated
- The Safe and Well Protocol was launched on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010.
- No children's homes are inadequate
- A Self Assessment has been written against the safeguarding and looked after children criteria to identify areas for development
- A World Class Primary school reported has been written and submitted to DCSF
- Improvements have been made to the Induction Process
- The overspend for 2009/10 was reduced to £3.99m
- Funding issues were investigated during 2009/10 and further work is now being done around benchmarking.
- A safeguarding report card has been developed and reporting arrangements underway.

## **8. Finance**

The DfE has agreed up to £150,000 financial support to assist with recovery, a further £125,000 has been secured from the RIEP to fund the work around implementation of Common Assessment Framework. The DfE funding is 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

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

In order to strengthen financial management arrangements all managers with budget holder responsibility attended specific training. The moratorium which has been in place since December 2009 continues into 2010/11 to ensure that resources are directed to priority areas. In addition, a savings work programme is in place to identify efficiencies and enable re-investment into priority areas.

Further work is now taking place in relation to the overall budget position and the recent government announcements.

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

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

Notification was received on the 5<sup>th</sup> July that OFSTED would be undertaking their Safeguarding and Looked After Children inspection which commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup> July. All relevant documents have been sent to OFSTED by the designated deadline and additional documents requested are being sent on a daily basis.

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

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

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

The Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup> July.

The annual Fostering Inspection was concluded and verbal feedback indicated that significant improvements were visible and that the service had moved from just adequate to almost good.

Failure to address these issues would impact further on the CYPS and the council and could lead to external intervention.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Notice To Improve

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

Children First Review and Resource Benchmarking – January to June 2009

CYPS Improvement Plan

CYP Directorate Performance reports

Appendix A – Notice to Improve action plan

**Contact Name :** Sue Wilson, Performance, Information & Quality Manager,  
CYPS [sue-cyps.wilson@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:sue-cyps.wilson@rotherham.gov.uk) 01709 822511

Performance Measures

Date of update 8th July

Objective	Key Actions	Measures			Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Current performance	Targets				
<b>Staying Safe - Performance</b>								
	NI 68 - Increase the % of referrals of children in need to children's social care going onto initial assessment in line with the current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (mid range is good performance)	57.6% (2008/09 outturn) (2270/3940) 59.8% (position as at Nov 2009)	62.63%	65% March 2010 68% October 2010 70% March 2011	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	From 1st April to 7th July the figure is 62.63%, (compared with 61.64% reported to the Panel on the 3rd June). Data checks continue to be undertaken but the Practice Improvement Managers to check accuracy in recording and are part of the QA process.	Social Work
<b>Improvement Notice</b>	NI 59 - Increase the % of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral from the 2008/09 baseline in line with current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (high is good performance)	77.8% (2008/09 outturn) (1767/2270) 73% (position as at Nov 2009)	80.16%	80% March 2010 85% October 2010 87% March 2011	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	80.16% (back above the March target of 80%) of the I.A.s completed between 1st April and the 7th July were completed in time. Data checks continue to be undertaken by the Practice Improvement managers to check accuracy in recording and are part of the QA process.	Social Work
<b>Improvement Notice</b>	NI 60 - Increase the % of core assessments for children's social care carried out within 35 working days of their commencement from the 2008/09 baseline in line with the current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (high is good performance)	84.9% (2008/09 outturn) (276/325) 68% (position as at Nov 2009)	87.71%	80% March 2010 84% October 2010 87% March 2011	Gani Martins	↑ Green	Between 1st April and 7th July 87.71% of Core Assessments have been completed in time, this is now slightly higher than the March 2011 target of 87%. Sample core assessments are being audited by the Practice Improvement Managers	Social Work
<b>LAA 2008-2011 Being Healthy; Enjoying and Achieving; Achieving Economic Wellbeing; Making A Positive Contribution - Performance</b>								
<b>Overall improvements in LAA indicators relating to children's services and statutory attainment targets through the period of this Improvement Notice</b>	Overall improvement to be made against all CYP related LAA measures	Baseline for measures is the agreed position when the LAA refresh was finished in March 2009	67% of CYPS related indicators, 76% including education and NTI indicators have improved from the baseline	>65% improved from baseline March 2011	Rotherham MBC / LSP Partners	→ Green	At outturn 2009/10 67% of CYPS LAA related targets (76% including Education and NTI indicators) have improved performance from their baseline positions since the LAA was agreed. Further work is taking place in relation to the Red risks in the LAA action plan and improvement plans being put into place	Performance and all Workstreams

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>1. Staying Safe - Social Work Practice and Process</b>								
<b>Establish and implement an effective policy on the auditing of assessment and referrals so as to ensure managerial involvement in quality assurance</b>	Implement an improved quality assurance framework for assessments and referrals	Each Team Manager audits 3 files per month as per guidance. Locality Managers to audit 3 files per month and 5 NFA Audits	100% compliance with the policy	August 2010	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	A detailed progress report on the new monitoring system is on the agenda for the Improvement Panel on the 13th July. Quality Assurance has increased significantly and although practice issues are being identified there is evidence of some improvement and Practice Improvement Managers tackle the issues through coaching and mentoring.	Social Work
	Conduct a review on all NFA cases to quality assure the high level of 'no further action' decisions being taken	NFA Contacts and Referrals 1.4.2009 to 9.12.2009 33.18% Total Contacts  11.12% Total Referrals	10% reduction in overall contact and referrals which result in NFA by March 2010	August 2010	Gani Martins	→ Green	A detailed progress report on the new monitoring system is on the agenda for the Improvement Panel on the 13th July. Quality Assurance has increased significantly and although practice issues are being identified there is evidence of some improvement and Practice Improvement Managers tackle the issues through coaching and mentoring.	Social Work
	Conduct Business Process re-engineering exercise on current practices in relation to Assessments and Referrals in line with best practice to enhance performance	Practices in relation to Assessments and Referrals in need of review	Business process Re-engineering process completed	July 2010	John Dunn, RBT / Rebecca Wragg	↓ Red	BPR work has continued to complete those areas identified as priority. The remaining processes are to be re-prioritised with the Director and Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting and a detailed report is on the Improvement Panel agenda on the 13th July. Prioritisation of this work continues to be an issue in relation to other key pieces of work	ICT
<b>Embed use of the CAF in practice across children's services so that it is effectively used to inform early intervention</b>	Improve quality and completion levels of CAFs	Between January 2006 and July 2009 there have been 976 CAFs completed in Rotherham.	600 CAFs to be completed between April 2010 and March 2011	March 2011	Simon Perry / Sarah Whittle	↑ Amber	Following the launch of the early intervention improvement programme and CAF training re-commencing on the 24th February, as at the 8th July 519 staff and 89 managers have now been trained. Since the first of April 2010 147 CAFs have been completed.	Early Intervention
	Update Multi Agency Safe & Well Protocol and Practice Guidance	Original Safe and Well Protocol launched in 2006.	Update of Protocol Competed	April 2010	Gani Martins/ Simon Perry	complete		Social Work
	High profile re-launch to ensure consistency in Thresholds for intervention across all agencies.	Original Safe and Well Protocol launched in 2006.	Protocol updated and relaunched	April 2010	Gani Martins/ Simon Perry	complete		Social Work



Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>1. Staying Safe - Social Work Practice and Process</b>								
Monitor improvement in children's social care, by establishing a rigorous performance management system which delivers regular monitoring, scrutiny and quality assurance of social care performance	Ensure that all children's homes are compliant with regulatory requirements	1 - St Edmunds	No inadequate children's homes	December 2009	Gani Martins	complete		Social Work
	Introduce monthly safeguarding report card to CYP Directorate Leadership Team, Corporate Management Team, Safeguarding Board and Children and Young People's Board.	Safeguarding focused performance scorecard required	12 reports per year	August 2010	Julie Westwood	complete	The Safeguarding report card has been approved and adopted by the Improvement Panel, CYP Board and Locality Teams and was presented at the Safeguarding Board on the 19th March 2010. A new Performance sub group has been established which have firmed up reporting arrangements to the RSCB and work is underway with the Children's Board with reports scheduled to the sub-group.	Performance
	Conduct a self assessment using the Safeguarding Inspection Criteria to identify any areas for development prior to inspection	Initial work started	Assessment completed and approved	May 2010	Gani Martins / All Managers / Performance and Quality	complete		Social Work
	Improve quality of serious case reviews to ensure all judged adequate or better	Two of Four judged inadequate	All future SCRs to be rated good or better	ongoing	Howard Woolfenden	↑ Green	The SCR previously evaluated as inadequate has been fully re-evaluated by OFSTED following the submission of the challenge and we were informed on the 17th June that this has now been rated adequate. The SCR evaluations are now 1 good and 3 adequate on the CAA OFSTED profile and the performance status should now improve to green. In 2010, GOYH has signed off 2 SCR Action Plans and evidence for an additional 1 was submitted to GOYH in May 2010. Of the remaining 2 Action Plans, no actions are at Red status.	Social Work
	Ensure that all actions from recommendations from SCRs are implemented and that evidence is provided to ensure robust audit trail.	Baseline 37 Actions	Number of recommendations in red status = 0.	July 2010	Alan Hazell Howard Woolfenden Phil Morris	→ Amber	Rotherham LSCB constitution signed off on 19th March 2010 including TOR of P&Q sub group. SCR sub committee to retain overall responsibility for SCR action plans and P&Q sub group will evaluate impact and outcomes. 1 action plan has now been signed off by GO on the 15th March and the remaining 3 actions are to be reviewed with GO. Further work has taken place on all actions plans including ongoing monitoring at the monthly SCR panels, a meeting held with GO on 11th May. There are currently no recommendations in red status	Social Work
	Permanent Safeguarding Manager to be in post	1 individual working 2 days a week conducting safeguarding manager duties	Safeguarding Manager in post	May 2010	Joyce Thacker	→ Green	Interviews for a permanent Safeguarding Manager were held on 18th March 2010, an appointment was not made but alternative action has been agreed with the RSCB independent chair. Howard Woolfenden has been appointed as Interim Safeguarding Manager from the 1st June. Longer term plans are being considered.	Workforce

	Conduct robust quality assurance checks on information systems to ensure that contacts, referrals and the status of investigations, assessments and plans are up to date	Quality assurance and audits require improved performance framework	% of monthly supervision checks conducted - 100% Number and % of adequate data quality checks conducted - 100%	June 2010	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	A single QA/Audit Framework has been implemented which covers all aspects of this action. The overall data quality assurance strategy and monitoring and reporting policies and procedure has been signed off by the SCPMT. From the 1st March initial and core assessments are being audited with a bank of good practice which has been developed. Further, more robust recording of audits has recently been introduced. A report was submitted to the Improvement Panel on the 7th May, a further report is being submitted to the Improvement Panel on the 13th July	Social Work
<b>Review social workers' responsibilities to ensure that responsibilities are clearly and tightly defined so that no staff carry too wide a range of work. This will need to involve consideration of whether a restructure of children's social care services is necessary</b>	Undertake Fieldwork Review and implement improved operational structure	The remaining priority action to be addressed	Fully reviewed social care infrastructure in place	October 2010	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	A report of the review has been completed and a project plan developed to ensure effective and timely implementation. Key areas include: Front Door improvements, the number of locality teams, and introduction of dedicated LAC teams. This report has now been shared with Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Management Team and DLT on the 27th April. Implementation will be complete by October 2010.	Social Work / Workforce

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures Baseline	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
<b>2. Enjoying and Achieving - Practice and Process</b>								
<b>Improve Performance across primary schools with a particular focus on addressing the performance of schools below the floor targets</b>	Submit a plan to the DCSF which addresses performance across primary schools with a particular focus on addressing the performance of schools below the floor targets	Existing plan in need of review	Plan Agreed With DCSF	End of January 2010	David Light	complete		Enjoying and Achieving
	Implement this plan, as agreed with DCSF and National Strategies, to bring about demonstrable and sustained improvement in primary school standards throughout the term of the Improvement Notice.	13 Primary schools below floor targets	13 down to 8 during 2010 and then down to 0 in 2011	March 2010 October 2010 March 2011	David Light	→ Amber	Report was submitted to Improvement Panel on 22nd April 2010 and a World Class Primaries Board meets with DCSF and National Strategies involvement to progress the actions in the plan	Enjoying and Achieving
<b>3. Leadership and Management / Capacity Building / Support</b>								
<b>Build capacity and capability to deliver and sustain improvement</b>	Obtain external funding from Regional Improvement Efficiency Programme/DCSF including sector led expertise as required	No funding agreed	Funding obtained and apportioned	August 2010	Matthew Gladstone	→ Green	£125k additional funding was agreed by the RIEP, this is being used to fund the CAF Champion posts. DfE allocated £150k (over two years) to support improvement. Additional social work resources have been selected from tenders using the DfE funding and is focussing on quality assurance and improvement work.	Finance
<b>Develop a comprehensive programme of training, mentoring and continuous professional development for all social care staff so that they have the skills to complete high quality and timely assessments</b>	Director of Children's Services holds monthly 1:1 challenge meetings with each Service Director covering all aspects of performance	Monthly supervisions currently in place	12 challenge meetings per year per director	December 2009	Joyce Thacker	Complete		Workforce
	Improve induction process for CYPS	Induction process for CYPS inconsistent	Induction process for CYPS consistently adhered to and monitored	January 2010	Gani Martins/ Warren Carratt	complete		Workforce
	Ensure that accountabilities for each individual are being reinforced through consistently applied PDR's to ensure staff have a satisfactory Performance Plan.	81%	90%	June 2010	Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt	→ Amber	An interim audit report has revealed that supervision / PDRs are under-recorded on Yourself and work is being undertaken to correct this. A further audit will be conducted at the end of July. Staff have been remind to record the activity appropriately	Workforce / Performance

<p><b>Demonstrate improvements in staff satisfaction and in the satisfaction of children and families with the services they receive through the term of the Improvement Notice</b></p>	<p>Improve outcomes of CYPS satisfaction surveys</p>	<p>Employee Opinion Survey TBC LAC reviews TBC Audit Commission in Schools Survey TBC Social Worker Survey TBC</p>	<p>Employee Opinion Survey TBC LAC reviews TBC Audit Commission in Schools Survey TBC Social Worker Survey TBC</p>	<p>March 2010 Oct 2010 and March 2011</p>	<p>Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt</p>	<p>↑ Amber</p>	<p>Baseline for EOS - 64% (CYPS) rest of Council 69% - target to be discussed 69%, the next EOS is not until 2011, HR are planning for a specific survey for CYPS to be run at the end 2010. Baseline for AC schools survey response rate 2008 29% 2009 63%. Target 80%, next survey not now run until 2011 ( now 2 yearly). The Family Placement Survey is a bi-annual survey of Foster Carers and Adopters, the response rate in November 09 was 29% lower than the 2006 survey - 52%. However, the rates of satisfaction have increased, particularly around the levels of support they receive. The next survey is scheduled for 2011.</p>	<p>Workforce and all Workstreams</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	----------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline						
<b>4. Performance Management</b>								
<b>Improve Annual Children's Service Scores Profile to Performing well by 2011 through implementation of all outstanding recommendations and improvement of inspection scores to good or better</b>	Continually assess the position in relation to all outstanding external inspection recommendations including all those listed in CAA Blocks A and B	Performing Poorly	90% of recommendations met in original timescale 12 reports per year	monthly	Julie Westwood	→ Amber	Recommendations from key high risk inspections being input. Visits undertaken to Early Years and SES to examine recording systems already deployed. These have been found to be satisfactory. There will be on site visits to validate the implementation of recommendations and the state of readiness in terms of achieving a positive outcome in the next inspection. Action plans have been requested from the services to shift proportion of services to good or better and have been received and were discussed with GO on the 9th June.	Performance
	Introduce robust monthly monitoring arrangements to ensure implementation of all outstanding inspection recommendations from all inspections in original timescales	Inspection recommendations from key inspections are being monitored but reports need to include all inspected services	90% of recommendations met in original timescale 12 reports per year	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→ Amber	All inspection recommendations (with the exception of schools and childminders which have an established monitoring system) are being entered into the reconfigured CYP inspections monitoring system. Monitoring reports will be presented quarterly to each Improvement Panel Meeting, reported to Improvement Panel on 25th March focusing on the high risk area, children's homes, this will be included in the overarching audit and inspection report being submitted to the 13th July Improvement Panel	Social Work / Performance
	Conduct a minimum of 2 mock unannounced inspections, in line with the Ofsted criteria per quarter	0	Minimum of 2 mock inspections per quarter to have been conducted	Quarterly	Julie Westwood/Gani Martins	↑ Amber	Resources have been committed to commissioning this externally. The work will take place over 6 half days to allow "deep dive" focus on a number of areas but with a particular focus on those which have been highlighted in the self assessment work and challenge. work will take place with Team and Locality Managers in respect of "what does good look like". As Part of Gani Martin's induction she carried out a "deep dive" in 2 Localities. Discussions with external consultant Steven Warburton to establish a framework of pre-inspection activity has now taken place and will be increased in preparation for the announced inspection on the 19th July.	Social Work / Performance
	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block A by increasing % of inspected services rated "good or better"	Performing Poorly (bottom band for both PRU and Children's Homes) 54.9%	Performing Well (65% - 79% categorised as outstanding or good)	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→ Amber	An update of the OFSTED Quarter 1 profile has now been received and a few areas are being challenged with OFSTED, this will be presented to a future Improvement Panel	Performance
	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block B by: Ensuring majority of inspected scores are rated "good or better" for safeguarding LAC and SCRs	Fostering - Satisfactory SCRs 2/4 judged inadequate	Fostering - Good All future SCRs rated adequate or better	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	↑ Green	The SCR previously evaluated as inadequate has been fully re-evaluated by OFSTED following the submission of the challenge and we were informed on the 17th June that this has now been rated adequate. The SCR evaluations are now 1 good and 3 adequate on the CAA OFSTED profile and the performance status should now improve to green. In 2010, GOYH has signed off 2 SCR Action Plans and evidence for an additional 1 was submitted to GOYH in May 2010. Of the remaining 2 Action Plans, no actions are at Red status.	Performance

	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block C by improving NI performance	Not In line with or better than statistical neighbours and the national position	In line with or better than statistical neighbours and the national position	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→ Amber	Improvement plans are in place for NIs and where targets are not being met performance clinics are held to identify areas where further improvement can be made. OFSTEDs updated Quarter 1 profile has been received and will be submitted to a future Improvement Panel.	Performance
	Ensure quarterly reporting on the Children's Services Performance Profile on their release clearly outlining areas of risk and potential impact	Report on Quarter 2 profile prepared	4 reports per year and improvement in each service block	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	↑ Amber	An updated profile has been received and a few areas have been challenged this will be presented to the Improvement Panel in August.	Performance
	Implement all the recommendations arising from the Children's First review undertaken using the DCSF Improvement Framework	67% when Improvement Notice Made	100% of recommendations implemented	May 2010	Julie Westwood	→ Green	A report on progress and the overall completion of the actions with evidence will be submitted to the Improvement Panel on 13th July as part of the wider report on outstanding inspection recommendations and actions.	Performance
<b>Ensure that the Panel, chaired by the Chief Executive, provides effective challenge, and drives swift and sustainable progress through overseeing a robust action plan</b>	Appoint the Director of Children and Learners at GOYH as a member of the Improvement Panel	N/A	Director of Children and learners at GOYH to attend CYP Improvement Panel meetings	December 2009	Joyce Thacker	complete		Performance

Objective	Key Actions	Measures Baseline	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
<b>5. Finance</b>								
<b>Strengthen financial management arrangements to ensure they are fit for purpose and financial targets 09/10 are met</b>	Tackle the existing overspend in Directorate (particularly Social Care)	£4.5m overspend	Corporate Variance on target 2% +/-	March 2010	Joyce Thacker	complete	The final outturn figure was £3.99m overspent.	Finance
	Address the under funding issues in Social Care and School Effectiveness Service	In 2008/09 the gap was £8.3m. In 2008/09 had narrowed to £6.8m.	Close the gap against statistical neighbours average spend for CYP Services	March 2010	Joyce Thacker	complete		Finance
	Benchmarking exercise in relation to funding and performance		establish how low spend is linked to high performance in other LAs	August 2010	Julie Westwood / Joanne Robertson	↑ Amber	Benchmarking to be carried out with Barnsley, Wakefield and Wigan, visits have now been arranged with Barnsley and Wakefield for later in the summer to clarify joint understanding, report to be presented to August Improvement Panel.	Finance

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>6. Recruitment and Retention</b>								
<b>Increase the capacity of social carers to ensure effective services to safeguard vulnerable children</b>	Reduce the vacancy rate of qualified social workers from the December 2009 baseline to meet the improvement notice target	37.2% 16th December 2009	20% vacancy rate by October 2010 10% vacancy rate by March 2011	June 2010	Gani Martins	→ Amber	Currently all social worker posts are covered either by permanent establishment posts or agency staff 21.6 posts	Social Care / Workforce
	Reduce the vacancy rate of team managers from the December 2009 baseline to meet the improvement notice target	33% 16th December 2009	16% vacancy rate by October 2010 8% vacancy rate by March 2011	June 2010	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	There are currently 26.7% Team Manager posts unfilled. There are 15 Team Manager posts in the establishment with 4 vacancies, however all of these are covered by agency staff.	Social Care / Workforce
	Recruit 30 new Foster Carers	126 (January 2009)	156	March 2011	Gani Martins	→ Green	From April 2009 to March 2010 there have been 22 foster carers approved. There are currently 138 foster carers. Since April 2010 5 sets of carers have been approved and 3 have been de-registered.	Social Care / Workforce
	Reduce the over reliance on agency staff	2009/10 spend = £1,843,627 (12 months) £1,811,768 relates to social care, £1,390,402 of which via the Duttons contract	Reduce by £440,000 in 2010/11 on agency staff	October 2010	Gani Martins	↓ Red	The recruitment campaign for permanent social workers and team managers continues however, there is still expenditure on agency staffing. Expenditure on agency social workers and team managers to date is £219,464 and agency admin £21,639. There are currently 25.6 fieldwork vacancies covered by agency workers (4 team managers and 21.6 social workers)	Workforce / Finance
	Increase the number of additional administrative staff within the Directorate to free up time of social workers and assess impact to inform future budgets	7.9 FTE additional admin staff transferred into the Directorate to provide support and 7 admin agency staff.	Impact Assessment completed	December 2009	Julie Westwood	complete		Workforce / Finance

Objective	Key Actions	Measures	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>7. ICT</b>								
<b>Improve information systems to enable social workers/managers to process and access assessments and plans and transfer of case information on vulnerable children in a timely, accurate manner.</b>	Increase email 'in box' capacity for managers	Inspectors recommendation	Resolve Issues raised	November 2009	Julie Westwood	complete		Performance / ICT
	Revise and accelerate the implementation of the corporate agile working programme for social work staff	Social Work teams in a later phase of the council's agile working programme - Worksmart.	Prioritise Social Work teams in the Worksmart programme. 106 Laptops and VPN tokens to be issued	January 2009	RBT	complete		ICT

### CYPS Achievements

- 100% of care leavers are living in suitable accommodation.
  - CPP lasting over 2 years have reduced from the 2008/09 outturn of 4.8% to 1.3%.
  - 100% of CPP are reviewed within timescales. Child Protection Reviews are maintaining the top 100% performance.
  - LAC Reviews in timescales improved from 85.4% to 96.5%
- 
- 97% of all Rotherham Schools (including PRUs) have achieved National Healthy Schools Status
  - Childhood obesity for both reception and Year 6 has improved by 2% and we are now in line with our statistical neighbours.
  - 86% of children and young people participate in 2 hours+ sport or PE (increase of 25% since 2006)
- 
- 93% of schools are meeting Extended Services Core Offer.
  - Rotherham has been rated the best in the region for children getting their first choice of secondary school 97%.
  - Rotherham's Audit Commission Schools Survey 35% increase in response in 2009.
  - Since 2005/6 there has been a 34% reduction in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system.
- 
- Ofsted have judged Hilltop School to be outstanding in all major areas including Safeguarding.
  - 68% of Rotherham's Under 5s are currently part of the Imagination Library Project, that's 10,439 children.
  - GCSEs 2009 - 13th most improved Authority
  - Foundation Stage 2009 15th most improved Authority.
  - Thornhill has been judged by Ofsted as outstanding with an outstanding capacity to improve.
  - Herringthorpe Junior School is one of the top 20 schools in the UK for the best use of technology. Runner up in the learning experience Primary Becta ICT Excellence Award
  - Rotherham Schools Music Service - Second outstanding Ofsted inspection report.
  - Rotherham are the first Authority in the country to have 2 childminders achieve the Quality Mark for Early Years by the Basic Skills Agency



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
------------------------------------------------------

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> July 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>School Balances 2009/10</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children &amp; Young People’s Services</b>

**5. Summary**

This report summarises the 2009/10 position on school balances. The overall school balance position shows a 34% fall from 2008/09, from £6.086m to £4.021m. Balances across each of Rotherham’s schools sectors have fallen this year. No school had a balance exceeding the thresholds set by the DCSF at the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

**6. Recommendations**

**To note the overall position in Rotherham of school balances.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

Each January the Audit Commission publishes data on school balances to enable Local Authorities to monitor their own schools performance and to compare these with their statistical neighbours as well as other Local Authority types, other Local Authorities in their Government Office regions, and all English authorities. The tool is available on the Audit Commission web-site: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/schoolbalances/>

A comparison of Rotherham's school balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 is included in Table 1 below, which shows that Rotherham's overall school balance as a percentage of the budget was 4.31%. This compares to the statistical neighbour average of 6.62%, the metropolitan average of 6.89% and Yorkshire and Humber region average of 5.40%. Of Rotherham's ten statistical neighbours, only Telford and Wrekin have a lower overall balance of 3.95%.

In addition to the national data which covers the period up to the 2008/09 financial year end, local data has been compiled for the year 2009/10. The movements in Rotherham's school's balances between 2009 and 2010 are included in Table 2 of this report. This shows a 34% fall in the overall balance from £6.086m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 to £4.021m at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Balances across all four sectors have fallen over the past year:- early years by 33%; primary schools by 34%; secondary schools by 39% and special schools by 15%. Comparison of Rotherham's 2009/10 performance with other local authorities cannot be made until the audit commission undertakes its annual benchmarking exercise next January.

In the past, the DCSF have emphasised that revenue funding should be spent on today's children and schools should not retain excessive amounts without clear plans for their future use. The DCSF guidance judges 'excessive' as a secondary school carrying over more than 5% of its annual school income at the end of the financial year; and 8% of a primary or special school's income. These thresholds are nationally set figures and local authorities cannot set them higher locally. Local authorities have clear powers to redistribute excessive and uncommitted surplus revenue, the local procedures for which are contained in Rotherham's scheme for 'Controls on School Balances' as agreed through the Schools Forum. In 2007/08, Rotherham had 42 schools whose balances exceeded the DCSF thresholds. This fell to 21 schools in 2008/09. Clawback of funding was applied by the Authority for each of these two years. In 2009/10 no school had a balance exceeding the threshold and therefore no clawback will be applied this year.

In respect of schools with deficit budgets, the table below shows the number of schools in deficit as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 and as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Figures in brackets represent the total number of schools in each of the school phases.

	No. of schools in deficit at 31.03.09	Indicative no. of schools in deficit at 31.03.10
Nursery	0 (3)	0 (3)
Primary	9 (99)	16 (99)
Secondary	5 (16)	4 (16)
Special	1 (6)	0 (6)
TOTAL	15 (123)	20 (123)

**Table 1: Schools in Surplus/Deficit for year 2008/09**

31 March 2009	All Schools in Deficit			All Schools in Surplus			All Schools				
	Total Deficit (£)	Number in Deficit	% in Deficit	Total Surplus (£)	Number in Surplus	% in Surplus	Planned Budget Share (£)	Total Balance (£)	Number of schools	Average Balance (£)	Balance as a % of Planned Budget
<b>Local Authority</b>											
Rotherham	-595,419	16	13.00%	7,334,450	108	87.00%	156,375,983	6,739,031	124	54,347	4.31%
<b>NFER Statistical Neighbours:</b>											
Doncaster	-802,218	14	11.00%	8,860,917	117	89.00%	162,265,368	8,058,699	131	61,517	4.97%
Redcar & Cleveland	-218,685	1	2.00%	6,701,830	58	98.00%	79,256,200	6,483,145	59	109,884	8.18%
Wigan	-14,572	1	1.00%	12,950,940	132	99.00%	171,786,484	12,936,368	133	97,266	7.53%
Barnsley	0	0	0.00%	10,224,330	96	100.00%	115,369,100	10,224,330	96	106,503	8.86%
Tameside	-758,391	13	13.00%	5,892,887	85	87.00%	118,026,530	5,134,496	98	52,393	4.35%
Hartlepool	-110,589	2	5.00%	4,449,264	36	95.00%	54,286,915	4,338,675	38	114,176	7.99%
St Helens	-5,181	1	1.00%	6,581,787	66	99.00%	94,918,156	6,576,606	67	98,158	6.93%
Wakefield	-906,131	20	14.00%	14,204,179	127	86.00%	175,258,597	13,298,049	147	90,463	7.59%
Dudley	-82,172	3	3.00%	10,155,764	104	97.00%	171,057,366	10,073,592	107	94,146	5.89%
Telford & Wrekin	-780,685	7	10.00%	4,152,180	66	90.00%	85,432,104	3,371,495	73	46,185	3.95%
<b>Statistical Neighbours' Average</b>	<b>-367,862</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6.53%</b>	<b>8,417,408</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>93.47%</b>	<b>122,765,682</b>	<b>8,049,545</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>84,821</b>	<b>6.62%</b>
<b>Local Authority Type Average</b>											
Metropolitan Districts	-901,503	11	8.29%	13,140,256	116	91.71%	177,534,124	12,238,752	127	92,524	6.89%
<b>Government Office Region Average</b>											
Yorkshire & The Humber	-955,592	13	8.34%	10,912,559	138	91.66%	184,410,034	9,956,967	151	66,339	5.40%
<b>All England</b>											
All England Average *	-936,330	13	8.69%	12,372,360	132	91.32%	182,539,346	11,436,031	144	89,060	6.26%
England Total	-140,449,462	1,880	8.69%	1,855,854,054	19,757	91.32%	27,380,901,889	1,715,404,592	21,636	13,359,040	6.26%

Source: Audit Commission

Table 2: Movements in Schools Delegated Budgets 2009/10 to 2010/11

**Delegated Budget**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Actual School Bal b/f to 2009/10</b>	<b>In-Year Change</b>	<b>Actual School Bal c/f to 2010/11</b>	<b>Actual % Change</b>
		£		£
Primary Schools	3,481,467	-1,149,908	2,331,559	-33%
Secondary Schools	1,614,663	-623,771	990,892	-39%
Special Schools	231,953	-34,552	197,401	-15%
Early Excellence Centres	144,580	-47,222	97,358	-33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,472,663</b>	<b>-1,855,453</b>	<b>3,617,210</b>	<b>-34%</b>

**Declared Savings**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Actual School Bal b/f to 2009/10</b>	<b>In-Year Change</b>	<b>Bal c/f to 2010/2011</b>	<b>% Change</b>
		£	£	£
Primary Schools	443,806	-182,875	260,931	-41%
Secondary Schools	1,820	-1,068	752	-59%
Special Schools	165,300	-24,556	140,744	-15%
Early Excellence Centres	2,671	-945	1,726	-35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>613,597</b>	<b>-209,444</b>	<b>404,153</b>	<b>-34%</b>

**Combined Overall Balances**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Actual School Bal b/f to 2009/10</b>	<b>In-Year Change</b>	<b>Actual School Bal c/f to 2010/11</b>	<b>% Change</b>
		£		£
Primary Schools	3,925,273	-1,332,783	2,592,490	-34%
Secondary Schools	1,616,483	-624,839	991,644	-39%
Special Schools	397,253	-59,108	338,145	-15%
Early Excellence Centres	147,251	-48,167	99,084	-33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,086,260</b>	<b>-2,064,897</b>	<b>4,021,363</b>	<b>-34%</b>

8. **Finance**

See tables 1 and 2.

As no school has exceeded the DCSF threshold on balances, no clawback of funding will be applied in 2010.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties**

Under the former Government, the DCSF launched a consultation on proposals to reform the distribution of school funding with effect from April 2011. This included a new formula for allocating the Dedicated Schools Grant. Initial responses to the consultation were required by 07<sup>th</sup> June 2010 with further consultation planned for the Autumn. It is unclear at present as to whether the proposals will be pursued under the Coalition Government.

10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Any revisions to the funding of schools presents risks to the outcomes for children and young people across all our schools. Changes in formulae can affect individual schools managing their own resources but also their ability to purchase support services from external providers.

11. **Background Papers and Consultation**

Rotherham Fair Funding Scheme for Financing Schools – Controls on School Balances.

CYPS Cabinet Member report 'Surplus School Balances 2008/09', 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Contact Name:

David Ashmore  
Resources and Business Manager  
Resources, Planning and Performance  
Children and Young People's Services  
Extension 54846  
david.ashmore@rotherham.gov.uk

Vera Njegic  
Principal Accountant, School Finance  
Financial Services  
Extension 22042  
vera.njegic@rotherham.gov.uk

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
------------------------------------------------------

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21 July 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>European Structural Funds (ESF) 2007-2013 16-19 NEETs Fund Manager</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### 5. Summary

This is the fourth progress report on the ESF 16-19 NEETs (not in education, employment, or training) Response Fund to reduce NEET and to develop and test new delivery models for 500 young people with 325 progressing into education, employment, or training (EET).

The report focuses on the success of the ESF NEETs Response Fund in creating sustainable outcomes. This has resulted in additional ESF funding and helped inform how Rotherham Borough Metropolitan Council's (RMBC) will manage its new post-16 statutory duties from 1 April 2010.

### 6. Recommendations

- That the information is received
- That further progress reports are received on a six-monthly basis
- Note the challenge in delivering the new 14-19 (25) Learning Plan and agree that Rotherham's annual 16-19 (25) Commissioning Plan will be brought to the Cabinet Member for clearance each spring.

## 7. Proposals and Details

The ESF NEETs Response Fund has had a considerable impact on:

- a) Informing the Authority on how to undertake its new statutory lead from 1 April 2010 to deliver full participation in learning to the age of 18 years old by commissioning 16-19 (25) learning provision (c£37m of Learner Responsive (LR) funding from the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) for 2010/11). As a result,
- A new five-year 14-19 (25) Learning Plan is being developed focussing on these duties, which it will be reviewed each July.
  - RMBC will need to produce an annual Commissioning Statement (each autumn) setting out the 16-19 (25) learning priorities for the Borough.
- b) Broadening provision and developing a bespoke offer (as of 30 June 2010 ):

No. of Organisations	No. of Learners Engaged	No. of Progressions to EET	No. of Young People Still on ESF provision
14	376	181	63
Example of Sustained Provision:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rotherham College of Arts and Technology (RCAT) – Choices project (Sept 08-Jun 09) engaged 76 young people on to a FE taster course for 16 hours per week over 16 weeks located at various RCAT town centre venues and Rother Valley Campus and progressed 47 young people into EET. The project is now funded by the College through its LR funding.</li> </ul>			
Example of Bespoke Provision:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rathbone – Prove It project (May 09-Dec 10) to engage 36 young offenders on Custody Orders to a 10-week, 16-hours per week programme delivering literacy and numeracy, employability and personal development opportunities. Achieved 17 starts and 8 progressions to EET with 1 young person still on programme.</li> </ul>			

- c) Securing an additional £500k of ESF NEETs Response Fund and £150k of YPLA LR funding to commission Foundation Learning provision for 16-19 (25) year olds in 2010/11. As a result, an Invitation to Tender was posted on the Council's procurement website (SCMS) on 11 June, inviting prospective providers to bid for £650k to develop and deliver a new Foundation Learning offer in the Borough for 16-19 year olds from 1 October 2010 to 31 December 2011. In addition, the provider(s) will be required to work with Rotherham's 14-19 partners to develop a coherent 14-19 Foundation Learning offer to ensure a coherent approach to sub-level 2 provision across the Rotherham 14-19 Partnership. The tender builds upon the good practice from the ESF provision developed thus far. It is also a direct response to the priorities set out in Rotherham's Commissioning Statement for 2010/11, produced in October 2009 by RMBC and its 14-19 partners to:
- provide greater breadth and choice of flexible, sub-level 2 provision in the Borough; and
  - align funding streams to create maximum impact by utilising RMBC's new statutory duty as the single lead commissioner for 16-19 (25) provision.

- d) Enabling Rotherham to achieve its lowest ever NEET figure of 6.8% in January 2009, which contributed to Rotherham achieving its Local Area Agreement stretch target of 7.1% resulting in an additional c£880k of funding to the Authority.

## 8. Finance

16-19 NEETs Response Manager Fund was allocated £1.5m (August 2008 to March 2011). A further £0.5m has been made available for commissioning Foundation Learning from 1 October 2010 to December 2011 for an additional 167 young people starting on ESF provision, on the basis that the ESF funding is aligned to an additional £0.15m of YPLA LR funding.

As of 31 May 2010, RMBC has committed/spent c£1.3m (c£400k is committed to providers on the basis that they achieve profiled outcomes, which if delivered will result in the Authority being able to drawdown c£540k) and drawn down c£960k for achieving 368 young people starts and 175 progressions. The c£200k is not being committed, at this stage, as a contingency for projects not being able to meet contract outcomes, which would impact on RMBC's ability to draw down the full amount of funding available.

In addition, £1.3m was allocated for 14-16 NEETs prevention work (June 2009 to September 2010)

Unlike the previous European Union Objective 1 Programme this funding is 'co-financed' by the Skills Funding Agency and the Local Authority are not be required to identify match funding.

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

<b>Details of main risks affecting project</b>	<b>Likelihood of risk/threat</b>	<b>Consequence of risk/threat</b>	<b>Steps to be undertaken to minimise and mitigate risk</b>
Failure to achieve the initial contract outputs	Low	As contract holder RMBC could be subject to the removal or repayment of grant funding if contracted providers do not meet the financial rules, regulations and audit requirements of the EU Commission	Ongoing performance management of the contracts will be managed by the CYPs Education Development & Resources Team. Any areas of concern will be identified and support mechanism put in place to ensure that contractors meet their contractual obligations where possible. Failure to achieve, will result in contracts/funding being withdrawn and further contracts



			commissioned to ensure that all outputs are met.
Failure of commissioned providers to meet the financial rules and regulation of EU commission	Medium	As contract holder RMBC could be subject to the removal or repayment of grant funding if contracted providers do not meet the eligibility criteria and financial rules, regulations and audit requirements of the EU Commission.	The Commissioning and ongoing performance management of the external contracts will managed by the CYPS Education Development & Resources Team This team have been responsible for the management for the previous ESF Objective 1 Programme and have extensive experience of management and auditing of external contracts.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Rotherham Local Area Agreement identifies the reduction in the % of NEETs to 7.1% by 2010 as one its key performance measures.

CYPS Single Plan also identifies the need to develop the quantity, quality and scope of provision for the target group as an ongoing priority.

Rotherham Widening Participation (NEETs) Strategy September 2006-10

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

- 16-19 ESF NEETs Response Fund Cabinet Member Progress Report 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010
- 16-19 ESF NEETs Response Fund Cabinet Member Progress Report 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009
- 16-19 ESF NEETs Response Fund Cabinet Member Progress Report 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010
- 16-19 NEETs Fund Manager Cabinet Report 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008
- 16-19 NEETs Fund Manager Scrutiny Report 4<sup>th</sup> July 2008
- 16-19 NEETs Fund Manager Cabinet Report 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008
- 16-19 NEETs Fund Manager Cabinet Report 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008

### Contact Name:

Anthony Evans  
 ESF-MOG Co-ordinator  
 Children and Young People's Services  
[Anthony.evans@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.evans@rotherham.gov.uk)

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
------------------------------------------------------

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21st July 2010</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Admissions Consultation in respect of entry in the 2012/13 academic year. (All wards)</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### 5. Summary

All admission Authorities must consult by 1<sup>st</sup> March, in the determination year, on the admission arrangements for those schools which they are responsible for. The consultation must take place for a minimum of 8 weeks between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 1st March and a final determination made by 15<sup>th</sup> April. This report advises on the proposed admission policy/coordinated scheme for the admission year 2012/13, this is in relation to the criteria used where a school is oversubscribed and any changes required as a consequence of requirements arising under the Admissions Code of Practice published by the Department for Education (DFE).

### 6. Recommendations: It is recommended that:

- i) **Consideration is given to the changes outlined in this report.**
- ii) **The report is forwarded to the Local Admissions Forum for information/comment.**
- iii) **The appropriate consultation with School Governing Bodies/other LAs takes place, as usual, mainly in the Autumn Term, 2010 and up to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 and**
- iv) **A further report is presented on any feedback from the annual admissions consultation in March 2011.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

All admission Authorities must consult by 1<sup>st</sup> 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 8 weeks between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 1st March and a final determination made by 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Admission Criteria for Community Schools**

The current admissions policy for the community schools for 2011/12 is attached as Appendix 1. No changes are proposed to the admission criteria for 2012/13.

### **Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements**

The Authority currently co-ordinates admission arrangements during the normal admission round. Following consultation last year this has been extended to cover in-year admissions for all year groups with effect from 2011/12. No further changes are proposed for 2012/13.

### **Waiting List**

The Authority currently maintains waiting lists for pupils applying during the normal admission round. The new Admissions Code of Practice required that waiting lists are in place from September 2009 and continue for at least the first term of the academic year. Our consultation document last year proposed one term for secondary schools and a full year for Primary schools and this was approved. The new policy has operated since September 2009. It has worked successfully for Secondary Schools. For Primary Schools the change has been less successfully. The extension for a full year has led to unforeseen problems. This has occurred where pupils, who have been settled in school, have been offered a school transfer. The original intention was to use the waiting list to prioritise new applications but unless parents formally withdraw their child's name from the waiting list their original application still stands and has to be reconsidered (as a place becomes available it has to be offered to the highest name on the waiting list). Some of these pupils offered a transfer have been in school for over a term and in some cases two terms. Parents have been faced with a difficult decision which could unsettle their child. The change has not created a fairer allocation of places and has further delayed the admission process. The LA now wishes to maintain the Primary Waiting List for one term up to the 31<sup>st</sup> December to be in line with the Secondary list. We will consult during the Autumn Term on the proposed change to the Primary Waiting List.

### **Catchment Areas**

The Authority is required to consult on the details of any catchment areas to be used as part of the admission process. The current school catchment areas are published on the RMBC website and available in hard-copy from the admissions team. No changes are proposed to the school catchment areas for 2012/13.

## **Statutory Closing Dates**

The new code of practice introduces national closing dates for both Primary and Secondary applications for the admission round in 2012/13. The provisional date for Secondary is the 31<sup>st</sup> October and the provisional date for Primary is the 15<sup>th</sup> January.

## **Local Authority 'Admission to School' Booklets.**

The local Authority has 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 is freely available on the Local Authority Website along with details on how to make an on-line-application. The Authority is currently able to satisfy 95% first preferences for primary and 97% first preferences for secondary school. Much of the information in the booklet is surplus to most parents' applications (most booklets are discarded once the application has been submitted). Where parents are unsuccessful with their application separate guidance is available on the appeal procedures. Many other neighbouring authorities now produce only a summary of the information which is sent to all parents with detailed information available on request or via the website. The Rotherham Authority has had to make a decision, prompted by the current financial position to adopt a similar policy and booklets will now only be provided upon request. All parents will still receive a short summary explaining how to apply for a school place, a copy of the Common Application Form and information on how to access the on-line system. Governing Bodies will be advised of this during the annual consultation.

## **Report to the Schools Adjudicator**

The admissions authority is required to submit on an annual basis a report to the Schools Adjudicator by the 30<sup>th</sup> June on how the admissions arrangements have operated in the previous year. A template has been provided by the Schools Adjudicator for this purpose and the report has been submitted by the Authority to meet this deadline.

## **8. Finance**

The change to the distribution of the admissions to school booklet will save on both printing and postage costs.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

The current 'School Admissions Code has a stronger statutory basis than its predecessors and all admission authorities are required **to act in accordance with** rather than simply **having regard to** the provisions, as was the case with earlier versions. The Code seeks to promote equity and fair access and the setting of fair oversubscription criteria.

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

Any changes to admissions criteria/ co-ordinated schemes could have consequences for individual pupils. The current policies seek to provide a fair, equitable and sustainable solution to the admissions process.

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

The School Admission Arrangements Regulation 2008. The Admission Code of Practice (February 2009). The Authority's current admissions criteria for community schools is shown in Appendix 1. There is annual consultation on admissions arrangements, which takes place with school governing bodies and other LAs each Autumn Term and up to 1<sup>st</sup> March. The Authority's website contains detailed information on admission arrangements.

### **Contact Names:**

Report Author – David Hill, Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development, tel. 822536 , email [david-education.hill@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:david-education.hill@rotherham.gov.uk)

**The admission criteria for community and controlled schools for 2012/13 is shown below and is unchanged from the current criteria.**

### **Primary Reception**

**Places will be allocated in the following order of priority:**

Those who on the closing date are:

- i) Relevant looked after children (see note 2 below).
- ii) Children who have a specific medical reason confirmed by a medical practitioner which the Authority is satisfied makes attendance **at that particular school essential**.
- iii) Children with a compelling social reason which the Authority is satisfied makes attendance **at that particular school essential**. The kinds of overriding social reasons which could be accepted are where there is evidence that the pupil's education would be seriously impaired if he or she did not attend the preferred school. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- iv) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority who will also have an older brother or sister on the roll of the preferred school or its associated junior school at the time of their admission. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- v) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority.
- vi) Children who on the closing date live outside the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority whose older brother or sister will be on the roll of the preferred school or its associated junior school at the time of their admission.
- vii) Children who on the closing date live nearest to the school measured in a straight line on a horizontal plane (as the crow flies).

### **Year 3**

**Places in Year 3 at a Junior School will be allocated in the following order of priority:-**

Those who on the closing date are:

- i) Relevant looked after children (see note 2 below).
- ii) Children in attendance at Y2 in the associated Infant School.

- iii) Children who have a specific medical reason confirmed by a medical practitioner which the Authority is satisfied makes attendance **at that particular school essential**. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- iv) Children with a compelling social reason which the Authority is satisfied makes attendance **at that particular school essential**. The kinds of overriding social reasons which could be accepted are where there is evidence that the pupil's education would be seriously impaired if he or she did not attend the preferred school. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- v) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority who will also have an older brother or sister on the roll of the preferred school at the time of their admission.
- vi) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority.
- vii) Children who on the closing date live outside the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority whose older brother or sister will be on the roll of the preferred school at the time of their admission.
- viii) Children who on the closing date live nearest to the school measured in a straight line on a horizontal plane (as the crow flies).

### **Secondary Year 7**

#### **Places will be allocated in the following order of priority:-**

Those who on the closing date are:

- i) Relevant looked after children (see note 2 below).
- ii) Children who on the closing date have a specific medical reason confirmed by a medical practitioner which the Authority is satisfied makes attendance **at that particular** school essential. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- iii) Children who on the closing date have a compelling social reason which the Authority is satisfied make attendance **at that particular** school essential. The kind of overriding social reasons which could be accepted are where there is evidence that the pupil's education would be seriously impaired if he or she did not attend the preferred school. Parents should ensure that they attach full supporting information to the Common Application Form.
- iv) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority whose older brother or sister will be on the roll of the preferred school in Years 8-11 at the start of the academic year 2012.
- v) Children who on the closing date live in the catchment area of the school as defined by the Authority.

- vii) Children who on the closing date live have an older brother or sister on the roll of the preferred school in Years 8-11 at the start of the academic year 2012.
- vi) Children who on the closing date are on the roll of one of the associated Primary/Junior/Junior and Infant schools as identified by the Authority.
- vii) Children who on the closing date live nearest to the school measured by a straight line on a horizontal plane, (commonly known as measurement, “as the crow flies”).

### Notes

1. Where the admission number for any school is likely to be reached mid category, places will be prioritised within that category by reference to the distance between the home address and the school. Highest priority will be given to those living closest to the school measured in a straight line on a horizontal plane (commonly known as measurement, “as the crow flies”).
2. Where any final place at a school is available and two or more pupils are judged to be living equidistant from the school (e.g. in flats), the final place will be allocated by the drawing of lots by officers of the authority.
3. A ‘relevant looked after child’ is a child that is looked after by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time an application for admission to a school is made, and who the local authority has confirmed will still be looked after at the time when he/she is admitted to the school.
4. Places will be allocated in accordance with the LA’s co-ordinated admissions schemes for Primary and Secondary schools. In assessing preferences, the LA will operate an ‘equal preference’ system, which means that no priority will be given according to the ranking of the preference, except where a potential offer can be made in respect of more than one school. In that situation, the final offer of a place will be made at the highest ranked of the potential offer schools.
5. Children issued with a statement of Special Educational Needs will gain a place at the school named in the statement as part of that process.



**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member and Advisers, Children and Young People's Services</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21st July, 2010</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Secretary of State for Education's Proposals for Academy Status</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

**5. Summary:**

The report summaries proposals by the Secretary of State for schools to convert to Academy Status.

**6. Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that the report is noted and that the Cabinet Member considers appropriate action resulting from the proposals.**

## **7. Proposals and Details:**

The Secretary of State wrote to the head teachers of all schools on the 26th May, 2010 encouraging them to express an interest in becoming academies. In particular he wrote to the headteachers of outstanding schools, encouraging them to consider “acquiring academy freedoms” from 1st September, 2010. This would be done under the Academies Bill, which is currently being debated in Parliament. Currently the DfE is aiming for it to receive Royal Assent by the end of July but other commentators think this is more likely to be mid September at the earliest.

An academy is an independently funded state school. If a school becomes an academy, then it will receive its budget from the Young People’s Learning Agency (YPLA), which also manages funding for all 16-19 year olds. It will no longer receive the funding from the local authority, as part of the Local Authority Scheme of Delegation. Its budget will be similar to the current one with an additional amount for services, whose budget is centrally held by the local authority.

Staff (through TUPE regulations) and land will be transferred to the newly formed Academy Trust, an independent charity. Essentially the Trust would be the existing governing body but significant change could be made to the constitution. Further detail on this is awaited.

The DfE has published a list of schools, who have expressed interest in becoming an academy. Only 3 schools in Rotherham have done this – Wales, Brinsworth and St.Bernard’s. Two of the latter are outstanding and have already passed governing body resolutions to convert to Academy Status. No primary school has expressed an interest, which includes the 14 outstanding primary schools and it is not thought that any special school has expressed an interest. Five out of the 6 special schools are outstanding.

The DfE has assigned a Project Officer to the LA, Wales and Brinsworth to ensure the conversion is a smooth process. He has written to the Strategic Director, asking the LA to cooperate and confirms the schools should be academies by 1st September, 2010, subject to Royal Assent to the Academies Bill by the end of July.

It should be emphasised the original bill’s intention was that governing bodies did not need to consult with any of their principal stakeholders (parents and the LA) before making their decision to convert. Wales and Brinsworth, however, did inform the Strategic Director of their intentions and have subsequently consulted with staff, children and parents.

It should also be noted that both Wales and Brinsworth have re-iterated their commitment to continuing to work with the local authority and to buying back all / the majority of services from Rotherham local authority.

It should be noted there is now an amendment to the bill which will require governing bodies of converting schools to “consult those persons whom they think appropriate before entering into funding arrangements with the Secretary of State”. The DfE is also providing further guidance on consultation good practice, but at the time of writing, this is yet to appear.

Rotherham's other outstanding secondary school is Wickersley and the Governing Body have passed an unequivocal resolution against Academy status. None of our six Special Schools, five of which are currently rated by Ofsted as outstanding, has yet expressed a formal interest.

The Secretary of State sets out certain freedoms in his letter, which would appear to be advantageous to schools. The appendix is a letter from the Strategic Director and Cabinet Member to all headteachers, governors and dioceses. It contains a commentary on these freedoms and sets out the issues within the context of Transforming Rotherham Learning.

### **8. Finance:**

The appendix explains some of the financial details in the sections on school budgets. It is intended that the new academies will receive a percentage of the funding which local authorities currently retain from the Schools Budget. This supports a number of services, many related to support for children with special educational needs. The DfE has published a ready reckoner by which schools can calculate how much this amount may be, and in Rotherham LA, it is around 8% of the budget. However the ready reckoner produces the bizarre conclusion that, if all schools were to become academies, we would be handing over £3m more than we actually retain. Currently, the LA hands back £106,000 to the DfE for Maltby Academy. This ready reckoner proposes that it would be £572,500. Additionally, Wales and Brinsworth would receive £747,124 and £641,294 respectively. We are asking for further clarification on this from the DfE.

New academies would transfer any surplus balances to their new budgets. At the end of 2009/10, Wales balance was £91,975 and Brinsworth £270,594.

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

Risks and uncertainties are described alongside proposed actions to mitigate these.

- Speed of the actual conversion process for 1st September, 2010 may mean unnecessary difficulties for the TUPE transfer of staff.

Mitigation – it is proposed that any TUPE transfer will happen after the Royal Assent and it should be within a sensible timescale. There is a risk that staff will not receive their pay, if this is executed in haste. We have had experience with the Maltby Academy transfer and the current proposals would appear to be too hurried.

- The proposal could undermine the strong partnership work and the principles of Transforming Rotherham Learning as described in the appendix.

Mitigation – the appendix is a letter which describes these risks and will inform debate in governing bodies, when they consider the Secretary of State's offer. Additionally, the local authority should write to each school in the autumn to ask them to re-affirm their agreement to the principles of Transforming Rotherham Learning.

- Significant funding could be withdrawn from that part of the School Budget, which is retained by the local authority. (Section 8 gives the detail.) It could undermine the local authority's ability to continue to offer services, especially in the context of other budget reductions.

Mitigation – we will continue to ask the DfE to clarify their intentions and to challenge these through the Local Government Association. Additionally, Brinsworth and Wales have both stated they wish to continue to buy back local authority services so we will actively engage with them to confirm these agreements.

- Land and buildings will transfer to the new academies based on a 125 year lease, potentially undermining the local authority's ability to provide access for the community to the schools.

Mitigation – we will work closely with Environment and Development Services and the legal department to define exactly what must be transferred and what protection is afforded by existing Planning law; and work with the governing bodies of the new academies to agree principles of community access.

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

The proposals have the potential of making it more difficult to work in partnership with our schools. Policy and performance implications are also summarised in section 9 above. They may pose significant challenges to the fundamental aim of Transforming Rotherham Learning:-

“We are all responsible for all Rotherham's children and young people”.

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

- Secretary of State's letter to all schools on academy proposals of 26th May, 2010
- Children and Young Peoples Plan 2010-13
- Transforming Rotherham Learning – Strategy for Change

**Contact Name:**

**Graham Sinclair, Director, Children and Young People's Services**

**Telephone: 01709 822648**

**Email: [graham.sinclair@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:graham.sinclair@rotherham.gov.uk)**

**Children and Young People's Services**

Email: [dorothy.smith@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:dorothy.smith@rotherham.gov.uk)  
Email the Council for **free** @ your local library!

Ref: Contact: Dorothy Smith

To:  
All Governors, Headteachers and Diocesan Representatives

13<sup>th</sup> July, 2010

Dear colleague,

### **Transforming Rotherham Learning and the Government's Proposals for Academies**

You will know that the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove, has written to all schools giving them the opportunity to register their interest in Academy status. For Ofsted-rated outstanding schools in particular, he has provided the opportunity for them to become Academies from September 2010.

The Local Authority wishes to summarise what the Secretary of State perceives as the "freedoms" Academy status could give schools; and offer a commentary on them. We also believe it is important in this context to restate the principles we have all agreed as part of the Transforming Rotherham Learning strategy. In so doing, we aim to ensure excellent outcomes for our children and young people through sustaining strong strategic partnerships, whatever the choices of individual schools in the new policy environment.

We feel this is important as all Governors should consider the Secretary of State's offer and you will want your debate to be as informed as possible. Moreover, a recent Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting specifically requested a letter outlining the LA perspective as they were concerned that our excellent partnerships and collaboration in Rotherham could be undermined.

Firstly, you will be aware that an Academy is an independently funded state school. If a school becomes an Academy, then it will receive its budget from a new organisation, the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), which also manages funding for 16-19 year old students. It will no longer receive its budget from the Local Authority, as part of the Local Authority Scheme of Delegation. Its budget will be similar to its current one with an additional amount for those services whose funding is currently centrally held by the local authority to pay, for example, for school improvement support and SEN.

Staff (through TUPE regulations) and land will be transferred to the Academy Trust, an independent charity. In essence, the Trust would be the existing governing body but significant changes could be made to the constitution. Fuller detail on this has yet to be published by the DfE but it is an important element of the process.

Interest in Academy status is currently variable across the country and relatively low in Rotherham. At present no Rotherham primary school has expressed an interest and this includes the 14 currently outstanding primary schools based on Ofsted inspection outcomes. Three secondary schools have expressed an interest – Wales, Brinsworth and St. Bernard's. Two of the latter are rated outstanding by Ofsted and have already passed governing body resolutions to convert to Academy status. In effect when the Bill becomes law (the Secretary of State is aiming for the end of July but September is judged more likely by many commentators), Wales and Brinsworth will become Academies.

Rotherham's other outstanding secondary school is Wickersley and the Governing Body have passed an unequivocal resolution against Academy status. None of our six Special Schools, five of which are currently rated by Ofsted as outstanding, has yet expressed a formal interest.

We recognise that the Secretary of State has determined that no consultation with stakeholders is necessary before a governing body decision to convert to academy status. However, best practice would suggest that consultation would be a preferred option that Governors may wish to take, not least to secure the continued support of staff, parents, Primary partner Headteachers and the broader community.

The Secretary of State has set out several "freedoms" which Academy Status gives schools. We would offer the following commentary on each:

- **"freedom from local authority control"**

This is not a novel freedom in the Rotherham context, where policy and strategy for the school system have been determined in partnership with Headteachers within the Learning without Limits initiative for at least four years. In particular, all schools and partners have signed up with the Local Authority to several key principles within Transforming Rotherham Learning, our strategy for change for the future.

- We are all responsible for all Rotherham's children and young people.
- All Rotherham's learners will achieve; no one will be left behind.
- Learning is the core business: investment, policy and strategy must be driven by opportunities for learners.
- Learning communities will be rooted in and responsive to the needs of local people.

Our response to these principles and challenges is to develop 16 Learning Communities across the borough, creating strong partnerships between secondary, primary and special schools, multi agency locality teams and other community stakeholders. That vision remains central to our future despite the disappointing cancellation of our BSF programme by national government earlier this month.

Transforming Rotherham Learning is our collective commitment to all the children and young people of Rotherham to ensure equality of opportunity and provision across the Borough. Both potential Academies have assured the LA and their secondary school partners that they remain firmly dedicated to those principles, irrespective of their new status. Maltby Academy has already formally committed to this partnership and has been influential in developing TRL. It is different to the new Academies in the important respect that the LA remains a sponsor of the school – a formal partner in its governance.

- **"having greater control over school budgets"**

Rotherham currently delegates to schools an unusually large share of government funding in comparison with other Councils. The Academies would receive an additional sum, approximately 7 or 8%, currently held by the LA to supply services to all schools, but would then need to buy those services on the public market. Their income would be determined by the YPLA not the Council and they would not enjoy the support currently afforded to schools if they experience financial difficulty.

- **“freedom to spend the money the local authority currently spends on your behalf”**

A significant challenge implicit in this apparent “freedom” is the potential to affect the fair distribution of investment across all schools and all learners. In particular, a significant part of the money retained by the LA is dedicated to support for children with special educational needs. If that resource was depleted pupils may well be disadvantaged. As yet, the funding mechanism for Academies is not fully transparent and the LA is seeking guidance on it.

- **“freedom from following the national curriculum”**

Government is relaxing many of the curriculum prescriptions of recent years for all schools. There is now considerable flexibility available to Headteachers in determining what is taught and how it is learnt. Academies will still have to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and, in secondary, follow KS4 examination syllabi.

- **“for outstanding schools significant freedom from future Ofsted inspection”**

Ofsted is an imperfect organisation but it is important that all schools are accountable to their local community. It is not yet clear how government intends to ensure Academies are responsive to those they serve.

- **“ability to change the length of terms and school days”**

Currently schools can already change the school day through consultation with its parents and LA. It would be unfortunate if academies chose to do so without consultation. Local authorities currently determine the length of terms across the local community with the main benefit that all learning communities and neighbouring local authorities roughly follow the same pattern of a school year. The determination of different lengths of terms by potentially many different Academies could make life very difficult for parents already trying to make child care decisions during both term and holiday times.

The above “freedoms” are those described in the Secretary of State’s letter. It does not mention freedoms in relation to the transfer of land from the Council to the Trust governing the Academy. However this is another “freedom” which could change community access to many schools, not only in Rotherham but nationally.

We must emphasise that, at present, the bill has no intention of enabling schools to select pupils and indeed states that academies should receive children largely from their immediate community. Both Wales High School and Brinsworth have assured the LA and their partners that they would not consider selection if they become Academies.

The Local Authority recognises that Headteachers with their Governing Bodies have the right to respond to the new opportunities made available by Government. It remains our firm intention to continue to work closely with all Rotherham schools whatever their choice

of status and identity. We welcome the assurances from the potential Academies that their new status will not compromise their commitments to TRL and the partnerships which we believe are the guarantee to our learners of a rich and equitable education. In particular the core principle that:

We are all responsible for all Rotherham's Children and Young People

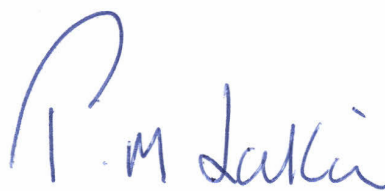
will continue to inspire everything we do. That is why we would recommend any school considering Academy status should carefully examine the balance of advantages and consult their partners and community before proceeding further.

As the Academy debate unfolds, we will be communicating with you again. In particular, at the recommendation of headteachers and Governors, we will invite you to reconfirm your commitment to the principles of Transforming Rotherham Learning and to the collaborative practice which is serving our children so well and is our best investment in their future.

Yours sincerely,



Joyce Thacker  
Strategic Director  
Children and Young People's Services



Cllr Paul Lakin  
Cabinet Member for Children and Young  
People's Services



**CHILDREN'S BOARD  
MONDAY, 21ST JUNE, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Dr Russell Brynes, Shafiq Hussain, Joyce Thacker, Richard Tweed, Pat Ward, Sarah Whittle and Julie Westwood.

In attendance:- Dean Fenton, Jenny Lingrell and Dr Steve Warburton

Apologies for Absence were received from Andy Buck and Anne Lawrence.

**88. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 21ST APRIL 2010**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Children's Board held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010, were approved as a correct record.

**89. MATTER ARISING**South Yorkshire Police - Crime Statistics

Further to Minute No 76, Chief Superintendent Richard Tweed reported that the analysis had now been done and the information would be shared with the Locality Teams.

Children and Young People's Services Notice to Improve Update

Reference was made to the CAF Training which had re-commenced and a query was raised as to how the figure of 490 had been arrived at in respect of staff numbers. It was confirmed that these were prioritised relevant staff as opposed to all members of staff. It was further confirmed that the number of staff who had received training to date had now risen to 459 out of 490 with an additional 50 Managers also receiving training.

**90. CURRENT ISSUES/CONCERNS.**Rotherham MBC

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services reported that the Fostering Inspection had started today and would be taking place up to Friday lunchtime. The Inspection team would be reporting back on Friday afternoon, and this information would be passed on to members of the Board as soon as practicable after this time.

Voluntary Sector

Shafiq Hussain made reference to the current economic climate and asked that should there be any proposed funding cuts that they be a party to the discussion before any decisions are made.

**91. PRE-INSPECTION PREPARATION**

Dr Steven Warburton circulated four documents which he had produced in relation to the pre-inspection preparation. These were:-

- Details of the 21 Safeguarding and LAC Inspection Grades which had been published
- Illustrative questions for the Children's Trust
- Extracts from Inspection Reports
- Analysis of the minutes of the last six meetings up to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010.
  - Overall Impressions
  - General points to consider
  - Specific points to consider

The Chair queried whether the minutes of the Board were presented at any other meetings, such as Scrutiny but it was confirmed that it had been agreed at the outset that the minutes would remain private. However confirmation was given that they were shared at the NHS Board meeting and also the South Yorkshire Police Public Protection Unit meetings.

The Chief Executive suggested that the information needed to be taken and fully absorbed and the further discussion could take place at the next meeting.

It was suggested that when the time came for the inspection to take place that a sub set of members from the Children's Board get together and work through the illustrative questions to ensure that the inspection ran smoothly.

**92. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S BOARD RISK REGISTER SESSION**

Julie Westwood and Dean Fenton circulated a document which set out the possible risks faced by the Board upon "sign off" of the Children and Young People's plan.

The Chair suggested that a workshop be arranged prior to the next meeting of the Board in July to look at:

- The Role of the Board
- Where the minutes are circulated
- Leadership

It was felt that this would enable the key strategic risks to be identified from a Board perspective.

The Chief Executive further suggested that prior to the workshop taking place that all members of the Board consider the following issues:

- What do we want from a Risk Register as a Board
- What are the things which we should therefore see in the Risk Register

It was agreed that Julie Westwood would canvas for suitable dates in order for the workshop to take place.

### **93. MEMBERSHIP CONSULTATION AND GOVERNANCE**

Julie Westwood, Director of Resources, Planning and Performance presented the submitted report which presented a summary of the consultation about membership and governance that had been undertaken in the last few weeks.

The Board Members were consulted on their views about:

- The purpose of the Children's Trust Board
- The Board's role as Commissioner
- Holding partners and designated officers to account for delivering services to high standards
- Ensuring a "golden thread" is evident through strategies, plans and meeting forums
- Monitoring performance and progress related to the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and challenging poor performance and practice
- Risk Management
- Membership

All members agreed with the following:

- The principles surrounding the Audit of Need and CYPP
- The Board's role as commissioner
- Holding officers and partners to account
- Ensuring a golden thread
- Risk Management

All members agreed that performance should be monitored but did not agree about the level of detail. There was an even split about the membership options which were:-

1. Retain current membership and add only those it was required to by statute
2. Retain current membership and add both statutory and discretionary partners
3. Retain current membership and add statutory partners and select some discretionary partners

Half of the members preferred Option 1 and the other half preferred Option 3, with no-one choosing Option 2. Of those choosing Option 3, there was a strong feeling that the size of the membership should not be too large as this would prevent effective business discussion. Their reasons for preferring Option 3 were related to future planning related to current changes related to NHS services. Whilst the Hospital Foundation Trust were not considered to be a statutory partner, it would be prudent to include them given the proposals for the HFT to manage Primary Care community based services as well as Acute services. It was felt that the membership should be dictated by local needs and to ensure that it remained relevant that the terms of reference should be reviewed annually.

A number of people did query the need for non-executive membership and felt that only lead organisations should be represented by their Chief Executive or equivalent.

A suggestion was put forward that those discretionary partners not engage in the Board membership, could be invited to join the Think Family Board.

A partnership protocol covering all aspects of Children's Trust Board governance had been drafted, based on recent discussions and developments. This was currently being assessed by the Council's legal advisers and it was proposed that this is presented to the Board in July 2010 for consultation and consideration.

A discussion ensued and the following issues were raised and clarified:-

- The Chair queried whether it was feasible to remove the non-executive members from the membership. It was confirmed that the current non-executive member had queried her role on the Board and was content with the decision to remove the position from the membership.
- A suggestion was made that there should be representatives on the Board from Primary Schools and Special Schools. It was agreed that the Strategic Director and Director of Resources, Planning and Performance would address this.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and that Option 3 be agreed as the preferred membership option.

(2) That the Partnership Protocol be presented to a future meeting for consideration.

(3) That a letter be sent to Ann Lawrence, Non Executive member thanking her for her contribution to the Board.

Jenny Lingrell, Policy, Planning and Research Officer circulated two documents relating to Section 5 "Action plans and performance indicators" and Section 7 "Resourcing the Four Big Things".

She confirmed that Alcohol had now been included as an area of focus, but that it had been felt that Obesity needed to remain also, which meant that there were now nine areas of focus.

It was noted that the action plans would remain as living documents and would be posted on-line rather than forming the main body of the Children and Young People's Plan.

The Strategic Director reported that there would be a logo on the document and confirmed that students from RCAT had been working on developing this.

Agreed:- That the Children and Young People's Plan be approved for publication.

**95. RESOURCING THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN - ROTHERHAM'S SELF ASSESSMENT**

The Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report in respect of resourcing the CYPP – Rotherham's Self Assessment.

At a previous meeting the Board identified that the Audit Commission had developed key lines of enquiry which Children's Trust Boards could use to determine their position and they agreed to the key partners contributing to the self assessment and to report back on their findings.

The key partners who had contributed were the local authority, NHS Rotherham, South Yorkshire Police and Voluntary Action Rotherham and their findings were summarised within the report.

It was noted that the issues flagged in the self assessment would be addressed in the aforementioned Partnership Protocol.

Agreed:- That the report be received.

**96. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES NOTICE TO IMPROVE ACTION PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an overview of progress made since the Notice to Improve was received in December.

Based on a RAG rating the following was the current position as at 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010:

**CHILDREN'S BOARD - 21/06/10**

Red: 2 (5%)  
Amber: 22 ((50%)  
Green: 20 (45%)

It was noted that the high risk areas were:

- NI59 – Initial assessments within 7 days
- Improve the quality of serious case reviews

Targets which had been completed were:

- PDR guidance had been issued to managers for 2010 with a May deadline set for the completion of PDRs
- The Director of Children & Learners at GOYH was now a member of the improvement panel.
- Additional administration staff were now in place in the social care locality teams with the resources having a positive impact.
- The Portal development for sharing social care reports for social workers and managers was in place
- Social work staff now had access to the VPN home working solution with the roll out of laptops completed and SWIFT desk guides had been issued to localities
- The Safe and Well Protocol had been updated
- The Safe and Well Protocol was launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010
- No children's homes were inadequate
- A Self Assessment had been written against the safeguarding and looked after children criteria to identify areas for development
- A World Class Primary school reported had been written and submitted to DCSF
- Improvements had been made to the Induction Process
- The overspend for 2009/10 was reduced to £3.99m
- Funding issues were investigated during 2009/10 and further work was now being done around benchmarking.

Improvements had also been made in the following areas:

The CAF training re-commenced in February with 459 practitioners and 50 managers being trained since the training commenced. Further training would re-commence in the middle of June.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> March all initial and core assessments were being audited with a bank of good practice being developed.

It was noted that since the time of writing that an appeal against a Serious Case Review judgement had be upheld and that the outcome was 'Adequate'.

Agreed:- That the report be received.

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

Alan Hazell, Independent Chair of Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board presented the submitted report in respect of the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and Business Plan.

He confirmed that a strong sub group had been established and they had produced a work plan, which would be looked at in the context of the business plan.

It was suggested and agreed that future update reports would be quarterly by exception.

Agreed:- That the report be received and noted.

**98. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Children's Board take place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 1.00 pm.

**BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT BOARD**  
**Tuesday, 29th June, 2010**

Present:-

Councillor Paul Lakin  
 Services

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's

**(in the Chair)**

Brian Barrett

Design Consultancy Manager, EDS

Andrew Bedford

Strategic Director of Finance

Robert Holsey

BSF Project Manager

Graham Sinclair

Programme Director, Building Schools for the Future

**16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor A. Russell

Councillor G. Smith

Joyce Thacker

Strategic Director

Phil Marshall

BSF Strategic Educational Adviser

Kevin Crotty

Partnerships for Schools

Ian Smith

Director of Asset Management

**17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY 2010**

Agreed:- That the minutes of the fifteenth meeting of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board, held on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, be approved as a correct record.

**18. OJEU AND PRE QUALIFICATION UPDATE**

It was noted that the OJEU notice had been published on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2010, and had attracted interest with a number of requests for information having been received including the 2 main consortiums whom it was thought would be the main bidders.

The Pre Qualification period will come to an end on 29<sup>th</sup> July. The Project Team would then decide on the 2 bidders and submit to a meeting of the Project Board for consideration.

**19. TIMETABLE**

The Project Board received details of the overall project timetable with the Pre Qualification period having commenced on 21<sup>st</sup> June and the Invitation to Participate in Dialogue beginning at the start of September.

Clarity had been sought from the Partnerships for Schools as to the position for BSF as an announcement had been expected. However, they



**BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT BOARD - 29/06/10**

did not have any further information and were awaiting more detail in the Autumn. BSF was being reviewed with all other capital projects and clarity should come with the future Comprehensive Spending Review.

**20. TRANSFORMING ROTHERHAM LEARNING / BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE – CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Board noted a report which clarified the risks around capital contributions towards Rotherham BSF.

**21. RISK REGISTER**

As agreed at the previous meeting, the complete Risk Register was submitted which was set up at the beginning of the contract and updated on a regular basis. The Register was split into the various phases of the contract, Procurement being the current section.

Discussion took place on the various risks associated with the Rotherham BSF project:-

- (i) funding
- (ii) 25% budget cut
- (iii) LEPs and the future

Agreed:- That the Risk Register be noted.

**22. DATE TO SELECT BIDDERS FOR INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN DIALOGUE STAGE**

As previously stated (see Minute No. 18), the OJEU Notice had been published and requests for information being received.

A meeting would be required late August to select the 2 preferred bidders.

Agreed:- That a meeting of the Project Board be convened late August to select the 2 preferred bidders.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted