

Improving Lives Select Commission Chair's Briefing for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board meeting on 3 February, 2026

Items covered since the last update meeting:-

- At the Improving Lives meeting on 2nd December, 2025 the following items were considered:
 1. **Fostering Transformation Programme incorporating the Children and Young People's Services Prevention of Future Death Reports** – Members had the opportunity to review the current Fostering Programme in the light of changing sufficiency needs for children and young people in care in Rotherham. Also incorporated was the response of the Council to the tragic death of Marcia Grant, and the formal Prevention of Future Deaths' report following the inquest in July 2025.
 2. **The Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Assurance Report 2024-2025** – Members received the RSCP report for 2024/25 which provided an update on the key partnership activity during the year, based on the strategic priorities. The impact of the work against these priorities was also demonstrated alongside a summary of any activity by the key partner agencies.

The report also covered what the partnership had done as a result of the arrangements, including Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR), and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.

Work Programme 2025-26 Updates:-

- **Threshold of Need (part of the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy)**
 A dedicated dual workshop session is scheduled for Thursday, 29th January, 2026, which will include a visit to the Rotherham Parent Carers Forum at the Eric Manns Building. The session will focus on reviewing the vision and plans, amplifying the voice of the community and assessing the impact of collaborative work with partners.
- **PAUSE Project**
 A workshop has also been arranged for Monday, 2nd March, 2026 looking at support available for women who have had one or more child removed, following cessation of the PAUSE Project.
- **Children's Capital of Culture Workshop - Impact and Legacy for Children and Young People**
 A workshop has been arranged for Tuesday, 21st April, 2026 looking at Impact and Legacy for Children and Young People.
- **Trauma and Children Missing Education Scrutiny Review**
 Following agreement of the scope plans are progressing as part of this review. A questionnaire is being sent to all secondary schools seeking their experiences of the impact of trauma on children missing education.

Items to be discussed at the next and future meetings:-

10 February 2026

- Ofsted Inspection Outcome
- Educational Attainment Update
- Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Update

17 March 2026

- Community Cohesion Projects Update - Building Bridges Together Project and the Together for Tomorrow Project Updates
- Children Not in Education Update
- Rotherham Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) Annual Report 2024-2025 (for information)

28 April 2026

- Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Annual Report 2024-2025
- Safeguarding Children From Radicalization (Prevent Programme Update and Keeping Children Safe in Education) Update
- Child Exploitation Strategy Update