

## Appendix 2 – Amber Performance Issues of focus

### Outcome 3 – The gap in average earnings is reduced

- Latest figures demonstrate the average earnings in **Rotherham are now below the Yorkshire and Humber average**. Rotherham earnings are £453.80 compared to a regional average of £465.50 – (97.5% of regional earnings, a -2.5% gap). This compares to 101.4% in 2010 when average earnings were £466.40, a +1.4% gap.
- The work of the Economy Board is working to identify the issues and solutions in relation to barriers to business growth, inward investment and apprenticeships. The findings from each working group have now been reported and each group has subsequently been tasked with developing an action plan outlining the way forward by 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012.
- Work has also commenced on revising the **Economic Plan which was originally scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2011 but will now be completed later in 2012** following the publication of new census data so the most up to date information can be utilised.

### Outcome 5 - More people in poor communities are in work and training

Owner: Paul Woodcock

- **Overall employment in Rotherham has reduced to 67.7% and the gap between Rotherham and the regional average as expected has widened slightly to 0.7%.**
- More recent figures relating to the number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants in the borough are more positive and show a small 0.1% reduction from 8,432 (September 2011) to 8,251 (December 2011). **However this is still a 0.6% increase on the same time last year.**
- External funding used to fund worklessness projects has now ended. In October EOS Works Limited were announced as the contractor for the DWP ESF funded Support for Families with Multiple Problems project which is designed to tackle entrenched worklessness by identifying families with a history of worklessness across the generations or where no family member is working. **Progress with taking this work forward has been restricted as the officer who is leading on this project is currently seconded out of the authority.**

### 06) More people have formal qualifications and skills

CYPS – Dorothy Smith

- Although our performance in relation to skills and qualifications is showing improvement the key issue remains in relation to the gap between Rotherham and national and regional attainment. **Particularly relating to the % of our working age population with level 3 and 4 qualifications where the gaps are 4.9% and 4.5% respectively.**
- As per the recommendation in the last report arrangements are now in place to arrange a performance clinic in March 2012 relating to issues relating to KS2.

### **Outcome 7 – There are more successful new businesses**

**Owner: Paul Woodcock**

- The number of new business registrations per 10,000 adult population **declining to 30.6 from 34.9**. This demonstrates a fall in registrations from 715 in 2009 to 630 in 2010 and well below the Yorkshire and Humber Rate of 38.4 which has also declined in the last year.
- According to the office of National Statistics (ONS) the overall number of business in Rotherham has also demonstrated a **decline from 5,580 to 5,445 (September 2011)** and the survival rates of newly born enterprises has also fallen slightly but do remain higher than the regional average after 1 year but below at 3 and 5 years.
- The loss of external funding and reduced capacity in the council from January 2012 will also impact on the council's ability to deliver future enterprise activity. It is likely that Rotherham Chamber will deliver such activity in future and possibly the future of the Dragons Den activity currently undertaken by the council's regeneration team.

### **Outcome 8 – More people come to the town centre for work, shopping and things to do and see**

**Owner: Paul Woodcock**

- Approval to re-design the Civic Theatre scheduled for September 2011 is also **slightly behind schedule**. A recent report has not been approved at SLT and therefore the proposals are still to be agreed on how to improve the conditions at the Civic Theatre.
- Nationally Mary Portas published her review on the future of high streets in December 2011. These recommendations could potentially impact on the council when the government publishes its response to the review in the spring.

### **Outcome 9 – More people are in work or training and less are living on benefits**

**Owner: Paul Woodcock**

- External funding used to fund worklessness projects has now ended.
- Impact of welfare reform

### **13) All children in Rotherham are safe**

**CYPS – Howard Woolfenden**

There are two high level measures which are currently being monitored closely and have been rated as red by CYPS:

**Percentage of Core Assessments completed within 35 working days** – Quarter 3 performance - 67.3% (944 of 1403 assessments completed in 35 days) against a national average target of 75.1%.

Performance for the month of December was 82.8% (77 of 93 assessments completed in time). December's performance is the highest monthly performance of the year, and first month of the year when performance was above 70%. Although this indicator has previously been impacted by drag and is status red, the direction of travel is towards target and positive.

**Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption** - As at the end of December,

performance stands at 52% against a national average target of 74%. The 52% figure equates to a total of 21 adoptions having taken place since April, of which 11 were placed for adoption within the 12 month period following their Should Be Placed for Adoption (SHOBPA) decision.

Underlying performance: There are currently 19 children placed for adoption, these children will not impact this indicator until an adoption order has been granted. Of the 19, 13 are already out of time and will impact negatively on this indicator – 6 are still in time. There are currently 84 children who have a SHOBPA in place, of the 84 children, 19 are placed for adoption and 65 are not yet placed. Of the 65 children not yet placed 17 are already out of time.

#### Recovery Actions

- Monthly performance meetings held with Adoption Manager and Family Finder
- Panel Prioritisation meeting introduced on a monthly basis which ensures that panel team is used efficiently to prevent drift when linking with adoptive placements
- Children with SHOBPA have been RAG rated to ensure efforts are focused on meeting timescales.
- Work is underway with locality social workers to get those SHOBPA rescinded where plans have changed.
- Successful invest to save bid to increase number of social workers which in turn will increase number of adopters

#### **16 - People in need get help earlier, before reaching crisis** **CYPS – Howard Woolfenden / NAS – Shona McFarlane**

Although there is evidence that the number of Looked After Children has reduced compared to the same time last year the impact can not be attributed to CAF directly as there are a number of other processes including the Multi Agency Support Panel which contributes to this reduction. The implementation of Family CAF needs to be closely monitored.

#### **20 – People are able to live in decent affordable homes of their choice** **NAS – Dave Richmond**

- Quarter 3 has seen an increase of 156 additional homes taking the total to 441 against an 850 year end target, **given the current economic climate and market conditions this target needs to be revised.** Current performance of 441 net additional homes is in excess of the 379 reported at 31 December 2010, an increase of 62 which equates to a 16% improvement. It is predicted that the out turn of 485 additional homes in 2010/11 will be improved upon. Based on performance data for the first three quarters, **we are unlikely to hit 850 number in the next year or two**, even though the emerging Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment shows that enough land is available for 4,900 dwellings over the next five years. Performance is in the main due to the housing market remaining weak where currently building costs are high and house sale values are low. Planning applications continue to be dealt with positively to remove any unnecessary delays.
- Repairs and maintenance - The percentage of total repairs completed within target at the end of quarter 3 stood at 95.31% against a 96.00% target. **Performance against this indicator remains slightly off target** with an improvement in monthly performance reported in December.

- Void Property Performance - Average re-let times from termination to start - **Although this indicator remains off target a number of positives can be taken from performance in Quarter 3.** 500 properties were let in the quarter and properties let in December were let in an average of 46.45 days (November 52.45 days). There remain 30 properties in the backlog from the original 150 and these will continue to affect the indicator until they are all let. During quarter 4 a concerted effort is to be continued to clear this 30 property backlog. In September 2011 the number of work-in-progress properties was 308, at Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January improvements had been made to reduce to 152, a reduction of 156. A weekly performance clinic is still ongoing looking at all the elements of the void process with all the key players attending. The focus of the meeting is on actions occurring and actions required. The restructure of the voids team will be in full operation by 6th February with the full impact being evident by the end of March.

#### **Outcome 24 – Climate Change**

**Owner: Ian Smith**

- The majority of work in relation to Chantry Bridge scheduled for completion in November 2011 is also complete **but there will be some over run into 2012.**

#### **Outcome 25 – Clean Streets**

**Owner: David Burton**

- This outcome is rated Amber due to uncertainties about data quality following a significant improvement in performance relating to street cleanliness. Data quality is currently being assessed within the directorate.

#### **Outcome 29 – More people are walking, cycling or using public transport**

**Owner: Paul Woodcock**

- To date the authority has not yet received the latest modal information relating to journeys into and out of urban centres and journeys to school which was expected in December 2011 from the PTE. The only data currently available is at a South Yorkshire level. Analysis is currently being undertaken by the PTE to disaggregate this data at a more local level and will be made.