

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

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Councillor Chris Read

Mr L Harron

by email

4 February 2020

Dear Mr Harron

Council Meeting – 22nd January 2020

Thank you for attending last week's council meeting and for your supplementary question relating to the public consultation which the council will shortly be undertaking relating to commissioning services for adult survivors of CSE.

As you may be aware the council commissioned ACEPPE to undertake pre-consultation research to help develop its future commissioned services. This research attempted to engage with RMBC's commissioned providers as well as Swinton Lock and Apna Haq who also continue to work with survivors. Apna Haq and Swinton Lock had significant engagement whilst engagement with the commissioned providers was limited and therefore, to ensure that a wide range of voices were captured, existing commissioned providers were asked to complete questionnaires and attend focus groups with service users. The full needs analysis will be presented to the Improving Lives Select Commission on 10th March 2020.

During the Council meeting you specifically asked how the council would ensure that the next stage of the public consultation could reach the people who would not engage with the normal questionnaire preferring to be hidden away with the people they could trust. You also asked how the consultation process would be managed.

A public consultation, via an online survey will open on Thursday 5th March and will run for 30 days. Work is being undertaken with the Council's communications staff to agree the most effective way to promote the survey to as wide an audience as possible and specifically aiming to reach groups and individuals that prefer to engage in different ways this is likely to include use of local media, social media and community groups.

I hope the information above is useful.

Yours sincerely,



**Councillor Chris Read
Leader of Rotherham Council**