

Improving Lives Summary Report

1.	Date of meeting:	16 th April 2019
2.	Title:	Rotherham Pause Practice - Update
3.	Directorate:	Children & Young People's Services (CYPS)

1. Background

In October 2017 the Pause scoping exercise was presented to Improving Lives Select Commission. The Committee was supportive of the findings and the recommendation to set up a Pause Practice in Rotherham.

Funding was identified from the Early Help budget to set up a Pause Practice for a minimum of 18 months. Each Pause Practice comprises a Pause Practice Lead, 3 Pause Practitioners and a Pause Coordinator. The team has capacity to work with between 20 and 24 women during the pilot phase.

The planning and implementation phase and recruitment process were completed and the Pause Rotherham Practice became operational in July 2018.

2. What's Working Well?

- The Pause Model keeps the women at the centre and enables them to address a number of complex and intersecting needs.
- Caseloads are low; between 6-8 women per practitioner, so that time and flexibility to support the women remains at the forefront of practice.
- As of March 2019, the team are working with a cohort of **24 women** (16 are fully open to the programme – a woman becomes 'open' once long acting reversible contraception is in place) who have had **78 children** removed between them. This is an average number of **3.3 children removed per women**.
- Pause Rotherham has been extremely effective at identifying and engaging women on the programme. **Attendance was achieved at 87%** of our appointments last quarter.
- The women identify what area's they would like to focus on. The highest priority is **'relationship with children'** and the Pause Practice has been successful in supporting women to engage in the court process and complete Life Story work.
- During the last quarter Pause Rotherham has supported eight women with their housing needs, including supporting three women to access new properties and working in partnership with colleagues in Housing to avoid an eviction.

- In the last quarter, Pause has supported three women to access a GP surgery, one woman to go to hospital for an operation, four women to access mental health services and three women to access support from the sexual health clinic.
- The Pause Rotherham Board has been established and includes broad multi-agency as well as a Rotherham councillor.
- Over the course of the last six months Pause Rotherham has also been undertaking joint work with the National team. This has included the Practice Lead being elected to sit on the Pause National Practice Board, to help shape and driving forward practice nationally. In addition to this one practitioner was recognised for the work she has been completing with one Pause woman (see appendix one for case study) and was invited to share this journey to the Board of Trustees in London.
- Sophie Humphreys, the founder of Pause also came to visit the practice with one of the members of the Trustee Board. Positive feedback was received;

"Please can you thank the team in Rotherham for being such amazing hosts? It's really brought me close up to the practice and I was blown away by the team and their focus and care for the women and families." - Aideen Lee.

3. What are we Worried About?

- Whilst the evidence suggests that Pause Rotherham is implementing the model successfully, and partners are very supportive, it is necessary to start work to explore if Rotherham wants to sustain the practice and how this will be funded.
- The final figures in April 2018 were 270 women who were eligible for Pause, which equates to 720 children who have been removed. The team worked hard to apply a robust needs analysis and risk assessment process to identify the right cohort of women to work with. However, there are women in Rotherham who would benefit from this support and are not part of the first cohort.

4. What are we going to do about it?

- July 2019 – Pause Success Event. A success event in July is being planning to celebrate the first year of the practice. The plan is that women will participate in this and we are currently carefully planning how best to deliver this event.
- Sustainability of Pause – it is hoped that by July 2019 further plans will be in place to address the sustainability of the project. This will include Practice Lead submitting a sustainability report and meeting with all agencies involved to look at the overall cost benefit analysis. Practice Lead is currently undertaking a piece of work with South Yorkshire Police to look at cost savings related to crime and domestic abuse within the cohort.
- There are ten months remaining of the current funding. Over the course of the next six months the women will continue to work on their goals, and benefit from the 1:1 sessions with their practitioner. Around October 2019, the women will then move into the transition work, where they will be supported with their plans moving forward once they have completed the 18 month programme.

5. Name and contact details

Jenny Lingrell
Joint Assistant Director of Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion

Lindsey Knight
Pause Practice Lead