

## Review (by OSMB) of the Petition Response from Sharon Kemp (dated 26.10.18) - 27.2.19

The members of the Oversight and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) are asked to consider the following 8 points.

- 1 The response on 26.10.18 from the Chief Executive to the petition (addressed on 5.9.18) stated:  
*“Your petition called on the Chief Executive to apologise to every individual who has not had an annual assessment.”*
- 2 The petition addressed in the Council meeting on 5 September 2018 **did more than ask for an apology**. It called *on the Chief Executive of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) to write a letter of apology to every individual who did not have an annual assessment completed, as best practice required, under the Care Act 2014 between 1 August 2017 and 31 July 2018.*
- 3 On 28 August 2018, Anne Marie Lubanski, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health issued the following statistics:  
  
Out of a total of 3643 customers who are in receipt of an RMBC funded service,  
**1424 (39.19%) have not had a review or reassessment in the last 12 months.**  
  
This is broken down as follows:  
**471 (1-2 years);**  
**390 (2-3years);**  
**433 (3-4 years)**  
**130 (over 4 years).**
- 4 The answer to a question tabled at the Rotherham Council meeting on 25 June 2018 stated:  
*“It is correct that the Care Act [2014] requires the local authority to ensure that the support package an individual receives is adequate and proportional. Best practice requires the local authority to review an individual annually. However, some individuals due to their complex and changing needs may be reviewed several times a year.”*
- 5 In her response on 26.10.18 the Chief Executive does not even apologise. There is no reference to the action the petition called for – that she *“write a letter of apology to every individual who did not have an annual assessment completed”*.
- 6 In her response the Chief Executive states *“we have acknowledged previously that our timeliness of assessments has not been at a standard we would wish”* but offers no apology.
- 7 The stated values of RMBC include the following:

### Respectful

We show regard and sensitivity for the feelings, rights and views of others.

- Value others as individuals
- Respect differences
- See things from another's point of view
- Pay attention to people's differing needs
- Be polite



- 8 The Chief Executive should lead by example in her actions and demonstrate that **she values others as individuals, respect differences, sees things from another's point of view, pays attention to people's differing needs and be polite by:**

*writing a letter of apology to every individual who did not have an annual assessment completed, as best practice required, under the Care Act 2014 between 1 August 2017 and 31 July 2018.*

## Petition Response – Sharon Kemp 26.10.18

From: [Kemp, Sharon](#)

Sent: 26 October 2018 14:46

Subject: Petition

Dear Mr Harron

Your petition called on the Chief Executive to apologise to every individual who has not had an annual assessment. The authority faces the same challenges and pressures as other social care authorities in respect of undertaking reviews and re-assessments and we have acknowledged previously that our timeliness of assessments has not been at a standard we would wish. However, we are currently working with people who have care and support needs and their carers and families to ensure all assessments going forward will be undertaken with the person at the heart of the assessment.

The number of cases that the petition refers to were provided to you in an email from me dated 28 August 2018 and are separately recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5 September 2018, where the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health responded to a question from a member of the public. You can find those minutes on the Council's website through this link –

<https://modern.gov.rotherham.gov.uk/documents/s117510/Council%20Meeting%205th%20September%202018.pdf>

Thank you for submitting your petition to the Council.

Kind regards

**Sharon Kemp**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council**

---

---

### Petition - Signing Sheet Heading

#### Chief Executive write a letter of apology

This petition by Stand Up For Rotherham calls on the Chief Executive of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) to write a letter of apology to every individual who did not have an annual assessment completed, as best practice required, under the Care Act 2014 between 1 August 2017 and 31 July 2018 and to state publicly how many individuals this affects.

#### Background

The answer to a question tabled at the Rotherham Council meeting on 25 June 2018 stated:

*"It is correct that the Care Act [2014] requires the local authority to ensure that the support package an individual receives is adequate and proportional. Best practice requires the local authority to review an individual annually. However, some individuals due to their complex and changing needs may be reviewed several times a year."*

---