

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate  
Street, Rotherham. S60  
2TH**

**Date: Friday, 21 January 2011**

**Time: 9.30 a.m.**

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

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

### **FOR DISCUSSION**

8. Support for School Governors
9. Education Maintenance Allowance (report attached) (Pages 1 - 2)

### **FOR MONITORING**

10. Children and Young People's Services - Performance Indicators Quarter 2 - 2010/2011 (report attached) (Pages 3 - 16)
11. Children and Young People's Services - Notice to Improve - Progress and Exceptions (report attached) (Pages 17 - 31)
12. Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel - Work Programme 2010/2011 (report attached) (Pages 32 - 34)

## MINUTES

13. Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 10th December, 2010 (copy attached) (Pages 35 - 39)
14. Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board held on 15th December, 2010 (Pages 40 - 50)
15. Minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children held on 15th December 2010 and on 5th January 2011 (Pages 51 - 54)
16. Minutes of a meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 17th December, 2010 (Pages 55 - 63)

**\*Please note that copies of the above minutes are not attached to the printed document pack. The complete document pack can be viewed on the Council's Website by following the link below:-**

The Council's Website is:- [www.rotherham.gov.uk](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk)

From the Website:-

- Click on Find information
- Click on Council and Democracy
- Click on Local Democracy link
- Click on Agendas, reports and minutes
- At the page - Browse Committees – choose the relevant Year (i.e. 2010 or 2011) and select the Committee (eg: Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel) from the listed pages – select date of meeting

The agenda, reports and minutes pack should then be available to view.

**Date of Next Meeting:-  
Friday, 18 February 2011**

### **Membership:-**

Chairman – Councillor G. A. Russell

Vice-Chairman – Councillor License

Councillors:- Ali, Buckley, Dodson, Donaldson, Falvey, Fenoughty, Kaye, Rushforth, Sharp and Sims

### **Co-optees:-**

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

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – Briefing Paper</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel - Briefing Paper</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> January 2011</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Education Maintenance Allowance</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) was introduced in 2004 to support and encourage learners from low income households (£30,810 max in financial year 2009-10) to continue in post-16 learning. It is a weekly allowance of up to £30, payable to young people in the 16-19 age group who participate in a valid post-16 education or training programme based upon their weekly attendance. In 2009/10 EMA was paid to 3930 Rotherham learners and totalled £108,550.

2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
1,199	2,137	2,831	3,040	3,364	3,930

The decision to end EMA was announced as part of the Government's spending review on the 20 October 2010. The Department for Education stated that:

*Around 90 per cent of pupils receiving the EMA would still go to college or sixth form even if it didn't exist, according to research from both the IFS and NFER.*

It is being replaced by an enhanced **Learner Support Fund (LSF)** that will be administered directly by colleges and training providers; and for schools by the Local Authority.

The EMA scheme closed to new applicants on 1 January 2011 with a deadline for receipt of applications of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010. Applications received on or after 1 January 2011 will not be processed.

Young people who already in receipt of EMA, or who are assessed as eligible and have received a Notice of Entitlement, will continue to receive it until the end of this academic year (2010/11), if they meet the terms of their EMA Agreement.

In order to ensure support for students with the greatest need, the **LSF** has been traditionally used as a hardship fund, has been increased from September 2011. LSF funds can be used to help with:

- financial hardship and emergencies
- childcare costs (for Ofsted-registered childcare)

- accommodation costs, for those who have to study further than the maximum distance from home
- essential course-related equipment, materials and field trips
- travel costs (for over 18s)

DLSF is not available to learners who are:

- receiving full public funding for higher education
- on a learndirect course
- on a New Deal programme (except New Deal for Lone Parents)
- on an apprenticeship training scheme
- on a Work Based Learning course
- on an Adult & Community Learning course (ACL)
- Asylum Seekers aged over 19
- **Or** for transport costs

### **Possible Impact of the removal of EMA**

**Student impact** – Since the introduction of EMA, Rotherham has witnessed significant increases in 16-18 year old participation rates (c1.5% year-on-year increases to an all time high of 86% in 2009/10). Although there is little evidence yet of impact on students nationally, it might well be difficult to maintain this level of growth (a previous change from training Allowance to means tested EMA created a drop in participation). In addition, anecdotal evidence locally is that Foundation Learning learners will be significantly affected. There is, therefore, a real risk that removal of EMA will negatively affect the progress of reducing the numbers of young people Not in Education Employment and Training.

**Amount of DLSF** – Amounts available will be around 10% of the EMA budget and are meant to be targeted at those students with the greatest need. However, guidance is not yet available as to how this will need to be implemented or how it fits with other policy and institutional autonomy.

**LA Boundaries** – **The LA for** schools, colleges and training providers set their own criteria for LSF and manage their own procedures so that the amounts available, and the way funds are allocated, may differ between institutions and across LA boundaries.

**Karen Borthwick**  
**Assistant Head of School Effectiveness 11-19**

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2011
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<p><b>Performance Indicators</b>  <b>Children and Young People’s Services Performance Indicator Report - 2010/11 Quarter Two</b>  Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome  Appendix B – ‘CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – 2010/11 Quarter Two</p> <p>[Wards affected – All]</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	Children and Young People’s Services

**5. Summary**

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

**6. Recommendations**

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

**7. Proposals and Details**

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

- § Performance against targets (Comparing outturn performance against set targets)
- § Direction of travel analysis (Comparing 2010/11 quarter 2 performance to 2010/11 quarter 1 performance)
- § Year to Date Performance (Judged by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus)
- § Performance against Statistical Neighbours average
- § Performance against National average
- § Areas of Success
- § Areas of Under-performance
- § An update on previous performance clinics
- § Recommendations for future performance clinics

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

## 8. Finance

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

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

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

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

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

Poor performance compared to statistical neighbours and national can have a significant impact on the overall rating of CYPS. Ofsted form a provisional view/rating of CYPS by reviewing "Block A: inspected and regulated services and settings" and "Block B: inspections of safeguarding and services for looked after children; annual unannounced inspections; findings from any triggered inspection; and serious case review evaluation findings". Blocks A and B are weighted in the rating but then "Block C: National Indicator Set" is then used to support the overall rating. If there are concerns in Blocks A and B, the rating is likely to be confirmed as 'performs poorly' if performance against a large majority of indicators in the NIS, including those for staying safe and enjoying and achieving, is lower than in similar areas.

Central Government has indicated that the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the Audit Commission have been abolished. There is no indication that the CYPS/Ofsted CAA will change in the short/medium term.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

- § Children and Young People's Services 2009/10 Performance Indicator Quarter One, Two, Three and outturn Reports (with appendices)
- § Comprehensive Area Assessment: Annual rating of Children's services – arrangements and guidance
- § Children & Young People's Plan 2010- 2013
- § Local Area Agreement 2008-11 (including 2009 refresh)

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## Rotherham Children and Young People's Services

# Assessment of Performance by Every Child Matters Outcome

### 2010/11 Quarter Two Report

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

It should be read in conjunction with the 'CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – 2010/11 Quarter Two (Appendix B) as it includes references throughout the text to the numbering structure within the table.

Please note the following data health warnings;

- Comparative data relates to the latest available data and therefore date periods for some indicators may vary. It has been sourced via the DFE Local Area Interactive Tool.

## Performance Summary – All themes

Number of Indicators: 32

Number of Components: 38

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

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

EA = Enjoying & Achieving  
AEW = Achieving Economic Wellbeing

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

On Target	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
✓	Has met target	2	50%	6	67%	6	40%	2	29%	2	67%	18	47%
✗	Has not met target	2	50%	3	33%	7	47%	4	57%	1	33%	17	45%
- / n/a	No targets set (ie new and/or baseline yr)	0	0%	0	0%	2	13%	1	14%	0	0%	3	8%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>38</b>	

### Direction of Travel "DOT"

DOT	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
↑	Top performance or improvement	1	25%	4	44%	10	67%	4	57%	1	33%	20	53%
→	Performance has maintained	0	0%	1	11%	2	13%	0	0%	1	33%	4	11%
↓	Performance has declined	3	75%	4	44%	2	13%	2	29%	1	33%	12	32%
- / n/a	No comparison can be made	0	0%	0	0%	1	7%	1	14%	0	0%	2	5%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>38</b>	



## Year to Date Performance "YTD"

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above target or top performance	2	50%	4	44%	5	33%	2	29%	2	67%	15	39%
●	On target	0	0%	2	22%	1	7%	0	0%	0	0%	3	8%
▲	Below target	2	50%	3	33%	7	47%	4	57%	1	33%	17	45%
- / n/a	No targets set ( <i>ie new and/or baseline year</i> )	0	0%	0	0%	2	13%	1	14%	0	0%	3	8%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>38</b>	

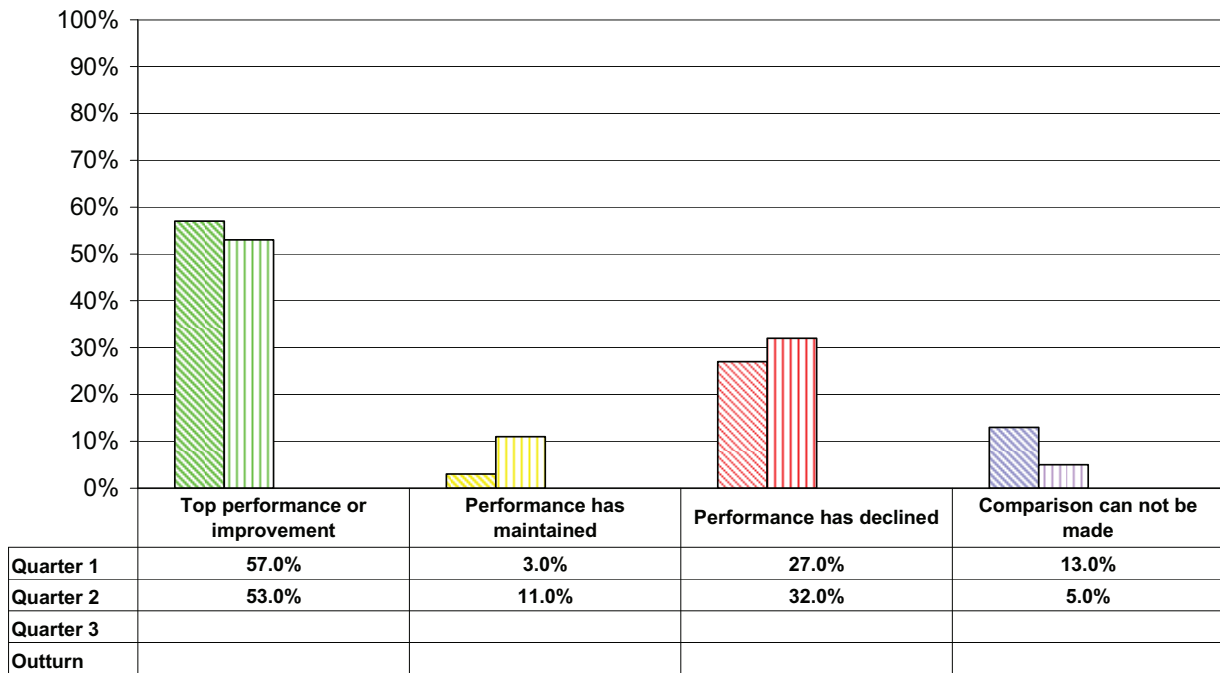
## Performance against Statistical Neighbours

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above statistical neighbour or top performance	0	0%	7	78%	6	40%	0	0%	2	67%	15	39%
●	Same as statistical neighbour or above by less than 2%	1	25%	1	11%	1	7%	0	0%	1	33%	4	11%
▲	Below statistical neighbour	3	75%	1	11%	5	33%	3	43%	0	0%	12	32%
- / n/a	No statistical neighbour data to compare	0	0%	0	0%	3	20%	4	57%	0	0%	7	18%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>38</b>	

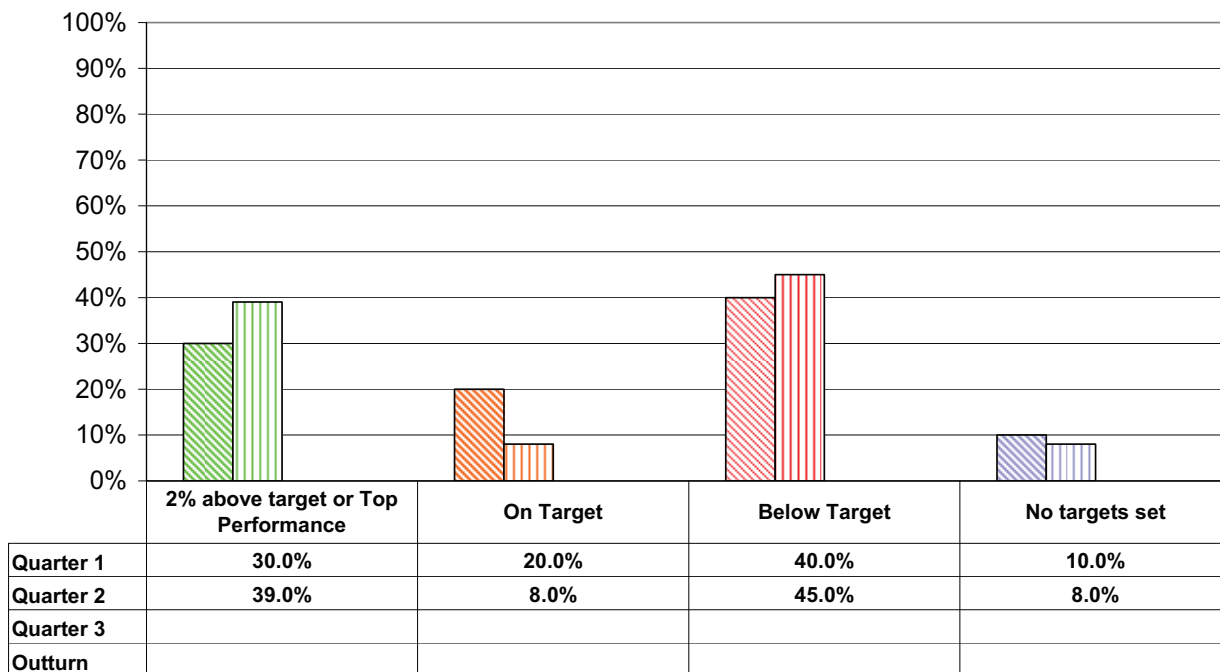
## Performance against National

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above national or top performance	2	50%	8	89%	4	27%	0	0%	2	67%	16	42%
●	Same as national or above by less than 2%	0	0%	0	0%	2	13%	0	0%	0	0%	2	5%
▲	Below national	2	50%	1	11%	4	27%	2	29%	1	33%	10	26%
- / n/a	No national data to compare	0	0%	0	0%	5	33%	5	71%	0	0%	10	26%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>38</b>	

**Progress Over Quarters 2010-11  
Direction of Travel - All Themes**



**Progress Over Quarters 2010-11  
Performance Year to Date - All Themes**



## Notes on overall performance

- Across all themes, 47% of the National Indicator components targets have been met. This is a 3% decrease from 50% in the 2010/11 quarter 1 report.
- There are 45% of all indicators which are not meeting targets which represents a 5% increase from 40% in quarter 1. The Enjoying and Achieving theme is particularly underperforming with 67% of indicators not meeting targets, although only three indicators components were collected and this has shown no movement from quarter 1. The Making a Positive Contribution theme has shown an increase in the number of indicators not meeting target, up from 25% in quarter 1 to 57% in quarter 2. Future targets are being reviewed with managers to ensure that they are appropriate and realistic, whilst continuing to drive improvement.
- Across all themes, 53% of the National Indicator components in Quarter 2 have shown improvement from quarter 1. This is particularly evident in the Enjoying and Achieving theme which shows 67% of components improving. Performance has declined in 32% of components in comparison with quarter 1 performance. This can be seen predominantly within the Being Healthy theme which shows 75% of components having a downwards direction of travel although this theme only has 4 indicator components.
- This quarter, the benchmarking data downloaded from the Local Area Interactive Tool shows that 47% of indicator components are inline or above the national average with only 26% being below. Comparison against statistical neighbours show that 50% of components are inline or above and 32% are below the statistical neighbour average.

## Areas of Success

### Being Healthy

- Coverage of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth (No 2b / NI53b) continues to improve. A figure of 98.1% has been achieved in quarter 2 against a target of 95% and there has been an increase of 1.8% from quarter 1 which showed performance of 96.3%. This is 4.5% above the latest available national average of 93.6% and 1.2% above the latest available statistical neighbour average of 96.9%.

### Staying Safe

Three indicators are performing at least 2% or better above target and show a positive direction of travel. These are;

- Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements (No 6 / NI62). Quarter 2 shows performance of 7.3% against a target of 10.5% and continues to improve quarterly up as performance at 2009/10 outturn was 11.1% and quarter 1 was 8.9%. The figure of 7.3% is above both statistical neighbour and national averages of 10.1% and 10.9% respectively.
- Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales (No10 / NI67) has maintained top performance of 100% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 96.7% and the national average of 97.2%.

- Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment (No 11 / NI68). This indicator has a quarter 2 figure of 81.7% against a target of 70% and shows improvement from the quarter 1 performance of 64.5%. This is significantly above both the statistical neighbour and national averages of 67.5% and 64.3% respectively.

### Enjoying and Achieving

- Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage No 12 / NI72 has achieved an outturn figure of 56.2% against a target of 53%. This is an increase of 6.4% on 2009 performance against a national increase of 2%. Performance exceeds both the statistical neighbour and national averages of 49.9% and 52% respectively.
- Achievement of 2 or more A\*-C grades in science GCSEs or equivalent (No 17 / NI84). This indicator has a 2010 performance of 55.9% against a target of 52%. This shows an increase of 7.1% on 2009 performance and is above both statistical neighbour and national averages of 52.8% and 53.7%.
- Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks (No 24 a & b / NI103 a & b) has maintained top performance (100%) in part a) excluding exceptions. This exceeds the target of 95% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 97.2% and the national average of 91%. Part b) including exceptions has also exceeded the target of 92% with a top performing Q1 figure of 100%. This is also above the statistical neighbour average of 94.4% and the national average of 82%.

### Making a Positive Contribution

- First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17 (No 28 / NI111 a & b). The number of first time entrants (part a) for quarter 2 was 97 and number of first time entrants per 100,000 population (part b) was 365. Both of these components significantly exceed the targets of 514 and 1900 respectively. It must be noted however, that whilst these figures are good for this indicator they will have an adverse effect on other indicators, such as young people receiving a conviction who are sentenced to custody and young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment.

### Achieving Economic Wellbeing

- Care leavers in employment, education or training (No 32 / NI148) has a Q2 figure of 78.6% which is above the target of 67% although it shows a negative direction of travel from quarter 1 of 8.9%. This is still however, above both the statistical neighbour average of 56.9% and the national average of 62%.

## Areas of Under-Performance

### Being Healthy

- Take up of secondary school lunches (No 1 b / NI52 b). Quarter 2 performance of 32.3% is below the target of 34.2% and has a downward direction of travel against the quarter 1 figure of 33.1%. It must be noted however, that this was a seasonally difficult period and results are encouraging for annual performance to exceed the target.
- Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth (No 2a / NI53a) has a quarterly figure of 26.6% against a target of 32%. This has a downward direction of travel from quarter 1 figure of 28.7% and is below the statistical and national averages of 27.4% and 45.2% respectively.

### Staying Safe

- Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral (No 3 / NI59). Quarterly performance of 81.2% is below the target of 87% and shows a downward direction of travel from 84.1% in quarter 1. The dip in performance is primarily due to ongoing recruitment problems with social work posts having been offered but turned down. Performance for this indicator is however above both the statistical neighbour and national averages of 69.2% and 67.1%.
- Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales (No 9 / NI66). Quarter 2 performance of 96.7% has dipped slightly below the target and quarter 1 figure, both of which were 97%. This is still however, above both the statistical neighbour average of 92% and the national average of 90.5%.

### Enjoying and Achieving

- Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (No 13 / NI73) has a 2010 performance figure of 66.5%. This is below the target set of 79% and also shows a downward direction of travel from 2009 performance of 68%. Performance is still below both the statistical neighbour and national averages of 74.2% and 74% respectively.
- Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (No 19 / NI93). The 2010 figure of 79% is significantly below the target of 94% and shows a slight downward direction of travel from 80% in 2009 and is also below both the statistical neighbour and national averages of 83.8% and 84%.

### Making a Positive Contribution

- Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody (No 26 / NI43). This National Indicator performance of 7.9% does not meet the target of 5.0% and shows a downward direction of travel from 7.1% in the previous quarter. Performance is also worse than both the statistical neighbour average of 4.5% and the national average of 5.5%. Whilst custody figures are beginning to decline in real terms, ( 38 in 2009/10 as opposed to 46 in 2008/9), The rate of custody continues to be below target due to the success of reducing the number of first time entrants (NI 111) which continues to drop quarter on quarter.

- Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment (No 27 / NI45). This National Indicator performance of 56.6% does not meet the target of 78% and shows a downward direction of travel from the previous quarter performance of 68.2%. Performance is also worse than both the statistical neighbour average of 70.6% and the national average of 73.3%.

### Achieving Economic Wellbeing

- 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (No 30 / NI117). Although the quarter 2 figure of 7.7% has been maintained from the previous quarter, it is still not achieving the target set of 7.1%.

### Performance Clinics

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

### Previous Clinics

**Topic:** Looked After Children's Attainment (NI's 99, 100 and 101)

**Clinic type:** Corporate Performance Clinic

#### Main issues discussed

- Overview of current performance.
- Work of the Get Real team to raise attainment, achievement and aspirations of children in care.
- Risk factors associated with LAC National Indicators.

#### Actions to be taken

The clinic agreed that there is a high amount of good and high quality work currently being undertaken to resolve the issues.

It was agreed that the following key actions will be undertaken;

- A report be produced every term to identify the schools that have looked after children as students.
- That the outcomes of the current review of placement of children outside the authority and any cost reductions achieved be reported to the performance clinic members.
- Regular reviews of children placed outside the authority should take place to ensure they are receiving a high level of care/support.
- Members will receive training sessions on this area, with more in depth training for Members who are involved with schools.

- **Future Clinics**

Below are recommendations for future performance clinics.

No.	Ref.	Indicator	Rationale
30	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	There is to be an internal review of this indicator deriving from a previous performance clinic

- **Additional targeted improvement and challenge work**

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

- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Leadership and Management
- Performance Management
- Recruitment and Retention of Social Care staff
- Recent Inspection recommendations.

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	09/10 Perf	10/11 Target	10/11 Q1 Perf	10/11 Q2 Perf	On Target	DOT	Year to Date	10/11 Q2 Commentary	Latest Comparative Data				11/12 Target		
												Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National			
<b>BEING HEALTHY</b>																		
1	NI 52	Take up of school lunches																
a		Primary	HIGH	43.9%	41.9%	45.9%	44.8%	✓	↓	★	Meal numbers are generally increasing in both sectors against a drop in pupils on roll. Expectations are that the targets are exceeded once again. Although the secondary sector direction of travel appears downwards this is in line with seasonal expectations and is actually showing better performance than last year. The final outcome should exceed the target.	48.60%	▲	41.40%	★	41.9%	42.5%	
b		Secondary	HIGH	35.0%	34.2%	33.1%	32.3%	✗	↓	▲		43.70%	▲	36.80%	▲	34.2%	34.5%	
2	NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth																
a		Prevalence	HIGH	28.9%	32%	28.7%	26.6%	✗	↓	▲	The coverage target has been exceeded. However, the prevalence target has not been achieved and has decreased since Q1 2010/11. This is largely because of the low initiation rate seen in Q1 2010/11 (52% a drop of almost 7% from Q4 2009/10) at Rotherham Hospital Foundation Trusts. The initiation decrease has been investigated and actions are in place to improve rates.	27.40%	▲	45.20%	▲	32%		
b		Coverage	HIGH	94.2%	95%	98.3%	98.1%	✓	↑	★		96.90%	●	93.60%	★	95%		
<b>STAYING SAFE</b>																		
3	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	HIGH	74.6%	87.0%	84.1%	81.2%	✗	↓	▲	The dip in performance is primarily due to ongoing recruitment problems. Some of the candidates offered social work posts turned down the offer for a variety of reasons. Further interviews have now taken place. The restructuring of the teams should also begin to make impact as additional team manager has been placed in the most challenging service area.	65.20%	★	67.10%	★	81.0%	82.0%	
4	NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	HIGH	79.0%	87.0%	87.3%	87.1%	✓	↓	●	Target has been met and exceeded for the October outcome. Close monitoring of performance is ongoing both with regards quality and quantity.	77.60%	★	73.40%	★	87.0%	87.5%	
5	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	HIGH	72.0%	85.0%	0.0%	0.0%	✗	→	▲	Family Finding continues to prioritise on those children who have waited the longest, for adoptive families, therefore the 1 year benchmark cannot be met as they have already exceeded this timescale. The placement strategy for children more recently made the subject of an adoption plan needs to be established.	65.20%	▲	72.40%	▲	85.0%	86.0%	
6	NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	LOW	11.1%	10.5%	8.9%	7.3%	✓	↑	★	This is again good performance and reflects the hard work that has gone in to suitable matching.	10.10%	★	10.90%	★	10.5%	10.0%	
7	NI 64	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more	LOW	4.0%	4.0%	0.0%	3.5%	✓	↑	●	Quarter saw an increase in the numbers of CYP having a child protection plan lasting 2 years or more. This remains a good performance and still ahead of target. Close monitoring is now required if the end of year result is to stay within good performance.	4.00%	●	5.90%	★	4.0%	3.5%	
8	NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	LOW	13.8%	10-15%	7.4%	6.9%	✓	↓	★	The second quarter shows a further improvement against Q1. The lower the percentage the better the performance so we are currently performing ahead of target. This will in part be due to increased use of the common assessment framework plus the prevention and early intervention strategy providing services before problems escalate to child protection conferences.	15.60%	★	13.60%	★	11.0%	10.5%	
9	NI 66	Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	97.1%	97.0%	97.0%	96.7%	✗	↓	▲	This quarter dipped very slightly below the target and would account for no more than 2 reviews not being held on time. The reason for this is being examined. Performance should improve over coming quarters as the new Looked After Children's Service is now established and there has been investment in the Independent Reviewing Officers.	92.00%	★	90.50%	★	93.0%	94.0%	
10	NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	100.0%	100%	100.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	Performance remains good with all child protection plans being reviewed within timescales. Chairing capacity is adequate but the performance is under constant threat due to a shortage of "safe" environments in which to hold meetings.	96.70%	★	97.20%	★	100%	100%	
11	NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	HIGH	59.5%	70.0%	64.5%	81.7%	✓	↑	★	Target has been met and exceeded ahead of the March 2011 outcome	67.50%	★	64.30%	★	67.0%	60.0%	
<b>ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING</b>																		
12	NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Entry Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the domains of Personal, Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	HIGH	50.40%	53%	-	56.4%	✓	↑	★	There was an increase in results of 6% in 2010. This is above the increase nationally by 2%. The statutory target was exceeded by 3.4%	49.90%	★	52%	★	53.0%		
13	NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	HIGH	68%	79%	-	66.5%	✗	↓	▲	This indicator has seen a decline of 2% in 2010 against a national increase of 2%. Under performance is challenged and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil level and school level. Support to schools is detailed in the delivery plan	74.20%	▲	74.00%	▲	79.0%		
14	NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	HIGH	47%	54%	-	50.4%	✗	↑	▲	The improvement of 3.4% in 2010 was in-line with the national average increase. Improvement in the standards for both English and Mathematics A-C contributed towards the increase in this indicator.	46.70%	★	49.8	●	54.0%		
15	NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	LOW	13	-	-	11	N/A	↑	N/A	The number of schools below floor targets was reduced by 2% in 2010. School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil level and school level	7.9	▲	-	-	-		



No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	09/10 Perf	10/11 Target	10/11 Q1 Perf	10/11 Q2 Perf	On Target	DOT	Year to Date	10/11 Q2 Commentary	Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
16	NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	LOW	2	0	-	0	✓	↑	★	No schools remain below 30% in 2010 and all but one now exceed 40% on this measure.	1.3	★	-	-	0	0
17	NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A*-C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	HIGH	48.80%	52%	-	55.9%	✓	↑	★	Another significant increase in 2010 by 7.1%. This figure now exceeds the target by 3.9%	52.80%	★	53.70%	★	52.0%	55.0%
18	NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	LOW	35.80%	34.90%	-	33.7%	✓	↑	●	The gap was reduced in 2010 by 2.1%. This has further reduced the gap against national to 1%. The target was exceeded by 1.2%	34.70%	●	33.90%	●	34.9%	
19	NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	HIGH	80%	94%	-	79.0%	✗	↓	▲	School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools are supported to address underperformance at pupil and school level. Rotherham progression in 2010 decreased by 1%.	83.80%	▲	84.00%	▲	94.0%	
20	NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	HIGH	77%	91%	-	78.3%	✗	↑	▲	School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil and school level. Rotherham progress measures in 2010 increased by 1.3%.	83.80%	▲	83.00%	▲	91.0%	
21	NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	HIGH	69%	90%	69.0%	69.0%	✗	→	▲	This performance indicator remains the same, there is continuing work with secondary schools to improve satisfactory to good standards of behaviour. There have been no secondary schools inspected this term.	73.80%	▲	78.65%	▲	90.0%	100.0%
22	NI 88	Number of Extended Schools	HIGH	96%	100%	97.5%	99.0%	✗	↑	▲	This reflects the position with 2 of our schools with one element to achieve on the core offer. This has now been completed.					100.0%	100.0%
23	NI 89	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category															
a	a	Number	LOW	2	0	5	5	✗	→	▲	5 Primary schools are still in Special Measures but monitoring visits have been mostly positive with one school making outstanding progress.					0	0
b	b	Time	LOW	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A						0	0	
24	NI 103	Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks															
a	a	Excluding exceptions	HIGH	100.00%	95%	100.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	1039/ Of the 32 total number of statements issued this quarter, if we exclude exceptions 15 were issued within 26 weeks.	97.20%	★	91%	★	95.0%	95.0%
b	b	Including exceptions	HIGH	97.4%	92%	100.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	1039/ Of the 32 final statements issued this quarter, all were issued within 26 weeks. The follow-up meeting with the PCT to review School Health performance was held on 19th July. It was agreed that internal monitoring would continue during this financial year, and another meeting arranged for the spring term 2011.	94.40%	★	82%	★	92.0%	94.0%
<b>MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION</b>																	
25	NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	LOW	0.28	0.97	0.61	0.47	✗	↑	▲		1.1		1.1		0.97	
26	NI 43	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	LOW	11.0%	5.0%	7.1%	7.9%	✗	↓	▲	As a result of the success in reducing First Time Entrants (NI 111) the number of young people going through the courts (the denominator) is falling. Although the numbers of young people going to custody is declining (the numerator) the impact on the ratio is perverse.	4.50%	▲	5.50%	▲	5.0%	
27	NI 45	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment	HIGH	71.0%	78.0%	68.2%	56.6%	✗	↓	▲	Performance has dropped significantly and this is likely to be due to a combination of factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This quarter is traditionally one which sees a reduction due to young people leaving school and not yet gaining a positive destination</li> <li>- The declining number of First Time Entrants who would usually boost these figures and are most likely to be in education and work.</li> <li>- The entrenched nature of those young people who continue to be on YOS Caseboards and who do not have the skills and capabilities to access employment and training opportunities.</li> </ul>	70.60%	▲	73.30%	▲	78.0%	
28	NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17															
a	a	Number	LOW	212	514		97	✓	↑	★	Rates continue to be well below target, although the number of first time entrants has begun to plateau, and is now at a more comparable rate with the rest of the UK.					514	
b	b	Per 100 000 10-17 Population		784	1,900		365	✓	↑	★						1900	
29	NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 24 year olds															
a	a	Coverage	HIGH	25.0%	35%	7.5%	14.7%	✗	↑	▲	Quarter 2 performance has not been so good, but actions have been agreed with screening providers in order to increase activity and thereby increase the number of screens in the next quarter to bring us back on target.	24.10%	▲	-	-	35.0%	
b	b	Prevalence	LOW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						-	-
<b>ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING</b>																	
30	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	LOW	7.9%	7.10%	7.7%	7.7%	✗	→	▲	The September position 2010 7.0%, young people NEET is lower than in comparison to the previous 2 years (8.4% 2009 and 7.8% 2008) at this point of the year and we are on track to achieve the LAA target of 6.9% (although the LAA has been abolished). Participation in learning has risen year on year 78% in learning in September 2010 in comparison to 70.6% at the same time last year. Largest issue in the borough are 18 year olds NEET – the majority of whom are seeking work only	8.10%	●	6.40%	▲	7.1%	
31	NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	HIGH	100.0%	92%	87.5%	92.3%	✓	↑	★	One young person in custody and this is classed as unsuitable accommodation.	88.80%	★	90.30%	★	92.0%	

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	08/10 Perf	10/11 Target	10/11 Q1 Perf	10/11 Q2 Perf	On Target	DOT	Year to Date	10/11 Q2 Commentary	Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
32	NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	HIGH	63.6%	67%	87.5%	84.6%	✓	↓	★	One person not in education or training due to pregnancy. One person not in education or training as not engaging.	56.99%	★	62%	★	70.0%	

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Service Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2011</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Notice to Improve - Progress and Exception Report</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 2009, the overarching action plan used to monitor improvements 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 Children and Young People’s Services Scrutiny Panel notes the progress being made against the targets set in the Notice to Improve.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

This report provides an overview of the progress made and reported to the Improvement Panel Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2010.

The action plan used to monitor improvements identifies a RAG rating and a direction of travel for the areas of improvement, and key risks and issues to meeting the stretching targets set for the council and its strategic partners.

There are 29 individual actions covering the key performance measures (including the 3 social care indicators) in addition to the operational targets around Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Leadership and Management and Capacity Building, Performance Management, and Recruitment and Retention.

Based on a RAG rating the following is the current position as at 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2010.

Red:           None  
 Amber:       24 - 83%  
 Green:        5 – 17% (of which two are completed)

### Social Care Indicators

The commentary on the social care indicators includes the performance of statistical neighbours and national as a comparator.

	Baseline Performance (Nov 09)	Current Performance	Targets	Statistical Neighbour ( March 10)	National ( March 10)
NI 68 (Referrals to initial)	59.8%	83.43% 09/10 outturn 73.4%	Oct 10 – 68% Mar 11- 70%	67.5%	64.3%
NI 59 (initial assessment)	73%	82.67% 09/10 outturn 75.2%	Oct 10 – 85% Mar 11- 87%	69.2%	67.1%
NI 60 (core assessment)	68%	84.63% 09/10 outturn 80%	Oct 10 – 84% Mar 11- 87%	77.6%	73.4%

### NI 68 – referrals of children in need which go onto initial assessment

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 83.43% of referrals to social care go onto an initial assessment, this is from the baseline of 59.8% in November 2009.

Performance continues to exceed both the October 2010 and March 2011 targets of 68% and 70%. The March 2009/10 outturn was 73.4% which is higher than statistical neighbour and national comparators.

### **NI59 – initial assessments in 7 working days**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 82.67% of initial assessments were carried out in time, this is from the baseline of 73% in November 2009.

The targets for October 2010 and March 2011 are 85% and 87%.  
The March 2009/10 outturn was 75.2% which is higher than statistical neighbours and national comparators.

Although there have been major improvements in performance around this indicator, and given that the milestone target for October 2010 of 85% is not being met, an internal challenge session took place at DLT on 12<sup>th</sup> October to explore further the performance of this National Indicator. Additional support was provided for Rotherham Central (formerly Rotherham South) and a validation exercise took place on assessments recorded on SWIFT.

### **NI60 – Core Assessments in 35 working days**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 84.63% of core assessments were carried out in time, this is from the baseline of 68% in November 2009.

The October 2010 target of 84% has been met but is still below the March 2011 target of 87%.

The March 2009/10 outturn was 80% which is higher than statistical neighbour and national comparators,

### **Areas of Concern**

#### Use of Agency staff

There are still a number of agency social workers (14) and team managers (3) in post, from a baseline of 19 agency staff in November 2008 (plus an additional 9 vacant posts at that point in time)  
However, following the changes to the structure the recruitment process continues and recent appointments have been made to ensure that a minimal number of agency staff are used and permanent staff are in post wherever possible.

All current agency staff assignments are being checked to confirm when they will cease.

### **Areas of Improvement**

Common Assessment Framework Numbers continue to increase, 496 CAFs have been registered this year to date, an average of 49 per month.. Almost 40% have been initiated by colleagues from Health, 33% by schools and 12% from the voluntary and community sector. Between January 2006 and July 2009 there had been 976 CAFs completed, an average of only 22 per month

The Annual Children's Services Assessment rating was published on the 9<sup>th</sup> December and is "Performs Adequately" the key areas for further development are:

- Improve secondary schools so that more are good or better
- Improve the outcomes for children at the end of primary school
- Increase the number of good childminders
- Maintain the momentum of improvement in social care services for children and young people, including the quality of children's homes.

Following the Ofsted Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection in July and the DfE meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, a clear message from the Ofsted inspectors was that we needed to focus now on driving up the quality of practice to underpin the work we had done in improving the quantitative figures.

In addition, the letter sent to Councillor Stone on the 27<sup>th</sup> August from Tim Loughton MP he stated that "In light of Ofsted's findings if in December we can evidence continued improvement and more secure supervision and quality assurance mechanisms, I will consider lifting the improvement notice early". A Notice to Improve milestone meeting was held with DfE on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, it was not clear from the meeting if the recommendation to the minister would be to remove the intervention notice, it is anticipated that a decision on this should be communicated early in the new year.

### 8. **Finance**

The DfE has contributed £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 was 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 out of authority. 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, the Comprehensive Spending Review and early indications of cuts from the Early Intervention Grant.

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

There is an adoption inspection planned to take place between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January, results from this feed into the OFSTED profile.

There is also a possibility of another annual unannounced inspection of the Contact and Referral process, if there are any areas for priority action found this can have an adverse affect of future ratings. Work has taken place to plan for such an inspection with a self-assessment being completed and a mock inspection has taken place to establish risks and concerns.

10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

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

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

The annual Fostering Inspection was concluded in June 2010 and found to be adequate. The Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection took place between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July, the outcome of this was adequate.

Action plans are in place to monitor the implementation of both sets of recommendations, most of which are now completed.

Failure to address these issues would impact further on the CYPS and the council and could still 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 – Jan to June 2009  
Fostering Inspection June 2010  
Safeguarding and LAC inspection July 2010  
CYP Directorate Performance reports  
Notice to Improve Action Plan

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RMBC Notice to Improve Action Plan

Performance Measures

Date of Update 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

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)  2009/10 outturn 73.4%	83.43%	65% March 2010 68% October 2010 70% March 2011	Gani Martins	↑ Green	From 1st April to 26th November the figure is 83.43%. This continues to exceed the March 2011 target. Data checks continue to be undertaken to check accuracy in recording and are part of the QA process and in line with the Data Quality Strategy	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)  2009/10 outturn 75.2%	82.67%	80% March 2010 85% October 2010 87% March 2011	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	82.67% of initial assessments completed between 1st April and 26th November were completed in time. Data checks continue to be undertaken to check accuracy in recording and are part of the QA process and the Data Quality Strategy. An internal challenge session was held on the 12 <sup>th</sup> October to explore this NI further and actions put in place to improve this indicator further.  86.5% of initial assessments were carried out in 10 working days or less.  A more detailed analysis is on the agenda for the improvement panel on 10th December.	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)  2009/10 outturn 80%	84.63%	80% March 2010 84% October 2010 87% March 2011	Gani Martins	↓ Green	Between 1st April and 26th November 84.63% of Core Assessments have been completed in time. Data checks continue to be undertaken to check accuracy in recording and are part of the QA process and in line with the Data Quality Strategy.	Social Work



Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>1. Staying Safe – Social Worker 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 } Mile- Sept } stones Oct } 30th Nov deadline	Gani Martins	→Amber	Quality Assurance continues, the Practice Improvement Managers tackled the issues through coaching and mentoring. A new framework has been introduced which also covers the quality of practice. A report is on the agenda for the panel meeting on 10th December.	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 NFAAd  11.12% Total Referrals NFAAd by localities	10% reduction in overall contact and referrals which result in NFA by March 2010	Sept 2010	Gani Martins	→Amber	Quality Assurance continues, the Practice Improvement Managers tackled the issues through coaching and mentoring. A new framework has been introduced which also covers the quality of practice. A report is on the agenda for the panel meeting on 10th December.	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	August 2010 for reprioritisation  Sept 2010 for completion of Top 5  Commencement and Project Plan for those remaining August 2010	John Dunn, RBT / Rebecca Wragg	→Amber	Key processes have been revisited in line with service reconfiguration High level Child's journey has been approved, LAC review of process to commence January. Early Intervention and Prevention incorporated into appropriate processes and interfaces with services and pathways. Now including CAHMS, Adults services and YOT. There are 7 areas still to be mapped with a target of December for creation and March for approval, dissemination.	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  No. of CAFs No. of CAFs preventing I.A. etc	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	496 CAFs have been registered this year to date. Almost 40% have been initiated by colleagues from Health, 33% by schools and 12% from the voluntary and community sector. Since July, the primary need identified in each CAF has been recorded and currently there are 66 CAFs recorded under Enjoy and Achieve categories, 56 SPA referrals and 47 pregnant teenagers/ young parents.	Early Intervention
<b>Implement the recommendations from the recent Fostering Inspection</b>	Develop an action plan and monitoring system to implement the 9 elements of the recommendations	Action Plan Developed	Action Plan developed and actions implemented	Completion of individual actions by Sept 2010	Gani Martins	↑ Amber	7 recommendations are now complete, 2 are nearing completion. The completed actions have been audited to ensure evidence is robust and in place	Social work

<b>Implement the recommendations from the recent Safeguarding and LAC inspection</b>	Develop an action plan and monitoring system to implement the 10 recommendations	Action Plan Developed	Action Plan developed and actions implemented	Completion of 3 immediate actions by mid Sept 2010. Completion of remaining 7 actions by mid November 2010	Gani Martins	↑ <b>Amber</b>	7 recommendations are now complete, 3 are nearing completion. The completed actions have been audited to ensure evidence is robust and in place	Social work
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Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>1. Staying Safe – Social Worker Practice and Process</b>								
<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</b>	Ensure that all children's homes are compliant with regulatory requirements  Review compliance in relation to revised inspection criteria (currently out for consultation). Conduct routine audits of compliance and report key themes arising.	1 - St Edmunds	No inadequate children's homes	October 2010	Gani Martins	<b>complete</b>		Social Work
	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	Number and % of adequate data quality checks conducted - 100%	October 2010	Gani Martins	<b>→ Amber</b>	Quality Assurance continues, the Practice Improvement Managers have tackled the issues through coaching and mentoring. A new framework has been introduced which also covers the quality of practice. A report is on the agenda for the panel meeting on 10th December.	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	<b>Complete</b>		Social Work / Workforce

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<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>	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  10 Primary schools below floor targets (2010)	13 down to 8 during 2010 and then down to 0 in 2011	March 2010 October 2010 March 2011	David Light	→ Amber	A full report was submitted to Improvement Panel on 22nd April 2010 and a World Class Primaries Board has met regularly with DCSF/DfE and National Strategies involvement to progress the actions in the plan. It is not yet clear whether government will sustain the WCPP as a national strategy however our approach is for these to continue with National Strategies representative attending meetings until the end of March and currently the Board continues to meet local priorities in Rotherham and is being sustained. The core membership of the Board has met this half-term to review progress and consider further actions in 2010/11.  In summer 2010, 10 of the original 13 schools rose above the floor target at KS2, including 3 of the 5 hard to reach schools who had been below 55% L4 English and Maths combined for at least 5 years. However, based on provisional results, 7 other schools fell below the floor target so that challenges in meeting basic standards at KS2 remain urgent in the context of a reduced SES workforce and, in all probability, further changes in both LA finance and national policy from April 2011.	Enjoying and Achieving

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>3. Leadership and Management/Capacity Building/Support</b>								
<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>	Identify practice issues related to quality and consistency from Quality Assurance audit reports by Locality and Teams.	Further embedding required	Month on month improvement on QA Audits with less issues reported	Aug/Sept and October milestones	Deb Johnson and Warren Carratt	→ Amber	Final report of Practice Improvement Partners received October. Learning and Development programmes (eg refreshed induction, action learning sets) currently being developed. Audits of these will inform future learning and development.	Social work
	Incorporate into L&D activity identifying most appropriate to resolve issues encountered	Initial learning programme rolled out	Review quarterly in line with QA Audits to ensure continual improvement	30th Nov 2010 deadline	Deb Johnson and Warren Carratt	↑ Amber	Action learning sets and formal training sessions have been delivered by the Practice Improvement Partners and are currently being evaluated. Handover to Social Work Practice Consultants for continued legacy management has taken place. PQ	Social work

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>3. Leadership and Management/Capacity Building/Support</b>								
							programme has been rolled out to all of the social work workforce.	
	Evaluate effectiveness of L&D interventions by Locality and Teams in relation to improved practice.	Initial learning programme rolled out	Review quarterly in line with QA Audits to ensure continual improvement	Aug/Sept and October milestones	Deb Johnson and Warren Carratt	→ Amber	University of Sheffield carrying out SWTF Health Check on behalf of CYPS to test staff engagement and satisfaction with a range of interventions, including those related to learning and development.	Social work
	Track improvement of Locality and Teams in relation to quality issues identified.	Further embedding required	Month on month improvement on QA Audits with less issues reported	30th Nov 2010 deadline	Deb Johnson and Warren Carratt	↑ Amber	A further detailed audit reporting identified issues is on the agenda for the Improvement Panel on 10th December.	Social work
	Ensure that accountabilities for each individual are being reinforced through consistently applied PDR's to ensure staff have a satisfactory Performance Plan. Consider action post inspection report	81%	90%	Nov 2010	Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt	→ Amber	The review conducted at the end of July showed that 71% of eligible staff had received a PDR. Sample of audits of PDRs have also taken place and that this has highlighted that not all PDRs have been recorded on Yourself. Directors have followed this up with their managers and a further update has shown that 73% of eligible staff have had a PDR.	Workforce / Performance
<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>	Improve outcomes of CYPS Satisfaction Surveys	Employee Opinion Survey Family Placement Survey Audit Commission in Schools Survey Social Worker Survey	LAC reviews Social Worker Survey December 2010	March 2010 Oct 2010 and March 2011  Milestone January 2011	Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt	→ Amber	Baseline for EOS - 64% (CYPS) rest of Council 69% - target to be discussed 69%, the next EOS is not until 2011, Baseline for Audit Commission schools survey response rate 2008 29% 2009 63%. ( no longer being carried out)The Family Placement Survey is a bi-annual survey of Foster Carers and Adopters, the next survey is scheduled for 2011. The full staff survey planned for December has been deferred, a social work specific survey is planned for November and will be concluded in December. At the end of October 95% of LAC participate in reviews. In relation to customer satisfaction we have engaged victims of youth crime, young people in relation to voice and influence and the impact this has on services and in addition the youth service evaluates satisfaction about our early intervention services.	Workforce and all Workstreams

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<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. Visits have taken place to validate the implementation of recommendations and the state of readiness in terms of achieving a positive outcome in the next inspection. Action plans are in place from the services to shift proportion of services to good or better. A positive meeting was held with OFSTED on 18 <sup>th</sup> October in relation to the draft CSA rating which is adequate. 92% of all inspection recommendations monitored are complete.	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 which have an established monitoring system) are entered into the reconfigured CYP inspections monitoring system. Reports from these are generated monthly and reviewed by DLT 92% of all inspection recommendations monitored are complete.	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	A report was presented to the Improvement Panel on 31 <sup>st</sup> August using local information which showed that 62% of inspected settings were good or better. The new super groups have an impact also, we have 2 of these in the top bands. A positive meeting was held with OFSTED on 18 <sup>th</sup> October in relation to the draft CSA rating which is adequate	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 Serious Case Review Profile is now 1 Good, 4 Adequate, 2 Inadequate. The Inadequate judgement on one SCR received since the notice to improve was challenged and Ofsted re evaluated the SCR in full with a finding and amended judgement to Adequate. The LSCB worked closely with GOYH to progress outstanding action plans and	Performance

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>4. Performance Management</b>								
							<p>recommendations and three were signed off by GOYH between March and August 2010. A further two action plans have had evidence submitted against a robust evidence log and are due to be signed off by the LSCB on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.</p> <p>The SCR procedure is currently being revised to reflect Working Together (2010) and a IMR Quality Assurance Toolkit has been developed to ensure maximum learning from serious cases.</p>	
	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	<p>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. A report on the latest OFSTED profile was submitted to Panel on 31<sup>st</sup> August. This has been assessed as the strongest block, meeting the requirements of performing well and indicates that we are in line or better than statistical neighbours and national, however this only supplements the other 2 blocks.</p> <p>A positive meeting was held with OFSTED on 18<sup>th</sup> October in relation to the draft CSA rating which is adequate</p>	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	<p>A report on the latest OFSTED profile was reported to panel on 31<sup>st</sup> August, it was thought however that overall there is still a high level of risk in particular relating to Block A inspections.</p> <p>A positive meeting was held with OFSTED on 18<sup>th</sup> October in relation to the draft CSA rating which is adequate</p>	Performance

**Operational Targets**

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
<b>5. 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	October 2010	Gani Martins	→ Amber	Of the permanent establishment posts we have 15 posts vacant (15.8 %) with 14 of these covered by agency staff, leaving 1 social worker post unfilled. Appointments have been made to the 14 posts and new staff are due to commence their employment before and after Christmas. As part of the fieldwork review we have increased the number of social worker posts from 89 to 95	Social Care / Workforce
	Reduce the vacancy rate of team managers from the December 2009 baseline to meet the improvement notice target	33% 16th December 2009	16% vacancy rate by October 2010 8% vacancy rate by March 2011	October 2010	Gani Martins	→ Amber	There are 15 Team Manager posts in the establishment with 3 vacancies, however 3 of these are covered by agency staff.	Social Care / Workforce
	Recruit 30 new Foster Carers	126 (January 2009)	156	March 2011	Gani Martins	→ Amber	There are currently 142 foster carers, with 13 being recruited since April 2010 and 5 have resigned. Currently there are 22 being assessed. Our 2010 Fostering Recruitment campaign 60 registration of interest since September.	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	↑ Amber	The recruitment campaign for permanent social workers and team managers continues however, there is still major expenditure on agency staffing. Expenditure on agency social workers and team managers to date is £906,585 and agency admin £33,219. It is anticipated that the savings target of £440,000 will not be met.	Workforce / Finance

**CYPS Achievements – (CYPP 4 Big Things)  
Tackling Inequality**

- Rotherham has been rated the best in the region for children getting their first choice of secondary school 97%. (2009)
- The Quarter 2 figure for NEETS is 7.7% higher than national at 6.4% (Oct 2010)
- 2010 Year 11 school leavers – 94.4% of these are in learning and only 3.8% are not in education, employment or training (NEET) ( Nov 10)

**Keeping Children and Young People Safe**



- CPP lasting over 2 years have reduced from the 2008/09 outturn of 4.8% to 4% (2009/10)
- 100% of CPP are reviewed within timescales. Child Protection Reviews are maintaining the top 100% performance (2009/10)
- LAC Reviews in timescales improved from 96.5% to 97.1% (2009/10)
- 

### **Prevention and Early Intervention**

- 97% of all Rotherham Schools (including PRUs) have achieved National Healthy Schools Status (2009/10)
- Childhood obesity for both reception and Year 6 has improved by 2% and we are now in line with our statistical neighbours. (09/10)
- 86% of children and young people participate in 2 hours+ sport or PE (increase of 25% since 2006) (2009/10)
- Rotherham are the first Authority in the country to have 2 childminders achieve the Quality Mark for Early Years by the Basic Skills Agency (2010)
- Since 2005/6 there has been a 34% reduction in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system. (2009/10)
- 79% of Rotherham's Under 5s are currently part of the Imagination Library Project, that's 11,736 children. ( Sept 2010)
- 87.5% of care leavers are in employment, education or training, an improvement of 23.9% since the end of March 2010, exceeding the target of 67%.. (2010)
- Primary School Lunch take up 44.6% in 2009/10 up from 41.2% in 2008/9, higher than national average (Oct 2010)
- The number of under 18 conceptions continues to fall. In comparison with our statistical neighbours we rank the 3<sup>rd</sup> best performance out of 11 as at September 2009 ( Nov 10)

### **Transforming Rotherham Learning**

- 97.5% of schools are meeting Extended Services Core Offer. (09/10)
- Ofsted have judged Hilltop School to be outstanding in all major areas including Safeguarding.(2010)
- Thornhill has been judged by Ofsted as outstanding with an outstanding capacity to improve. (2010)
- 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 (2009)
- Rotherham Schools Music Service - Second outstanding Ofsted inspection report. (2009)
- Achievement at Foundation Stage has improved from 50.4% in 2009 to 56.6% in 2010 ( including PSE and CLL) (2010)
- A Level achievement in 2010 has shown a 1.1% increase from 2009 ( provisional data) (2010)
- GCSE results 5 A\* to C has increased by 6.43% since 2009 , 3.41% including English and Maths (2010)
- GCSE results for Looked After Children 5 A\* to C including English and Maths 25.9%, and 40.7% not including English and Maths (provisional data) (2010)

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1. Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>2. Date:</b>	<b>21 January 2011</b>
<b>3. Title:</b>	<b>Work programme update</b>
<b>4. Directorate:</b>	<b>Chief Executive's All wards</b>

**5. Summary**

The report updates Members on the progress of the work programme for the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel for the 2010/11 municipal year.

**6. Recommendations**

- a. The Panel are asked to discuss the work programme and identify if there are additional issues it wishes to scrutinise or prioritise.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

An outline work programme was agreed by the Scrutiny Panel in June 2010. In line with its remit and Corporate Priorities, the panel agreed to structure its work programme around the broad five Every Child Matters themes and issues arising from the Notice to Improve. However, mindful that the election of the Coalition Government may bring changes to legislation and a shift in policy direction, the Panel agreed that its work programme should be revisited in early 2011. The panel is asked for its views on issues to be considered for the remaining meetings in this municipal year and also to feed in issues to be scrutinised in 2011/12.

7.1 The panel has covered a wide range of issues over the municipal year. To date this as included:

- Youth service provision: proposed review (arising from recommendations from the scrutiny review: Future Challenges for Rotherham Young People's Service)
- Transforming Rotherham Learning (update)
- World Class Primary Schools
- 14-19 strategy
  
- Update on scrutiny reviews:
  - Support for newly arrived children in schools
  - Road safety outside schools
  - Personal, Social, Health and Education
  - Corporate Parenting Arrangements
  - School Closure due to extreme weather (awaiting Cabinet response)
  
- Annual reports
  - Imagination Library - update
  - Comment and Complaints
  - Primary and Lifestyle Survey
  - Teenage Pregnancy Strategy
  
- Aiming High for Disabled Children
- Substance misuse
- Child poverty needs assessment
- Update on implementation of early intervention and prevention strategy (including parenting strategy)
- Commissioning of placements for Looked After Children
  
- Regular updates
  - Notice to Improve
  - Updates of action plans emerging from inspection

In addition, Members participated in a Safeguarding training event facilitated by IDeA and NSPCC.

7.2 The Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children requested that the Panel undertake a review into the apparent rise in diagnoses of autism in Rotherham. Initial discussions have taken place and it is intended that the review group reconvenes later in the month.

- 7.3 Within the Panel's health scrutiny role, a small working group has been established to examine the awaited proposals from the England-wide review of Children's Cardiac Surgery Services. The proposals are yet to be published, however if they amount to a 'significant variation' to regional services, the working group have agreed to examine the proposals to establish the potential effect these may have on local services and patient access to the regional centre (currently based at Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust). The working group agreed to participate in a Joint Regional Scrutiny Panel to scrutinise their wider impact. The proposals are expected in February 2011.
- 7.4 There are a number of issues that have been identified by members that have yet to be scheduled. The panel requested that a meeting be held to explore the potential impact of the Education White Paper: *The Importance of Teaching* on schools, the local authority and the wider community. It is proposed that this is scheduled for its March meeting.
- 7.5 Other issues to be scheduled include the Safeguarding Annual Report, Young Carer's Strategy and School Performance.

## **8. Finance**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, although recommendations from reviews or from panel meeting may have financial implications should they be implemented. This would require further exploration by the Senior Leadership Team or relevant body as to the risks or benefits attached to the recommendations.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

- 9.1 Given the budget pressures faced by the Council, it is essential that Overview and Scrutiny focuses on key priorities.
- 9.2 The work programme is flexible and issues may be referred to the Panel which are not known about at this stage. The work programme therefore, must be realistic in terms of the Panel's capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. If additional items are added, the panel may have to re-prioritise which issues it wishes to scrutinise.

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

Scrutiny panels have a key role in scrutinising the effectiveness of services. The areas identified for future scrutiny should complement the priorities identified in the Community Strategy, Corporate Plan and the Every Child Matters agenda.

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

This report has been brought at the request of Cllr Ann Russell

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL  
10th December, 2010**

Present:- Councillor G. A. Russell (in the Chair); Councillors Ali, Dodson, Fenoughty and Kaye.

Also in attendance were:- Councillor Paul Lakin (Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children) and co-opted members Mr. M. Burn, Mrs. J. Blanch-Nicholson and Dr. Susan Warren.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Councillors Buckley, Falvey, License, Sharp and Sims and Co-opted Members Mr. C. A. Marvin and Mrs. L. Pitchley.

**74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**75. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

**76. MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE YOUTH CABINET**

The Youth Cabinet had contributed to the scrutiny review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (Minute No. 79 below refers).

**77. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Scrutiny Panel discussed the following items:-

(1) The report of the recent re-inspection of the Authority's Children's Services had indicated that the Services were now performing adequately. A report about this issue will be submitted to the next meeting of this Scrutiny Panel, to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2010, including the implications for the Notice to Improve affecting Children's Services;

(2) The report about the scrutiny review of school closures due to extreme weather had been submitted to Cabinet. A response is expected early in 2011, which will be reported to this Scrutiny Panel in due course.

**78. TEENAGE PREGNANCY STRATEGY - ANNUAL REPORT 2009**

Further to Minutes No. 85 of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by Mike Brown (Rotherham PCT), which described the progress being made with the Rotherham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. A copy of the Strategy's annual report 2009 was provided for the Scrutiny Panel Members.

The current priorities of the strategy are:-

- targeted interventions with high risk young people;
- increasing the role of parents in improving outcomes for young people, particularly around talking to them about sex and relationships;
- a more systematic approach to comprehensive contraceptive provision.

The Scrutiny Panel's discussion of this item included the following salient issues:-

- the successes of the strategy (eg: project in Maltby; publication of information in the 'InControl' magazine; opening of new youth clinics);
- areas for development (eg: long term sustainability and development of targeted prevention projects; improving attendance at youth clinics); and the risks attached, given the pressures on funding;
- references to sexual in the Government's White Paper 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People';
- family planning / outreach work (CASH project);
- the implications of the responsibility for some public health services transferring to local authorities;
- the comparative costs of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and the costs to public health services of teenage pregnancies;
- the uncertainty of future funding for teenage pregnancy services.

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

(2) That the progress of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy during 2009, as identified in the annual report, be noted.

(3) That the progress of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy continue to be reported to future meetings of this Scrutiny Panel.

## **79. SCRUTINY REVIEW - PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION (PSHE)**

Further to Minute No. 137 of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 9th April, 2010 and Minute No. 119 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, consideration was given to a report, presented by Review Group Chairman Councillor Tom Fenoughty and Kay Denton-Tarn (Healthy Schools Consultant) concerning the scrutiny review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEe) was conducted by this Scrutiny Panel in conjunction with the Youth Cabinet. The report of this Scrutiny Review had been considered by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team, whose comments on the findings and recommendations were included with the submitted report.

The review made sixteen recommendations in total and these have been discussed by relevant officers and comments provided on each one. All of the recommendations were listed with a response showing whether they were to be accepted (including any caveats), either wholly or in part and showing the reasons for any non-acceptance. The implications of the change of Government upon the outcome of this Scrutiny Review were also discussed. It was noted that the Cabinet had agreed with the Strategic Leadership Team's position on each recommendation.

The Scrutiny Panel expressed the view that there ought to be further consideration of the need for school governing bodies to receive an annual report on the PSHE curriculum.

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

(2) That the Strategic Leadership Team's commentary on the Scrutiny Review into PSHE in Schools and the Cabinet's response be noted.

(3) That, with the exception of recommendation 14 (annual report on PSHE curriculum), the recommended actions of the Scrutiny Review be supported.

(4) That an update report on the implementation of the agreed recommendations be submitted to a meeting of this Scrutiny Panel in twelve months' time.

## **80. PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION STRATEGY AND PARENTING SUPPORT - UPDATE**

Further to Minute No. 124 of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 5th March, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Lead Officer for Attendance and Parenting and the Strategic Lead Officer for Prevention and Early Intervention, describing the progress made in the drive to prevent and intervene early to deal with risk factors for families and thereby improve the wellbeing of children. The report also presented some initial thinking around the co-ordination of parenting and family support.

Through the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), Children's Services professionals are being encouraged and supported to take ownership of issues and reject the notion that vulnerable children and young people are somebody else's responsibility.

Services are being challenged not automatically to refer vulnerable children and young people to other agencies, but to take on responsibility for supporting families by engaging with the appropriate professionals and working collaboratively to provide solutions which address needs. They do this by carrying out common assessments, establishing teams around the child/family, identifying lead workers, agreeing joint actions and regularly reviewing progress towards achieving agreed outcomes.

The progress made since January 2010 is now having an impact on improving the life chances of children, young people and families. The submitted report included case studies to evidence this impact, with a 'Family Savings Calculator', devised by the Government to measure the financial impact of prevention.

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

(2) That the progress being made in the full integration and implementation of the Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy be welcomed.

(3) That the progress of the Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy continue to be reported to future meetings of this Scrutiny Panel.

[Councillor Kaye declared a personal interest in the above item and did not vote]

## 81. CHILD POVERTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY

Further to Minute No. 69 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy Officer (Chief Executive's Office) stating that the Child Poverty Act 2010 placed a duty on local authorities to undertake a local assessment of need and develop a partnership strategy to reduce child poverty locally.

The report stated that during the period from October 2009, much work has been undertaken across the Council, in partnership with other stakeholders, to ensure this duty is fulfilled. A local needs assessment has been produced, which has informed the development of the draft strategy (appended to the submitted report).

The Scrutiny Panel's discussion of this item included the following salient issues:-

- contents of the draft strategy (the final document would be published during April 2011);
- details of the local needs assessment;
- housing accommodation in the Borough area and the difficulties of impoverished families;
- employment prospects and life chances;
- financial issues and credit unions.

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

(2) That the local needs assessment be noted and the priorities outlined in the draft child poverty strategy be supported.

## 82. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.



**83. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, be noted.

**84. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBER AND ADVISERS FOR SAFEGUARDING AND DEVELOPING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2010, be noted.

**85. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 12TH NOVEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 be noted.

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD**  
**Wednesday, 15th December, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Chris Boswell, Dr Russell Brynes, Alan Hazell, Kath Henderson, Ann Jackson, Martin Kimber, Richard Tweed, Janet Wheatley.

In attendance: Clare Burton, Gani Martins, Dorothy Smith and Julie Westwood

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Andy Buck, Brian James and Joyce Thacker.

**D41. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2010**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 were approved as a correct record.

**D42. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

NHS

Sarah Whittle reported that the Operating Framework had been published today.

Ofsted Annual Children's Services Assessment

Dorothy Smith reported that this year's assessment confirmed the service to be performing adequately. She thanked all partners for their contribution to this outcome.

**D43. FINAL DRAFT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD**

Pursuant to Minute No. D33 of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Members considered the Final draft Partnership Agreement for the Children and Young People's Trust Board.

Reference was made to Page 13 which detailed the Partnership Agreement and two minor amendments were made to item 2 and 3.

It was suggested and agreed that 2.11 include health and wellbeing in the wider sense.

Resolved:- (1) That these further amendments be made to the Partnership Agreement for the Children and Young People's Trust Board and that it be brought back to the next meeting for final approval.

(2) That all Members sign the Partnership Agreement and agree to its terms.

**D44. DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

This item was deferred to the next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

**D45. ROTHERHAM CHARTER FOR PARENT VOICE**

Dorothy Smith, Senior Director – Schools and Lifelong Learning presented the submitted report in respect of the Rotherham Charter for Parent Voice.

She reported that the Charter had been developed by a working group comprising members of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum, CYPS representatives, school staff and Governors, based upon research using the narrative of Rotherham parents who have children with Special Educational Needs.

The Charter is a commitment to care, include, communicate and work in partnership with parents and their children. It has four key principles, each underpinned by criteria against which schools and services may evaluate their partnership with parents. It will be supported by a practical toolkit and a training module for use by schools and services. A Charter Management Group, made up of parents, school and service personnel will be established to assess and monitor the achievement of the Charter, including at gold standard.

Initially it is designed for parents of children with additional needs, however the Charter has been developed for use by all services and partners as well as schools.

It was suggested that wider consultation was needed in respect of this and it was agreed that Pip Wise and Simon Perry be requested to attend the next meeting to re-present the report in order for Members of the Board to be better informed.

It was agreed that a copy of the Charter be emailed out to members prior to the next meeting.

Resolved:- That the report be re-presented at the next meeting and Pip Wise and Simon Perry be asked to attend.

**D46. THE KENNEDY REVIEW - GETTING IT RIGHT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Sarah Whittle presented the submitted report in respect of the Kennedy Review. The aim of the report was to raise awareness of the review and to inform members on what NHS Rotherham was undertaking to address some of the concerns raised within the review.

The review was carried out amid concerns about the services provided by the NHS to children and young people. It related in part to a number of

tragic and high profile cases and the investigations and reports that followed.

The review concentrated on understanding the role of culture in the NHS and focused on those areas where there were cultural barriers to change and improvement. It examined the NHS's position in a wider system of care and support in order to understand and improve the provision of services to children and young people.

Key findings of the review were:

The review found that although there were some excellent services from which others might learn, a large number were in need of significant improvement. Standards of care across the country were shown to vary, with some health services lacking co-ordination and struggling to communicate effectively across the complex array of organisations, units and teams.

Child mortality rates have fallen less quickly than in other EU countries and were now lagging behind. The UK also had some of the highest rates of teenage pregnancy and low-birth weight babies in Europe. These statistics were indicative of broader shortcomings in services.

A recent study for UNICEF ranked the UK bottom out of 25 industrialised countries for well-being enjoyed by children, based on a range of measures, including subjective well-being.

Many GPs have little or no experience of paediatrics as part of their professional training

Accident and emergency (A&E) had become the default option. While A&E departments dedicated to children and young people provided good care, the experience of children entering adult A&E departments could be quite different.

In successful networks of care built around specialist children's hospitals, children would receive the best possible quality of care as close to where they live as possible. Without successful networks, children might receive inappropriate or poorer-quality treatment locally, or may be required to travel long distances, receiving treatment in specialist centres that could just as easily have taken place in their local hospital.

Despite the increased awareness in the NHS of the need to safeguard children and young people, on occasions the NHS failed to provide a safe and supportive environment.

Parents and carers were often frustrated at the lack of co-ordination between services. Appointments were scheduled on consecutive days and at multiple locations, when arranging them in the same place on the same day would save a long journey and time off work.

Problems of co-ordination reflect the sheer complexity of the services that some children and young people need: a complex range of clinical services supported by complex organisational arrangements. Public perception of the NHS was that it was a single, universal system providing co-ordinated programmes of care. In fact, it was a complex array and interplay of organisations, units and teams.

The problem was particularly evident for young people whose care was passed from children's to adult services.

There was also frustration at the NHS's lack of 'join-up' with other services. There was a clear need for close collaboration between professionals in health and education to ensure that children with long-term or serious health needs did not lose out. But some head teachers and schools were reluctant to make the necessary commitment. As regards the criminal justice system, strong links between the police and the NHS were often lacking, with NHS organisations described by one senior officer as some of the police's "weakest" partners.

Children, young people and parents/carers were often frustrated that organisations failed to share relevant information appropriately. As for investment in services for children and young people, it was lowest in the very early years, which were the most crucial in the development of the brain, and increased only at the point when development slows.

There was a real sense among professionals and organisations that services for children and young people in the NHS have a low priority. Children and young people receives a disproportionately lower priority than adults in the imperatives of management and delivery, in the relative funding allocated, and in the realisation that investment in the care of children and young people would reduce the cost of care later in life.

Policy on children comes from more than one government department, it frustrates local co-operation as differences in departmental philosophy and priorities were played out in practice.

Data collection, necessary for effective management of services, was described as poor or non-existent in many areas of healthcare for children and young people.

The findings also called for a review of how young patients were progressed from children's to adult care. Currently, under what Professor Kennedy described as "a phenomenon created by the system", young patients were arbitrarily moved from children's services to adults services because they turn 16 or 18, regardless of their needs.

**Some of the reviews recommendations were:**

The single most important change in the NHS would be able to make sure children's health services were prioritised, as highly as adult services

were, from 'minus nine months'; the moment a child is conceived

The review recommended that focus be given to getting policy right, for GPs to be given additional paediatric training and for investment to be shifted towards children and young people's health services.

The creation of a single point of responsibility for children's health and wellbeing, linked in to other public services used by children, with an identified funding stream for their health and healthcare. This will ensure a more unified and holistic approach to their welfare and should be a Local Partnership

A shift of investment by the NHS, especially towards early years and mental health, to improve lives in the long-term, as well as improve cost effectiveness;

A focus on prevention, early intervention and wider well-being instead of the current model of treating illness and injury;

Responsibility for policy relating to children's healthcare and wider well-being being brought together;

Focus to be given to getting policy right, and for GPs to be given additional paediatric training and for investment to be shifted towards children and young people's health services.

The professionals caring for children should train together, to a common curriculum. This would foster the mutual trust and teamwork that were at the core of high quality services.

A question and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised:-

- Plans need to be embedded into services
- How would progress be fed into the Board in future
- It was felt that changes needed to be made with very young children
- We need to rethink/review Children's Centres with a view to developing them to support children over 5 years old.
- It was suggested that an action plan be produced encompassing both this and the prevention and early intervention agenda, to avoid duplication of work.

Resolved:- (1) That it be noted that Infant mortality in Rotherham had reached the UK average

(2) That it be noted that Rotherham's children's plan addresses many of the key themes highlighted in the Kennedy report.

Mike Brown presented the submitted report in respect of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Annual Report 2009.

The Annual Report highlighted the impact of the Strategy Refresh which took place in October 2008 and provided an overview and analysis of the Strategy interventions.

The interventions within the report were based upon models of good practice and aimed to prevent the negative outcomes for young parents and their children by reducing early conceptions and providing support for teen families. The work aimed to address the social risk factors of teenage pregnancy, which contributed to work around wider social issues such as safeguarding, deprivation, child poverty and educational attainment.

The identified successes from 2009 and the areas which could be developed further included:

#### Successes

- Early indications of a steep decline in under-18 conception rates
- Increased attendance at youth clinics and the Contraception and Sexual Health Service
- 95% uptake of contraception post termination within RFT Pregnancy Advisory Service
- Increased uptake of Long Acting Reversible Contraception
- 'Pep Talks' were well received and valued by female pupils as part of Sex and Relationships Education
- The Maltby Linx Young Women's Project was a national finalist for the Health and Social Care awards for success in partnership working
- The launch of 'The S-Word' we need to talk about sex' with regional recognition as a model of good practice
- The production and dissemination of two 'In Control' magazines
- The introduction of Rotherham's sexual health week.

#### Areas for development

- Increase uptake of LARC further, including transferring pill users to LARC as a more effective contraception
- Develop a one day training session covering all key elements of sexual health
- Increase the percentage of people operating the Hardwear scheme that have accessed the training
- Consideration to be given to poorly attended youth clinics
- Increase the number of pharmacists providing 'help72' the free emergency contraception scheme in order to increase coverage and availability throughout the Borough

- Long term sustainability and development of targeted prevention projects.

Concerns were raised about future funding in respect of sexual health and it was agreed that the Chief Executive of Rotherham Borough Council and NHS Rotherham would meet to discuss this further.

Reference was made to the proposed closures of youth centres and concerns were raised that there were youth clinics within these centres which would close along with them.

Resolved:- That the progress of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy during 2009 as identified in the annual report be noted.

#### **D48. UPDATE ON LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services presented the submitted report which updated the Children and Young People's Trust Board on recent developments in services to looked after children.

##### Organisational Changes

Fieldwork services had undergone a recent reorganisation that saw the setting up of a dedicated service to looked after children and young people. Two social work teams and the Looked After and Adopted Children's Support Team had been grouped under a service manager to supervise the cases of children who had been or were likely to be in the care system for more than two years.

Evidence from other areas where LAC teams were well established showed that social worker retention was much improved and there were greater opportunities to form close working relationships with colleagues from other disciplines to improve outcomes for looked after children and care leavers. The teams had the advantage of being co-located with the Get Real Team and this was already starting to show benefits in improved planning.

##### Looked After Children Numbers

The number of looked after children had reduced to 407. The number of children can change on a daily basis as children come in to care or are returned home, adopted or reach 18 but generally the number had been at around over 400 for the last six months.

Efforts were being made to ensure that children who could be supported within their families received co-ordinated support packages. A new inter-agency resource panel had been established to improve planning support for all children who were at risk of coming into care or who had been admitted to care in an emergency and need support to return home. The



effects of this Panel would be monitored over its first three months and reported on at the end of January.

The establishment of a family finding post in the Adoption Service had improved the number of children placed for adoption although timeliness of placement remained a problem area as the understandable, strategic decision was made that efforts would be targeted on these children who had been waiting longest for placement. Twenty seven children were currently being placed for adoption and the projected number of adoptions for the current year was in excess of thirty.

The Authority was starting to make good use of Special Guardianship Orders and was promoting this order with kinship carers and long term foster carers as a permanency option that had advantages over fostering.

### Fostering

The Service was actively recruiting carers and hopes to add 15 more families by March 2011. It had been focussing on younger children during the autumn but would turn its campaigning efforts towards older children who needed long term care in the New Year.

The service was also promoting kinship care and two workers were specialising in assessing and supporting family members as foster carers in recognition of the special challenges they faced.

A second Fostering Panel was scheduled to come into operation in February 2011.

### Education

GCSE results in August showed the continued trend of improvement with 26% achieving 5 A\*- C including English and Maths which was well above the national average of 15%.

### Corporate Parenting

A Corporate Parenting Group had been established offering members and officers (including the NHS) an opportunity to focus on outcomes for looked after children and to develop an agenda that included, monitoring performance, engaging with children and young people, receiving Ofsted reports and getting a more in-depth understanding of services for looked after children. The group would meet on a 6 weekly basis and receive reports and presentations from a range of individuals and services.

Members had also had the opportunity to attend training to raise their awareness of their responsibilities as Corporate Parents and more sessions were –planned in January.

A question and answer session ensued and the following points were

raised:

- Concerns were raised about the number of looked after children out of the Borough. It was confirmed that in addition to the strategy now in place to address this within the service, there was also a piece of work which was being undertaken across the region in respect commissioning for out of area placements.
- Reference was made to a report which was to be presented to Cabinet in respect of the change of facility to replace the Orchard Centre.

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

#### **D49. COMMISSIONING FOR OUTCOMES AND EFFICIENCIES**

Clare Burton gave a powerpoint presentation in respect of Commissioning for Outcomes and Efficiencies.

The presentation drew specific attention to:-

- A Commissioning for Outcomes Exercise
- Why this is required
- What we want from the exercise
- Identifying the Needs
- Identifying the Outcomes
- Other considerations
- Agreeing a way forward

Members of the Board agreed that the workshop which was to take place in respect of this should be deferred to the next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and be the first item on the agenda along with the report in respect of Prevention and Early Intervention. This would allow input from all partners on the Board.

#### **D50. CHILD POVERTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY**

Kate Taylor, Policy Officer gave a powerpoint presentation in respect of ending Child Poverty in Rotherham.

The presentation drew specific attention to:

- The National Context
- Reference to the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013
- Measuring Child Poverty
- Needs Assessment
- Developing a local Strategy
- Priorities
- Delivering Priorities

- Measuring Success
- What's Next

A question and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised:

- Reference was made to income and employment and it was noted that there would be no funding for social inclusion after the end of March 2011.
- A query was raised about who was on the Steering Group who had undertaken the work so far. It was confirmed that there were representatives from the Council, NHS, Job Centre Plus, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, South Yorkshire Police and the Voluntary Sector.
- Concerns were raised about who would be responsible for implementing the Strategy and monitoring it.
- It was noted that some of the children affected could in fact have parents employed by the Council and it was felt that consideration needed to be given about how they can be supported.
- Reference was made to the labour market in Rotherham and it was suggested that this be promoted positively rather than negatively.

Members of the Board thanked Kate for her informative presentation and looked forward to future updates.

#### **D51. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Agreed:- That the dates and times for future meetings be as follows:

##### Children and Young People's Trust Board

- 19<sup>th</sup> January
- 9<sup>th</sup> March
- 18<sup>th</sup> May
- 20<sup>th</sup> July
- 14<sup>th</sup> September
- 16<sup>th</sup> November

Meetings to commence at 4.00 pm at the Town Hall

##### Children and Young People's Trust Board Executive Group

- 12<sup>th</sup> January
- 23<sup>rd</sup> February
- 30<sup>th</sup> March
- 27<sup>th</sup> April
- 8<sup>th</sup> June
- 13<sup>th</sup> July
- 10<sup>th</sup> August
- 7<sup>th</sup> September

- 12<sup>th</sup> October
- 9<sup>th</sup> November

Meetings to commence at 1.30 pm at the Town Hall

**SAFEGUARDING AND DEVELOPING LEARNING  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN - 15/12/10****CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFEGUARDING AND  
DEVELOPING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN  
15th December, 2010**

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

**D91. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**D92. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AD YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board, held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, be noted.

**D93. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT - QUARTER 2 2010/2011**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Director Resources, Planning and Performance outlining the Children and Young People's Services Directorate's performance at the end of 2010/11 Quarter two against targets, with direction of travel against the previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbours and national data. Discussion took place on the following indicators:-

- recruitment of Social Workers;
- placements of Looked After Children;
- coverage of breast-feeding;
- pupil attainment levels at Key Stage 2.

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

(2) That the recommendations regarding performance clinics, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.

(3) That this performance report be also submitted to the Children and Young People's Trust Board.

(4) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children describing the way in which the progress and improvement of pupil attainment levels at Key Stage 2 are assessed.

**D94. SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDERS - FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Consideration of this report was deferred until the next meeting, pending receipt of information about the current year's budget for Special Guardianship Orders.

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**SAFEUGARDING AND DEVELOPINIG LEARNING  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN - 15/12/10**

**D95. 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 Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended (information relating to financial or business affairs of both the Local Authority and private sector contractors).

**D96. EDUCATION CATERING SERVICES TRADING STATEMENT 2010-2011**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Catering Officer detailing the forecast outturn trading position for the Education Catering Service based upon trade from April to October, 2010.

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

**1DCABINET MEMBER FOR SAFEGUARDING AND DEVELOPING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN - 05/01/11**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFEGUARDING AND DEVELOPING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN  
Wednesday, 5th January, 2011**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Councillors Havenhand and Sangster.  
(Councillor Littleboy attended the meeting for item D99).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Currie.

**D97. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**D98. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board, held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, be noted.

**D99. APPOINTMENT OF LEA SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

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

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

(i) New Appointments

Brinsworth Whitehill Primary	Ms. Melvine Stubbs	4.1.2011
Coleridge Primary	Mrs. Katy Edmondson	4.1.2011
Sitwell Infant	Mr. Tajamal Khan	4.1.2011
Sitwell Junior	Mr. Tajamal Khan	4.1.2011
Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary	Mrs. Julie Westwood	4.1.2011
Whiston Worrygoose Primary	Mr. Patrick White	4.1.2011
Aston All Saints CE Primary	Mr. Donald Blow	4.1.2011

(ii) Re-appointments

Ravenfield Primary	Mr. Adrian King	11.11.2010
Clifton Comprehensive	Mr. Robert Cook	22.1.2011
Swinton Comprehensive	Mrs. Eleanor M. Wesley	27.1.2011

**D100. 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 Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local

Government Act 1972, as amended (information relating to financial or business affairs of both the local authority and others).

**D101. SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDERS - FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Further to Minute No. D94 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Interim Service Manager (Provider Services) summarising the background to Special Guardianship Orders, the circumstances in which financial support is given and the impact on looked after children numbers.

The report stated that the Adoption and Children Act 2002 amended the Children Act 1989 to introduce Special Guardianship Orders which came into force in December 2005. A summary of the Special Guardianship Regulations 2005 was included in the report. The purpose of a Special Guardianship Order is to provide a permanency option, more secure than a Residence Order, for children and families for whom adoption is not appropriate.

Members debated the budget implications relating to Special Guardianship Orders.

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

(2) That the budget implications relating to Special Guardianship Orders, as now reported, be noted.



**PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**  
**17th December, 2010**

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

Also in attendance was Councillor Currie for item 101 below (Review of PE and Sport in Schools)

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor McNeely), Councillors Jack and Whysall.

**93.           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**94.           QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS.**

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

**95.           REQUIREMENT TO PUBLISH SPEND ABOVE £500**

Further to Minute No. C97 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 3rd November, 2010, the Committee considered a report by the Strategic Director of Finance, which set out that as part of its Open Data Agenda, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government wrote to all local authorities in June, 2010 committing them to publish items of spending over £500 including tenders, contracts and actual payments by January, 2011. The Government had also recently announced its intention to publish certain information on salaries by this date. This report did not consider this aspect of the open data agenda which was being considered by Strategic HR and RBT HR/Payroll.

A previous report to the Strategic Leadership Team indicated the intention of publishing the Council's actual payments greater than £500 using internal resources. Subsequent to that report, further regulatory guidance had been released and there had been an opportunity to meet with a specialist, external data analyst, Spikes Cavell, who currently provided the Council with data analyst services for the procurement activity. This report, therefore, considered the potential business benefits and mitigation of adverse risks that could be achieved by using Spikes Cavell, to process and publish spend data via their 'Spot Light on Spend' website.

Further information was provided on Spikes Cavell Ltd and on the publishing of supplementary information.

The annual cost of working with Spikes Cavell would be £8,310 for the provision of the Contracts Module and the provision of monthly spend data (£500) that would be published on the website. It was understood that the Yorkshire and Humber RIEP was now expected to provide funding to Local Authorities to undertake such spend analysis using Spikes Cavell. The company had confirmed that a refund or credit for any sum paid prior to funding being received would be returned to the Council.

The use of Spikes Cavell in processing and publishing contract and spend data would help to mitigate the risk that the Council did not fully meet the evolving open data agenda and publicised data that breached data protection legislation.

Stuart Booth, Director of Central Finance, gave a presentation which covered:-

- Why the need to publish?
- What needs to be published?
- Rotherham's plan and timeline
- Communication with the public
- Spotlight on spend publication
- Spend with supplier
- Data download format

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

- work done by Spikes Cavell
- number of transactions above £500
- need for a counter mechanism to identify 'hits' on the site
- assistance available for any interested parish councils
- data security
- costs to the Authority
- potential for capturing information regarding shared/joint services

Resolved:- That the information and resolutions set out at Minute No. C97 of Cabinet held on 3rd November, 2010 be noted.

#### **96. PAYMENT OF INVOICES WITHIN THIRTY DAYS - FORMER BVPI 8**

Sarah McCall, Performance Officer, presented the submitted report setting out details of the former Best Value Performance Indicator 8 which measured the payment of undisputed invoices within 30 days. The Council had agreed an average annual target of 96% for performance of BVPI8 for 2010/11.

Outturn performance for recent years had achieved:-

2006/07	91%
2007/08	94%
2008/09	92%
2009/10	94.65%

Performance against BVPI8 was not as consistent as it should be and it had been recognised that the Council should act to instil and embed good practice in this area and work was ongoing to that effect.

Recent performance for the new financial year had achieved:-

April	98.15%
May	96.90%
June	94.87%
July	94.84%
August	94.21%
September	94.47%
October	93.12%
November	95.55%

If the Council under performed on BVPI8 then this may have an effect on our CPA score. Vulnerable smaller suppliers may also experience financial difficulties due to delayed payment which goes against our commitment to the SME Friendly Concordat.

Making late payments to suppliers could damage relationships between the Council and suppliers and could potentially cause cash flow difficulties for suppliers, dependant on invoice values and suppliers' turnover. It was possible that late payments could result in suppliers putting our account 'on stop' which could cause delays to Council projects. Ultimately late payment could result in the matter being referred to court.

Resolved:- That the current position in respect of BVPI8 be noted.

## **97. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY ACTION PLAN**

Sarah McCall, Performance Officer, presented the submitted report setting out details of the purpose of the Procurement Strategy which was to set out how the Council intended to procure its goods, works and services in order to support the Authority's overall aims and objectives over the life span of the Strategy. It outlined the Council's current position and clearly pointed to areas where we needed to improve, with a supporting action plan to deliver those areas. The action plan would be managed by the Council's Procurement Panel,

The Strategy was aligned with the Council's Corporate Commissioning Framework which examined how the Council could strategically pull together all commissioning activity to ensure maximum gain from any efficiencies that may be generated.

If the actions in the above plan were not met the refreshed Corporate Procurement Strategy may not be fully implemented and embedded across the Council which could impact on the Council's ability to evidence value for money.

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

- potential for the red rated equality and diversity issues to impact adversely on the Council's excellent equalities standard
- Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel to look at the issue of conducting equality and diversity audits on two key supplier per year
- progress meeting regarding use of Fairtrade products in all Council owned cafes

Resolved:- That the current position in respect of the action plan be noted.

#### **98. PROCUREMENT LOCAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Sarah McCall, Performance Officer, presented the submitted report setting out details of the local indicators developed in 2007 to measure the Council's procurement function in terms of delivery of the Procurement Strategy and day-to-day management of the procurement function. The suite of indicators was updated in 2009 to ensure effective monitoring.

The report set out details of the indicators, targets and performance for quarter two of the financial year 2010/11.

Performance against these LPIs would reflect how the Corporate Procurement Strategy was being implemented and embedded across the Council which could impact on the Council's ability to evidence value for money.

Resolved:- That current performance be noted.

#### **99. RBT QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE**

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report summarising the performance of RBT against contractual measures for July, August and September, 2010 and key areas of work for the year 2010/11 across the areas of Customer Access, Human Resources and Payroll, ICT, Procurement and Revenues and Benefits.

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

- extending payment options
- avoidable contact Siebel enhancement
- academies
- network migration costs/savings
- Mod.gov
- IT equipment, Town Hall

Resolved:- (1) That RBT's performance against contractual measures for July, August and September, 2010 be noted.

(2) That the Member Training and Development Panel be provided with an update on Mod.gov.

(3) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of scrutiny panels consider having an item on their respective panel agendas regarding IT equipment in the Town Hall including a demonstration on the use of laptops.

**100. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - UPDATE ON IMPLICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT POLICY**

Further to Minute No. 39 of the meeting of this Committee held on 23rd July, 2010, Steve Eling, Principal Policy Officer (Parliamentary Analysis) presented the submitted report providing an update following key policy announcements, the comprehensive spending review and business plans and the emerging legislative framework.

The Council's Local Government Reform Implementation Plan had been developed further and aligned to the themes of the Council's Corporate Plan. This enabled the Council to identify issues arising from the Council's priorities from specific Government policy implementation.

The report set out, at headline level, the most important Government policy announcements and papers to date, together with planned announcements aligned to the Council's following priorities:-

- Making sure no community is left behind
- Providing quality education, ensuring people have opportunities to improve skills, learn and get a job
- Ensuring care and protection are available for those people who need it most
- Helping to create safe and healthy communities
- Improving the environment
- Outside of priorities of priority themes

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

- briefing for Members
- special briefing on the Localism Bill
- requirements for an elected Mayor
- planning changes

- requirement for a Standards Committee
- viability of returning to the 'committee' system
- business rates
- petitions
- scrutiny arrangements

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

(2) That the policy implications and risks associated with the development and implementation of the new Government policy be noted.

(3) That further reports be submitted as appropriate on policy developments and implementation, including relevant legislation.

## **101. REVIEW OF PE AND SPORT IN SCHOOLS**

Councillor Currie presented the submitted report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review of P.E. and Sport in Schools.

The subsequent change of Government in May, 2010 had meant a fundamental shift in policy around sport in school at national level and recent announcements would enforce changes to the way in which school sports partnerships were funded if they were to survive. As a result the review group had reconvened to revise its original recommendations.

The background to, and rationale for, the review was outlined along with the changes resulting in the revised recommendations.

Also submitted was a draft business plan template with regard to the maintenance of school sport partnerships in Rotherham.

The Committee welcomed Paul Harper and Matt Wainwright from the Wickersley and Rawmarsh School Sports Partnerships respectively who gave a presentation which covered:-

- Schools Sports Partnership
- The Rotherham Offer
  - Structure
  - Strategies
  - Wide Range
  - High Engagement
- Inter School Festival Activity

- 3 Questions
  - What opportunities
  - To what extent
  - What can we do to support any school not engaged
- What will happen if school sports partnerships cease to exist
- Data : Primary Cluster, Secondary Schools Engagement, Overall Learning Community Engagement, Summative engagement description
- Roll of Honour Data
- Partnership Data

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

- reduction in funding regime for school sports partnerships
- importance of timescale regarding budget considerations
- essential everyone engaged : schools, heads, governors, etc.
- essential to feed considerations into budget process
- need to publicise sport in schools e.g. UK School Games in Sheffield next year.

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

(2) That the review report, together with the findings and revised recommendations, be forwarded to Cabinet with a view to action in the light of changes to the funding regime for school sports partnerships.

(3) That, in the light of the timescale given for funding cuts to be imposed (31st March, 2011) Cabinet be requested to respond urgently.

(4) That every effort be made to discuss this matter as part of the current budget process.

## **102. GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS**

Further to Minute No. D56(3) of the meeting of this Committee held on 24th September, 2010, Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny, presented the submitted report regarding proposals for the development and management of responses to Government consultations.

The proposed process allowed for a differentiated approach which enabled a speedy response where timelines were short and which was proportionate to the strategic significance of the consultation.

Processes for dealing with strategic consultations and service specific consultations were outlined.

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

(2) That a further report be prepared for approval by the Strategic Leadership Team and Cabinet aimed at establishing a formal process for consultation responses and ensuring that members were engaged appropriately and effectively.

(3) That the report include a schedule of a known forthcoming consultations identifying the appropriate leads and approach for approval.

### **103. MINUTES**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

### **104. WORK IN PROGRESS**

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor G. A. Russell reported that the latest meeting of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel had considered:-

- Teenage Pregnancy Strategy : Annual Report 2009
- Scrutiny Review : Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)
- Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy and Parenting Support Update
- Child Poverty Needs Assessment and Strategy

(b) Cath Saltis (on behalf of The Mayor, Councillor McNeely) reported the following issues which had been raised at the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel:-

- need for workforce planning to ensure that when people leave the Authority, their knowledge is retained. Also to ensure continuity of business should someone be on holiday or absent through sickness etc.
- need for scrutiny panels to consider which performance indicators need to be retained and which may be desirable to add as our own
- need for scrutiny members to attend performance clinics

Resolved:- That scrutiny panels consider the performance indicator issue relating to their own service areas.



**105. CALL-IN ISSUES**

There were no formal call in requests.

**106. SARAH MCCALL**

The Chairman reported that this was to be Sarah's last meeting presenting performance reports.

The Committee placed on record its thanks to Sarah for her service to the Committee and wished her all the very best for the future.