

<b>Minutes</b>	
<b>Title of Meeting:</b>	<b>PUBLIC</b> Rotherham Place Board: Partnership Business
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	10.00am – 10.45am
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Wednesday 17 September 2025
<b>Venue:</b>	John Smith Room, Rotherham Town Hall
<b>Chair:</b>	Chris Edwards
<b>Contact for Meeting:</b>	Lydia George: lydia.george@nhs.net/ Wendy Commons: wcommons@nhs.net
<b>Apologies:</b>	Wendy Allott, Director of Financial Transformation - Roth, NHS SY ICB Richard Jenkins, Chief Executive, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust Toby Lewis, Chief Executive, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust John Edwards, Chief Executive, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Mat Cottle-Shaw, Chief Executive Officer, Rotherham Hospice Anand Barmade, Clinical Director, Connect Healthcare Rotherham
<b>Conflicts of Interest:</b>	General declarations were acknowledged for Members as providers/commissioners of services. However, no specific direct conflicts/declarations were made relating to any items on today's agenda.
<b>Quoracy:</b>	Confirmed as quorate.

**Members:**

Chris Edwards (**CE**), Rotherham Place Director, NHS South Yorkshire ICB  
Shafiq Hussain (**SH**), Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Rotherham  
Dr Jason Page (**JP**), Medical Director, Rotherham Place, NHS SY ICB  
Emily Parry-Harries (**EPH**), Director of Public Health, Rotherham MBC

**Participants:**

Cllr Joanna Baker-Rogers (**JBR**), Health & Wellbeing Board Chair, Rotherham MBC  
Andrew Brankin (**AB**), Rotherham Care Group Director, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (deputising)  
Lydia George (**LG**), Transformation & Partnership Portfolio Manager, NHS SY ICB  
Kym Gleeson (**KG**), Service Manager, Healthwatch Rotherham  
Bob Kirton (**BK**), Managing Director, Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust  
Andrew Russell (**AR**), Director of Nursing – Rotherham & Doncaster, NHS SY ICB  
Shahida Siddique (**SS**), Non-Executive Member, NHS SY ICB  
Claire Smith (**CS**), Director of Partnerships Rotherham Place, NHS SY ICB  
Ian Spicer (**IS**), Deputy Chief Executive, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

**In attendance:**

Jude Archer (**JA**), Assistant Director of Transformation, NHS SY ICB  
Sue Panesar (**SP**), Public Health Specialist, Rotherham MBC  
Steph Watt (**SW**), Health & Care Portfolio Lead – Rotherham, NHS SY ICB  
Eloise Summerfield (**ES**), Senior Pharmacist – Rotherham, NHS SY ICB  
Sarah Boul (**SB**), Portfolio Director for Mental Health, NHS SY ICB

**Minute Taker:**

Wendy Commons, Business Support Officer (Rotherham), NHS SY ICB

Item Number	Discussion Items
<b>34/09/25</b>	<b>Public &amp; Patient Questions</b>
There were no questions from members of the public.	
<b>35/09/25</b>	<b>Prevention and Health Inequalities Update</b>
<p>Sue Panesar updated on the work undertaken since her last update including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A development session was held with partners in April, leading to agreement on a new template for the 2025/26 Prevention and Health Inequalities Action Plan.</li> <li>– A new Teams Channel was introduced for external collaborators to update the Action Plan.</li> <li>– Preparations are underway for a Chronic Pain workshop in September.</li> <li>– Stronger links have been established with Housing and Neighbourhoods.</li> <li>– Staff have been recruited for the Sports England Place Expansion Programme.</li> <li>– Progress has been made on the rural health toolkit and the Humanitarian Group Action Plan.</li> </ul> <p>Challenges and risks remain around the impact of poverty, cost of living, financial constraints, leadership changes across the system and maintaining momentum, as well as data-sharing challenges and creating a unified narrative on health inequalities</p> <p>EPH explained that a workshop is taking place on Thursday 2 October Health for Rotherham senior leaders to come together to decide on the priorities for the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the next five years. The output from this along with the emerging neighbourhood's work will then be mapped to identify any overlaps and gaps and produce an action plan. The intention going forward is to ensure that health inequality priorities become integrated into all areas of the Place Plan rather than seen as separate.</p> <p>EPH encouraged all Place Board members and their senior teams to attend as appropriate.</p> <p>CE thanked SP and EPH for the update. Place Board is supportive of the approach and is committed to ensuring that addressing inequalities becomes an integral part and core to the Place Plan going forward.</p>	
<b>36/09/25</b>	<b>Rotherham Winter Plan Update</b>
<p>SW outlined key changes between last year's winter plan and this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The emergency department demand peaked at 381 attendances last March averaging around 300 daily.</li> <li>• System performance was 65.8%, below the target of 78.8%.</li> <li>• Flu vaccination rates were favourable compared to the region.</li> <li>• Yorkshire Ambulance Category 2 handover was 27.11.</li> <li>• Rotherham was an outlier for 'No Criteria to Reside'.</li> </ul> <p>This year Rotherham is well prepared for winter with the new medical Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) Centre and a transfer of care hub (TOCH). There has been a significant reduction in enablement waiting lists going from 66 to just 9 currently. However, pressure remains on discharge pathways with high emergency department attendances.</p>	

The national performance metrics for this year include reducing ambulance waiting times from 35 to 30 minutes, achieving 78% of ED patients admitted, transferred or discharged within 4 hours and focussing on reducing discharge delays and lengths of stay for emergency admissions.

It was noted that work has also been carried out on organisational development, communications and engagement to support better whole system working on right care, right time and place to reduce pressure on individuals and teams. Weekly performance messages will also be agreed across the system.

It was noted that the virtual ward target this year is 100 patients and includes respiratory and heart failure as well as other additional pathways. This is an area that Rotherham has excelled in previously. BK advised members of a project to enable hospital at home, to meet one of TRFT's internal ambitions to avoid people staying in hospital when they don't need to be

SW highlighted work done by the local authority on service redesign with discharge and reablement teams introducing new roles which has proved successful. Also, in order to better understand demand, a proactive approach has been taken that involved Healthwatch undertaking a deep dive into data to see why people come to emergency department front door rather than accessing primary care services.

SW outlined the multiple governance and assurance routes for the plan with sign off being via the Urgent and Emergency Care Group, and being sought through the Rotherham Place, RMBC and TRFT Executive Teams, Health & Wellbeing Board and the ICB Board as part of NHS England requirements.

It was noted that Place Board had agreed the Winter Plan in today's confidential session, and it will be scrutinised by Rotherham Health Select Committee in November as well as resilience scenario testing and monitoring national key lines of enquiry throughout winter.

Place Board noted the risks associated with the plan including, the impacts of unprecedented demand, perceived or real lack of primary care appointments, the impact on discharge processes and community capacity following system changes/redesign and potential industrial action. Mitigation plans are in place.

CE thanked SW for outlining the comprehensive plans put in place for Rotherham's winter plan and requested that thanks from Place Board is conveyed to all those involved.

**37/09/25**

**Healthwatch Annual Report 2024-25**

Kym Gleeson, Healthwatch Manager presented the Healthwatch 2024-25 Annual Report entitled 'Unlocking the power of people-driven care'. She highlighted that Healthwatch has supported over 11,000 people, an increase of over 33% on the previous year. The support has included topics such as finding an NHS dentist, right to choose, making a complaint, mental health support and finding a support group. The increase in funding had given the service an additional post that had assisted the team to reach out and support more people.

With changes imminent for Healthwatch England, KG said it would be important for Rotherham to maintain an independent patient voice, and this should be considered in the discussions around the neighbourhood model with an opportunity to showcase the engagement work carried out in Rotherham. KG advised that a current case study was being undertaken on 'Right to Choose' and the journey mapped out, the findings from which will help and support Place going forward.

SH congratulated KG and the Healthwatch Team on the high-quality annual report acknowledging the significant amount of work achieved over the year.

Place Board expressed its thanks to KG and team for Healthwatch’s dedicated work in representing the people of Rotherham and ensuring their voices are heard. While clarity is still awaited on the timescales for the proposed abolition of Healthwatch and the transfer of its functions, Place Board remains committed to monitoring developments closely to ensure that the local patient voice continues to be effectively represented.

**38/09/25**

**Rotherham Place Partnership Update**

Place Board received the update for July and August 2025. Partners are encouraged to share the update widely within their own organisations and Boards highlighting the positive work taking place across the partnership.

Suggestions for content to be included in future editions are welcome and can be directed to Lydia George.

**39/09/25**

**Communications to Partners/Promoting Events & Consultations**

- Neighbourhoods Workshop 2 – Wednesday 24 September 2025 – New York Stadium.
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy Setting – Thursday 2 October 2025, Town Hall

Partners to ensure appropriate representation at both.

**40/09/25**

**Draft Minutes and Action Log from Public Place Board**

The minutes from the meeting held on 16 July 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

The action log was reviewed. There was one amber rated action (19/05/25) which related to the mapping of public/partner consultation activity which has been re-scheduled for November Place Board.

**41/09/25**

**Risks and Items for Escalation to Appropriate Board**

In light of the proposed changes regarding the abolition of Healthwatch, KG will draft a risk entry for the register concerning the future of Healthwatch.

**Action: KG**

**42/09/25**

**Future Agenda Items:**

**Standing Items**

- Updates from all groups (as scheduled)
- Bi-Monthly Place Partnership Updates
- Feedback from SY ICP Meetings – (bi-monthly)
- Place Achievements (as and when)
- Neighbourhoods (monthly)

**43/09/25**

**Date of Next Meeting**

There will be no meeting held in October due to a Place Board development session. The next Place Board will be on **Wednesday 19 November 2025** in the John Smith Room, Town Hall, Rotherham.

## Members

Chris Edwards (Joint Chair)	Executive Place Director/ICB Deputy Chief Executive	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
John Edwards (Joint Chair)	Chief Executive	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Ian Spicer	Strategic Director, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health/Deputy CE	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Emily Parry-Harries	Director of Public Health	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Richard Jenkins	Chief Executive	The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Bob Kirton	Managing Director	The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Shafiq Hussain	Chief Executive	Voluntary Action Rotherham
Toby Lewis	Chief Executive	Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Anand Barmade	Medial Director	Connect Healthcare Rotherham (GP Federation)

## Participants

Cllr Joanna Baker- Rogers	Chair of H&WB Board	Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board
Claire Smith	Director of Partnerships, Rotherham Place	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Andrew Russell	Director of Nursing, Rotherham & Doncaster Place	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Dr Jason Page	Medical Director, Rotherham Place	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Wendy Allott	Director of Financial Transformation Rotherham Place	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Shahida Siddique	Independent Non-Executive Member	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Nicola Curley	Director of Children's Services, RMBC	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Matt Cottle-Shaw	Chief Executive	Rotherham Hospice
Kym Gleeson	Service Manager	Healthwatch Rotherham
Lydia George	Transformation and Partnership Portfolio Manager (Rotherham)	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Gordon Laidlaw	Head of Communications	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Andrew Brankin	Rotherham Care Group Director	Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust