

Commissioners' Timeline of key headlines / progress

**to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
February 2015 – February 2018 (3 Years)**

RECOVERY AND RESTORATION

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(February 2015 – July 2015)

Timeline of key headlines/progress

	February	March	April	May	June	July
Helping Children's Services to improve including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Head of Service joined the Council to lead on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	New assessment process introduced to improve the timelines of assessments	Interim Deputy Strategic Director of Children's Services appointed	Establishment of Support for Adult Survivors Board	First Multi-agency Risk Management Panel (MARF)	Evolve Team multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Team goes live
	Additional social workers appointed in long-term teams and additional peripatetic team of social workers put in place to address backlogs in assessments	Multi-agency work on revised Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) strategy commenced	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub established (MASH)	Joint appointment of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) specialist superintendent to improve practice	1 years funding agreed for Swinton Lock support service for survivors	Draft CSE profile completed and signed off by Health and Wellbeing Board
	Procurement of replacement Integrated Children's Services (ICS) case management system	Strategic Director commences service design with partners and survivors on new CSE outreach service	Formal decision to award contract to Liquid Logic for new ICS system	99 % of children in need of protection have an up-to-date plan	Additional funding provided for groups supporting survivors	Funding secured for CSE Outreach Services
	Monthly Children's Improvement Board put in place to monitor progress with partners against the Ofsted action plan		Interim Head of Operations appointed to strengthen leadership of the MASH	95 % of looked after children have an up-to-date plan	Post Abuse co-ordinator appointed	Revised CSE Strategy completed by Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and issued for consultation
			Memorandum of Understanding and working protocols developed between the Children's Services and South Yorkshire Police to improve joint investigation of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	98 % of assessments completed within statutory timescales		Director of Early Help and Family Engagement appointed and in post
			CSE Commissioner Board Established			Director of Commissioning appointed
Helping the Council improve	Commissioners started in Rotherham	Launch of the 'Statement of Rotherham Commissioners' Mission'	Establishment of Commissioners' governance arrangements (including declarations of interest, code of conducts, protocols re: decision making). Monthly meetings commenced	Launched consultation on new Licensing Policy	Organisational structure agreed by Full Council	Taxi and Hackney private hire taxi licensing policy endorsed by Full Council
	Agreed 2015/16 budget recommendations to Council	Commissioners restore regular meetings with Service Managers (M3s) to set out priorities	Appointment of the interim Director of Adult Services	Manager briefing session on the Rotherham Improvement Plan (A Fresh Start)	Commissioners first public meeting with Elected Members	Implementation of Taxi and Hackney private hire taxi licensing policy
		New Commissioners' Office established	Appointment of permanent Director of Public Health	Rotherham Improvement Plan (A Fresh Start) endorsed by Full Council	Deadline for All Service Reviews to inform future budget and service planning	Initial Fresh Start Improvement Plan Joint Board
				Rotherham Improvement Plan (A Fresh Start) submitted to the Secretaries of State	Poll of Rotherham residents satisfaction undertaken by Local Government Association (LGA)	Adult Social Care Development Board established
				Commissioners agreed a corporate policy led approach to address the £41.083m financial challenge for 2016/17 and 2018/19		Maltby Leisure Centre was named 'Leisure Centre of the Year' UK (Active Flame fitness industry awards)
				Meeting with Service Managers re: Improvement Plan, the future vision and organisational structure		

	February	March	April	May	June	July
Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships		Announced new Advisory Cabinet Members	An audience with Voluntary Action and Rotherham Businesses	Elections held and ran successfully	Rotherham Business Sector Dinner event with Commissioners and Leading Councillors	Refreshed Local Strategic Partnership's arrangements agreed by partners
		Initial meetings with the Leader, Elected Members and partners	Health and Wellbeing Board approved a range of measures to improve partner relations and governance	Annual Meeting of Council	LGA mentoring support put in place for Advisory Cabinet members	'Be a Councillor in Rotherham' campaign launched
				Revised Scrutiny Programme agreed		Due to public demand, additional 4 visioning roadshows scheduled, totalling 28
				Leader and deputy Leader re-elected		Initial "better politics" meeting to raise standards and conduct
				Induction programme commenced for new Members		Heart of Steel unveiled (Sponsored public art) and Retailer Awards to show how much residents love their town
				First 'Views from Rotherham' roadshows commenced		
				Online Tell us your views survey launched		
				Councillor chaired Health and Well-being Board with sensitive single item agenda well received by press and public		
Other contributing factors / dealings by others		Media interviews including; Radio Sheffield, Sheffield Star and Rotherham Advertiser		South East Alliance demonstration	English Defence League Demonstration cancelled	Demonstration-involving over 20 right wing groups
		National Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness day		Planned and effective press handling of independent report on suicides of young people	National Crime Agency says 300 potential suspects identified as part of Operation Stovewood	Announcement that 550 Tata Steel jobs at risk (490 in Rotherham area)
					Chair appointed to lead an independent review of South Yorkshire Police	Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) Published a post-inspection review on the child protection work carried out by South Yorkshire Police
					Taxi licensing strike and protest	From April 2015, 10 people have been charged/summonsed to court in relation to Rotherham with Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) offences
					<i>Panorama Stolen Childhoods – the Legacy of Grooming</i>	

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(August 2015 – February 2016)

Timeline of key headlines/progress

	2015					2016	
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Helping Children's Services to improve including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Barnardo's receive £3.1m to support tackling CSE in Rotherham and rebuild the lives of victims.	Refreshed Children and Young People's Services Improvement Board Action Plan and reporting templates.	Closure of Woodview Children's Home following inadequate Ofsted announcement.	Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services appointed on a permanent basis.	Consultation on the future and potential closure of St Edmunds Children's Home, following inadequate inspection.	Launch of Early Help Service to improve support for children and families and ultimately reduce demand for social care. Requests for support from schools treble in first week.	Recruitment begins for Deputy Strategic Director Children and Young People's Services.
	£1.2m secured for an innovation programme to support victims and those at risk of CSE across South Yorkshire, including support of specialist foster carers to provide safe placements for young people.	Local Safeguarding Children's Board Chair stepped down.	Review commissioned into residential care and care leavers accommodation.	Early Help co production events commenced to shape a strategy for Rotherham.	Appointed to key roles of Head of: Locality Social Work Services; Quality Assurance; and Principal Social Worker. These posts are critical to stable improvement.	UK's largest dedicated Assertive Outreach Team (Barnardo's) formally launched to prevent CSE.	Cohort of young people identified as at risk of CSE in Rotherham and resources identified to analyse the information held by partners.
	First Ofsted Improvement visit reports good front door arrangements (MASH); Good management oversight, performance management and good practice observed in managing complex CSE cases with Police partners. Quality of practice and consistency main areas for development.	Interim appointments made for lead quality assurance and principal social worker roles.	Second Ofsted visit confirms continuing strong front door arrangements and effective CSE practice. Areas for development include quality of assessment and case management.	Launch of the Fostering 'Be a Hero' campaign.	CSE mapping exercise of all young people in Rotherham identified as being of risk of CSE. This is in addition to mapping linked to bespoke investigations.	Since the MASH Team was established, it has received 8727 contacts of which 41 % became a referral and 81 % became an assessment.	First meeting of new Children and Young People's Partnership convened. Task and finish groups established to: embed early help impact; develop workforce across the system; produce Children and Young People's Plan.
		Joint commissioning strategies drafted for children including those with very complex needs and governance arrangements established.	Review of governance conducted by peer professional from Haringey LBC.	Thematic review of EVOLVE CSE cases concluded.	Operation Scorpio escalated to multi-agency senior command team chaired by Director of Children's Services. This is in addition to a number of live CSE investigations, reflecting new proactive approach between RMBC and SY Police.		Governance. Arrangements for Youth Offending strengthened.
		Needs analysis underway which inform longer term support for victims and survivors of CSE. Supported by research from Salford University and Public Health data.	New Quality Assurance Framework rolled out.	Increasing management grip evidenced by high % PDRs completed (93 %).	Director of Safeguarding Children and Families left the post being replaced with a Deputy Director post for Children's services.		Review of accommodation for children in care and care leavers completed for executive stakeholder consideration. Recommendations signal move towards smaller, smarter homes that our children deserve.
			Work commences on strengthening supervision for frontline workers.	Excellent progress made on NEETs not known (potentially extremely vulnerable children) reducing from 26.5 % - 8.5 %.	Submitted files to Crown Prosecution Service regarding Operations Taffeta and Thole - 47 suspects (27 of whom are under 18 years). Operations have led to engagement with 160 young people of whom 28 were identified as victims of CSE.		Liberty House Breaks Service rated 'Good' by Ofsted.
			Commissioners agree to review pay for social care staff to ensure the Council can compete with other councils regionally.	All together stronger recruiting campaign launched to secure permanent Heads of Service.	Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Board CSE thematic review of CSE within locality teams agreed and scoping initiated.		Arnold Children's Centre achieves GOLD award for excellence.
			Work underway to develop a robust Medium Term Financial Strategy predicated on principles of early help and sufficiency of appropriate, local community based placements for children in care.	Workforce Strategy drafted 'Enabling Excellence in Practice' setting out a compelling offer for social care professionals in Rotherham.	Routine clinical supervision of multi-agency CSE team (EVOLVE) initiated by Rape Crisis.		Powers for education including youth services returned to council control.
				New Experienced Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) chair appointed following national recruitment campaign.	100 % of children in need of protection have an up-to-date plan.		Programme for March Ofsted improvement visit agreed focusing on leadership, management and governance; quality of work in duty and assessment; CSE; and quality of care planning.
				Work commences on development of transformation change programme to build on early success and expedite progress against key priorities.	96.9 % of looked after children have an up-to-date plan.		Sector led Improvement Peer review agreed for June.

	2015					2016	
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Helping the Council improve	Commissioner team meet with Youth Cabinet.	Senior management structure agreed by Full Council and recruitment to posts commenced.	Interviews commenced for senior management posts, including Chief Executive.	Rotherham beat competitors to claim the title of Best Town Centre in the Great British High Street Awards 2015 winning a share of £80,000.	Second poll of Rotherham residents satisfaction undertaken by Local Government Association (LGA).	New appointments to enhance relationships with the voluntary and community sector, tackle equality issues and provide support to Advisory Cabinet.	Adult Social Care 'Meet the buyer' event for care and support providers to find out more about the Councils vision and future opportunities.
	Appointment of the interim Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services.	Housing health check conducted by LGA.	Highways and transport; waste management; planning health checks conducted by LGA.	Request to Secretary of State at DCLG seeking approval for some functions to be returned to the Council.	Funding bid for £5,169m approved by DCLG to help the Council address unique funding pressures and move forward.	Closing date for consultation regarding the restoration of functions and letter sent to Secretary of State regarding feedback received.	Permanent appointments made to Strategic Leadership Team (excluding Strategic Director Adult Care and Housing which has been re advertised).
	Continued to maintain high standards in Education – Early Years and Key Stage 4 outcomes have exceeded the national average for a number of years.	Rotherham Show which is the largest free show in the North of England includes stalls for 'Be a Councillor and' 'Views from Rotherham'.	Personal Development Review audit identified 96 % completion figure – staff supportive of process, however some areas for improvement required around setting SMART objectives and continuous monitoring.	Leisure, culture and sport health check conducted by LGA.	Medium Term Financial Strategy, Performance Management Framework and first draft of Corporate Plan agreed by Full Council.	Secretary of State, DCLG announced plans to return responsibility for the running of a limited number of functions to Advisory Cabinet.	Staff briefing sessions commenced delivered by the Chief Executive and Leader.
			Voluntary severance opportunity opened for staff to assist the Council's financial challenge.	Vision and strategy paper developed for Adult Social Care. Vision focussed around ensuring that adults with disabilities, older people and their carers are supported to be independent and resilient so that they can live good quality lives and enjoy good health and wellbeing.	Regional Director Ofsted raised no objections with regards to the restoration of functions in Education.	Induction programme commenced for newly appointed Chief Executive, who replaced Commissioner Managing Director at end January.	Report to Health and Wellbeing Board regarding Adult Safeguarding Strategy and improvement plan following independent peer review conducted in May/June 2015.
				Adult Safeguarding Strategy presented to Safeguarding Adults Board.		Options presented to Member-led Budget Working Group which would potentially enable the Council to set a sustainable balanced budget for 2016/17 and which significantly addresses the financial challenge for 2017/18 and 2018/19).	Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government agreed to return of some functions to Cabinet.
				146 voluntary severance requests agreed in principal to assist the Council's financial challenge.		Proposed Capital Strategy prepared to be considered at Full Council on 2nd March 2016.	Introduction of new Whistleblowing Policy.
						Directorate budget proposals issued for public comment and consultation.	

	2015					2016	
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Helping the Council improve (continued)						<p>Since the Taxi Licensing Policy was introduced 67 drivers offered a case hearing and around 70 % licenses revoked. 963 license holders also attended safeguarding children and vulnerable adults training and 171 suspended until complete.</p> <p>Awarded best large outdoor market 2016 in the annual Great British Markets Awards.</p> <p>Agreement to develop an Adult Social Care Development Programme to deliver better outcomes for citizens.</p>	

2015						2016	
Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb
Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships	Cabinet Members; Scrutiny Chairs; Chairs of Licensing and Planning and Leaders of Opposition Group allocated LGA Peer Mentors.	Lead Commissioner concluded meetings with newly Elected Members.	Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) considered low risk saving proposals.	Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) considered further savings proposals to meet the overall budget challenge.	Advisory Cabinet expanded from 5 to 8 members and portfolios amended.	Commissioners' public meeting with Councillors - update on progress and proposals to return some functions.	Final Rotherham Together Partnership Plan and timescales for longer term Community Strategy agreed by the Rotherham Together Partnership.
	Personal development interviews undertaken with each lead elected member and development support identified.	69 potential candidates took part in five 'Be A Councillor' sessions (3 open to all and 2 party specific).	Devolution deal signed by Chancellor George Osborne - proposed agreement to devolve certain powers from central government to the Sheffield City Region (SCR).		UK's first tram train unveiled which will run on networks in Sheffield and Rotherham from, testing to commence Summer 2016.	Budget saving proposals sent to partners for comment and consultation.	Partners interviewed to gauge their views 12 months on since the Commissioners' arrival.
	Intensive Elected Member induction programme delivered with input from LGA peers and Centre for Public Scrutiny.	New Rotherham Together Partnership governance model agreed at Full Council.	Rotherham Economic Growth Plan approved by Full Council. To deliver 10,000 jobs over 10 years and 750 new businesses over 5 years.			First Advisory Cabinet and Commissioners' Decision Making meeting.	Final recommendations from Governance Review received.
	Work commenced on the 2015/16 Scrutiny programme to trial and test new ways of working. This programme focused on the following areas: a. Child Sexual Exploitation b. 2016/17 Budget challenge c. Waste and litter d. Health and social care integration.	First meeting of Rotherham Together Partnership.	First meeting of the new Business Growth Board.			Business sector event held.	
		New Health and Wellbeing Strategy approved to jointly improve health and wellbeing in Rotherham and direct the boards activity over the next three years.	'Views of Rotherham' consultation report published – based on 27 roadshows and online. 1800 people consulted.			First draft of the Town Centre Master plan received.	
		'Minded to' decision by Commissioner to sell former opencast colliery site to Gulliver's Family Theme Parks.	Rotherham vision announced at the Commissioners' public meeting with Councillors.			Business Plan and financial support approved by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) for those affected by Tata redundancies.	
		Members of the Licensing Board undertook two days of training on Licensing.	Reviewed the governance arrangements of the Safer Rotherham Partnership which has led to a more streamlined structure.				
		South Yorkshire Police hit out at Rotherham protests and the Leader and Commissioner Ney issued a statement welcoming the announcement by the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner to review the legal powers deployed to tackle demonstrations.	New independent chair appointed to the Safeguarding Adults Board.				
			'Enough is Enough' online petition launched regarding the number of marches and demonstrations taking place in the town.				

2015					2016	
Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb

Other contributing factors and dealings by others	Former Rotherham Mayor cleared of charges for an offence against a 13-year-old girl in 1987.	Right wing protest (Britain First) (United Against Fascism) in the Town Centre.	Police initiate intelligence gathering operation re possible CSE involving ROMA community (OP Scorpio).	Announcement by Lowell Goddard regarding first independent investigations into child sexual abuse.	Provisional local government finance settlement 2016 to 2017.	288 referrals have been received and 38 people charged/summonsed to court in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation offences (CSE).	Operation Thunder first court appearance. Six defendants, 27 charges, 2 victims. 1 defendant pleaded guilty and will be sentenced in due course.
	81 year old man on his way to morning prayers at his mosque attacked and later died in racist attack.	16 year old teenager left with head injuries following assault in town centre.	Taxi driver sustains head injuries in serious assault.	Rotherham in national media regarding large increases in hate crime.	High-profile Operation Clover trial commences at Sheffield Crown Court. 21 victims, 49 prosecution witnesses in total and 8 defendants.		2 men appeared before the court charged with the racist attack and murder of the 81 year old gentleman who died in August.
	One year anniversary since independent inquiry into CSE in Rotherham by professor Alexis Jay.			Rotherham man sentenced to 10 years as part of live CSE investigation (Operation Thole).			
	Rotherham Abuse Charity (Apna Haq) Faces closure after losing contract with the Council.			Alleged racially aggravated assault of a 20 year old man and 16 year old boy outside Asda supermarket.			Operation Clover found 6 people guilty of Child Sexual Exploitation offences. Awaiting sentencing.

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(March 2016 – July 2016)

Timeline of key headlines/progress

2016					
	March	April	May	June	July
Helping Children and Young People's Services to improve (including Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))	<p>Appointment of new Deputy Director Children and Young People's Services.</p>	<p>Local Safeguarding Children Board Sub Group (Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing) adopts 8 key themes for 2016/17 including agreement to hold organisational learning events to drive forward continuous learning and cultural change.</p>	<p>Appointment of new Children's Social Care Commissioner.</p>	<p>Vision and priorities for a 'child-centred borough' approved at Cabinet/Commissioner Decision-Making meeting.</p>	<p>RMBC social care job recruitment fair.</p>
	<p>'National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day' – events held across the borough to highlight the issues around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and to urge everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse.</p>	<p>Council supports the launch of a Department for Education (DfE) led campaign to encourage residents to have the confidence to report child abuse.</p>	<p>Lincolnshire County Council becomes a practice improvement partner to provide peer support and challenge, led by their Director of Children's Services as practice leader.</p>	<p>Final Ofsted improvement letter received summarising findings from the 5 Ofsted improvement visits – with regard to CSE inspectors found continued improvement in practice.</p>	<p>Multi-agency CSE team (EVOLVE) officially launches following relocation to child friendly town centre based premises.</p>
		<p>New performance clinic structure established to provide leadership team with the opportunity to support and challenge services against the targets and outcomes set out in service plans.</p>	<p>Home Office Minister for Preventing Abuse, Exploitation and Crime visits Rotherham to meet with victims and colleagues and partners involved in tackling CSE.</p>	<p>Improvement offer agreed regarding peer support from Lincolnshire County Council.</p>	<p>Agree to continue interim independent CSE 'critical friend' role - funded between RMBC, SYP and NCA.</p>
			<p>Youth Offending Board (YOT Board) reconvenes following review, including review of governance arrangements.</p>	<p>'Partners in Practice' Looked After Children (LAC) review.</p>	<p>Independent review team commissioned to review CSE Multi-agency Risk Management Panel.</p>
			<p>Fourth visit by external consultant (NIB consulting) to review the CYPS Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) – action plan developed to address areas which required improvement.</p>	<p>Sector led improvement (ADCS) peer review – focused on Leadership Management and Governance (LMG).</p>	<p>Multi-agency CSE strategic command group (Gold) integrate into one governance structure involving appropriate statutory and voluntary community sector agencies.</p>
			<p>'National Foster Care Fortnight' - the foster care team join forces with carers to get the town talking about fostering.</p>	<p>Three voluntary and community sector providers commissioned to provide support to victims of CSE - contract value is £515,000 for three years.</p>	<p>Four employees receive Judges commendation and certificates of commendation from the Chief Constable of SYP for their role in the investigation of Operation Clover, a complex and challenging multi-agency enquiry into non recent CSE.</p>
			<p>Launch of campaign to recruit more children's social workers.</p>	<p>First arrests – National Crime Agency (NCA) Operation Stovewood.</p>	<p>Children's Safeguarding and Escalation Protocol produced for Elected Members.</p>
			<p>CSE survivors supported to form community interest group to influence culture and practice.</p>	<p>New Deputy Director for Children and Young People's Services starts.</p>	
			<p>CSE champions embedded in Children and Young People's Services to provide advice and support to colleagues on the steps to take when they are concerned about a child at risk of or experiencing CSE – over 50 champions trained.</p>	<p>Cabinet/Commissioners agrees to begin consultation on the proposed closure of Silverwood and Cherry Tree House children's homes.</p>	
			<p>Monthly Performance Board established, to scrutinise, challenge and inform performance management arrangements in Children and Young People's Services.</p>	<p>New Head of Finance for Children and Young People's Services starts.</p>	
				<p>Star chamber process devised to identify future investments and inform the Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>	
				<p>Revised Fusion bid submitted to Home Office to seek additional support for CSE victims and survivors – currently with departments.</p>	

2016

March

April

May

June

July

Helping the Council improve

Final Medium-Term Financial Strategy approved by Council.

New Assistant Chief Executive starts.

New Assistant Director of Legal Services starts.

New Assistant Director for Community Safety and Environment starts.

Rotherham Town Centre category and overall winner in the 'Association of Town and City Management's (ACTM) annual awards'.

Final staff briefing sessions delivered by the new Chief Executive and Leader – 15 sessions held in total since January 2016 and around 850 staff attended. Similar sessions to be held every 6 months.

Rotherham's Local Plan submitted to the Secretary of State for consideration - this is a long-term plan for new housing, shopping, employment and travel.

Senior manager (M3) master classes commenced – first session focussed around working in a political environment.

New Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services starts.

New Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment Services starts.

Appointment of new Adult Care and Housing Strategic Director completes Strategic Leadership Team.

15 month progress letter submitted to Secretary of State - including request to consider the return of the licensing function.

Phase 2 Corporate Improvement Plan agreed by Joint Board.

Launch of the staff Pulse Survey.

Cabinet/Commissioners approved the sale of 250 acres to Gulliver's, for the development of a family theme park resort.

Local Government Association (LGA) peer review of the Human Resources function.

Procurement peer review conducted by Arubium and funded via the LGA – improvement plan currently being implemented.

Meeting with Tower Hamlets Commissioners and Birmingham Independent Panel Vice Chair to share learning.

Recruitment begins to appoint three heads of service for Adult Social Care, to oversee £9 million cost reduction.

Care Quality Commission review of the Home Enabling Service – rated as good in July 2016.

Communities and Local Government Select Committee inquiry into the effectiveness of the Government's intervention.

13 staff focus group sessions held for those without access to electronic Pulse survey - attended by nearly 100 people.

Third poll of Rotherham resident satisfaction undertaken by Local Government Association (LGA).

Consultation on South Yorkshire Waste Strategy to deal with challenges over the next 5 years.

Launch of the Council's Housing Strategy 2016-19.

Performance, intelligence and research peer review conducted by the LGA – currently awaiting report.

Phase 2 Corporate Improvement Plan approved by Cabinet and Commissioners.

MTFS update report to Cabinet/Commissioners' Decision-Making meeting.

Deadline for installation of cameras in the majority of taxi vehicles; mandatory BTEC requirement (dependent upon the renewal date and other factors).

Medium-Term Financial Strategy for Children and Young People's Services 2016-2021 progress noted at Cabinet/Commissioners' Decision-Making meeting.

Council's 2015/16 revenue and capital outturn approved at Cabinet/Commissioners' Decision-Making meeting.

Meeting with Rt. Hon. Greg Clark, Secretary of State and Rotherham Commissioners to discuss return of licensing powers.

Review of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy 1 year after implementation.

Formal sign off of the Corporate Plan including staff values and behaviours by Council.

Waste Partnership won the Best Energy from Waste Initiative category at the 'Materials Recycling World (MRW) national recycling awards'.

Draft town centre Supplementary Planning Document endorsed by Cabinet and Commissioners.

Corporate Safeguarding Policy approved by Council - sets out the Council's commitment to promoting safeguarding across the whole organisation.

2016					
	March	April	May	June	July
Helping the Council improve					<p>Revised Corporate Equality and Diversity Policy endorsed by Council.</p> <p>Letters of reassurance issued by Weightmans and Gowling WLG demonstrating no significant areas of concern within the licensing function.</p> <p>Tendering commenced for new Town Centre Masterplan.</p> <p>Plans agreed to purchase 24 derelict houses in Maltby to refurbish and let as council homes.</p> <p>Proposal to absorb the intermediate care provision currently provided at Netherfield Court into Lord Hardy Court and Davies Court approved at Cabinet/Commissioners Decision-Making meeting.</p> <p>Legal Services peer review (focused around Children and Young People's Services cases) conducted by Lincolnshire County Council – currently awaiting report.</p> <p>94.5 % completion rate for Performance Development Reviews.</p>

2016

March

April

May

June

July

Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships

Fresh start to constitution following Governance Review conducted by Professor Tony Crook CBE – Leader and Cabinet executive model retained, scrutiny process strengthened through the establishment of pre-decision scrutiny and the appointment of chairs and vice-chairs reflecting the political make-up of the Council. Further constitutional amendments to strengthen governance are being considered.

Rotherham Together Partnership launched 2016/17 Plan – longer-term Community Strategy to be launched March 2017.

Lead Commissioner held meeting with Cabinet Members regarding their future involvement in the appraisal of senior staff.

Commissioners' final Public Meeting with Councillors as joint Cabinet/Commissioners meetings commenced.

163 candidates stand for Council:

- 63 Labour
- 41 UKIP
- 23 Conservative
- 13 Green Party
- 13 Independent
- 5 Liberal Democrat
- 3 Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition
- 2 Yorkshire First

The Chief Executive attended an 'Audience with' session organised by Voluntary Action Rotherham to discuss key issues for the sector and the Council.

Rotherham Together Partnership chief executives' strategic planning session held to commence the development of a Community Strategy.

Business Minister visited Rotherham whilst union leaders met to discuss the crisis gripping the TATA steel industry to save thousands of jobs

Radio Sheffield interview with Lead Commissioner regarding 2016 Elections.

All-out election – all 63 seats contested and the Labour Party remain the majority party (48 Labour; 14 UKIP; 1 Independent; 0 Conservative (of the 24 newly elected members, at least 12 attended the LGA 'Be a Councillor' sessions)).

Two-day Member Induction Programme to help members understand how the Council and its services work.

Annual General Meeting - Leader announced new Cabinet – 2 new appointments Cllr Dominic Beck, Housing and Cllr Emma Hoddinott Waste, Roads and Community Safety.

Launch of hate crime initiative to encourage victims to come forward.

Licensing training for Elected Members.

'Pre-scrutiny' process created to allow the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Select Committee to review and challenge recommendations before they are made by Cabinet.

Safer Rotherham Partnership Plan 2016/19 approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board.

Compact Working Group meeting established to oversee the review of Rotherham Compact Framework (partnership protocol).

'Big Walk' event held and supported by the Rotherham Together Partnership to celebrate the thousands of people who give up their time as volunteers to help others and make the area a better place to live.

New Elected Member introductory meetings with Commissioners.

48 member induction and development programme sessions held since May 2015.

Children and Young People's Improving Lives Commission re-established.

First partnership plan quarterly monitoring report presented to Rotherham Together Partnership Chief Executive Officer Group.

Community Strategy consultation session held with the voluntary and community sector.

Dinnington Town Council neighbourhood area application approved by Cabinet/Commissioners - first parish/town council in Rotherham to embark on preparing a neighbourhood plan.

Launch of large-scale consultation about the Sheffield City Region devolution deal – RMBC hosted a consultation event to encourage people to become involved.

Launch of new prevention campaign to help those most at risk of suicide 'Don't let silence kill you' – between RMBC, SYP, NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust.

2016					
March		April	May	June	July
Other contributing factors and dealings by others	Major new criminal investigation into suspected CSE offences amongst Rotherham's Roma community launched.	New Independent Policing Protests Advisory Panel launched by Police and Crime Commissioner.	Commissioner Newsam, Children's Social Care Commissioner, stood down.	Jayne Senior awarded MBE in the 'Queen's Birthday Honours' for services to protect children in Rotherham.	Sajid Javid announced as the new Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
	Publication of DREW review - Independent review of South Yorkshire Police in relation to its response to CSE.	Appointment of new South Yorkshire Police Rotherham District Commander.	Jayne Senior - Winner of the overall 'Yorkshire Woman of Achievement 2016' and 'Community Impact' award.	Louise Casey made a dame in the 'Queen's Birthday Honours' in recognition of services to families and local government.	Justine Greening announced as the Secretary of State for Education.
	Publication of Jayne Senior's book 'Broken and Betrayed'.			Government committed to introducing additional taxi licensing guidance nationally to learn from Rotherham's experience.	BBC One Show regarding installation of taxi cameras in Rotherham and out of town taxis.
				Rotherham hosted the first in a series of events aimed at building the Sheffield City Region's Logistics Hub.	'Love Is Louder' launches its 'artbomb' initiative at a number of sites around Rotherham – pro love, anti-hate campaign designed to bring together people from all walks of life, and from all faiths and cultures.
				Communities and Local Government Select Committee – Questions to Marcus Jones MP.	Launch of Community Justice Panels seeking volunteers to make a difference in their neighbourhood.
				Since April 2015, SYP have received 390 referrals and charged/summoned 40 people to court in relation to CSE including prolific offender Tom Wilkes sentenced to 10 years.	Childline founder Dame Esther Rantzen planning new support service 'Is It OK?' inspired by Rotherham's CSE story.
				EU Referendum – 69.56 % turnout (total number of ballot papers counted 137,470 – 44,115 remain and 93,272 leave).	Appointment of South Yorkshire Police Interim Chief Constable – commenced on 25th July.
				Right wing anti-Islamic 'silent march' through Rotherham led by EDL	Alternative recommendations for HS2's route and station proposals published.

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(August 2016 – January 2017)

Timeline of key headlines/progress

	2016					2017
	August	September	October	November	December	January
Helping Children's Services to improve (including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))	<p>A level results published – 98.6 % (*A- E grades) above the national average.</p>	<p>Department for Education progress visit – included visiting the Evolve Team.</p>	<p>Children's social work job fayre to recruit to new vacancies.</p>	<p>Rotherham pathways project (to help vulnerable young people access support services) won the Innovation in Child and Young People's Mental Health category at the Positive Practice in Mental Health Awards 2016.</p>	<p>Ofsted report published on the Inspection of Liberty House – Awarded an 'Outstanding' rating.</p>	<p>Six men sentenced to 81 years for their part in historic child sexual exploitation offences against two girls.</p>
	<p>GCSE results published – attainment 49.4 - 62.0 % achieved A*-C in English and mathematics; 75.5 % achieved A*-C in English; 67.9 % achieved A*-C in mathematics; 20.2 % achieved the English Baccalaureate.</p>	<p>Encouraged more people to become foster carers to make sure that looked after children are placed in family placements wherever possible.</p>	<p>First Ofsted monitoring visit focussed around 'Looked After Children'.</p>	<p>Children's social worker vacancy rate reduced to 10 % compared to the national figure of 17 %.</p>	<p>Skill audit of all social workers and team managers in Rotherham commenced, and is expected to be completed by March 2017.</p>	
	<p>Temporary crash pad service established to provide crisis accommodation and support to children and young people.</p>	<p>New Social Care IT system (Liquidlogic) designed to improve the service provided to children and families went live.</p>	<p>Regional Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) Looked After Children Peer Review which recognised some improvements had been made to the services for looked after children.</p>	<p>Children's Services Sustainability Strategy agreed by Cabinet/ Commissioners' – an investment improvement strategy.</p>	<p>Operation Stovewood - Three men charged with a total of 15 offences.</p>	
	<p>Peer Review of the Legal Services Social Care Team undertaken by Lincolnshire County Council which recommended an increase in staffing resources within the service.</p>	<p>Cabinet and Commissioners agreed to the closure of Silverwood and Cherry Tree House children's homes by the end of December following a consultation period and options appraisal.</p>	<p>Operation Clover 2 – eight defendants found guilty of 19 sexual offences received sentences totalling 96 years.</p>	<p>Practice Improvement Partners Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Peer Review. Positive feedback received recognising good progress is being made in implementing the SEND reforms.</p>		
		<p>The Children's Improvement Board signed off the CYPs Workforce Strategy for 2016 – 2020 in September 2016. The Strategy aims to support the ambition to become 'outstanding'.</p>		<p>Publication of Ofsted Monitoring Visit letter - feedback received stated progress made however social work practice and permanence arrangements require improvement.</p>		
				<p>Practice Improvement Partners review of the 'Front Door' MASH and Duty.</p>		
				<p>Young Inspectors received highly commended for the 'youth volunteering and social action award' at the Children and Young People Now Awards 2016.</p>		
				<p>Commissioner Bradwell attended the Improving Lives Select Committee to talk about her views of CYPs and the challenges the service faced – the Scrutiny chair has established a good working relationship with the Commissioner.</p>		

2016					2017
August	September	October	November	December	January
Commissioners' 18 month progress report submitted to the Secretaries of State for DCLG and DfE.	Sajid Javid, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government visited Rotherham.	Independent progress review team visit coordinated by the LGA - view was that proposal for the further return of decision making powers was justified.	KPMG Audit Letter presented to the Audit Committee.	Medium-Term Financial Strategy update report considered by Council – agreed £8.5m in year funding, largely to meet pressures within Children's services.	Budget consultation regarding budget saving proposals for 2017/18 closed.
New permanent Strategic Director for Adult Care and Housing starts.	Audit Committee approved the final Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2015/16 document in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations	Staff consultation on the proposed changes to the terms and conditions closed.	Quarter 2 Corporate Plan Performance Report presented to Cabinet/ Commissioners' decision-making meeting – 23 progressing well and 14 not progressed in accordance with target set.	Budget consultation commenced regarding budget saving proposals for 2017/18.	New Head of HR took up post completing the key strategic complement of posts in the Council.
Company handed £15,000 bill for failing to license property in Rotherham – 1,264 properties applied for a selective licence since the scheme came into force on 1 May 2015.	Staff informed of the proposed changes to the terms and conditions to save £2 million and asked to provide their views.	New round of staff briefing sessions started led by the Chief Executive and Leader, with support from the Deputy Leader.	Increases to day care and transport charges agreed at the Cabinet/ Commissioners' decision-making meeting.	Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP wrote to the Chief Executive to confirm the return of the Licensing function to the Council.	The Council has successfully defended 5 out of 7 taxi driver licence appeals.
New Assistant Director (AD) appointments made including AD for Culture, Sports and Tourism and AD for Customer, Information and Digital.	Launch of the new One Rotherham Values – staff values honest, ambitious, proud, respectful and accountable and 'Big Hearts, Big Changes' employee awards.	KPMG concluded 2015/16 Audit – qualified conclusion to secure value for money and unqualified opinion on financial statements.	Agreement to commence consultation on the reconfiguration of the Learning Disability Service at the Cabinet/ Commissioners' decision-making meeting.	Eight taxi drivers lost appeal against new rules that require them to install a taxi camera in their vehicles - costs of £525 were awarded against each of the eight appellants, a total of £4200.	Commissioners' Public meeting.
Clifton Park awarded Green Flag Award – recognises and rewards the best parks and green spaces across the country.	DCLG officials visited Rotherham.	Secretary of State announced plans to return Licensing powers to Rotherham Council, subject to local views.	Representation period closed for people to submit comments regards the proposed restoration of the Licensing function.	Appointment of Assistant Director of Housing and Neighbourhood Services.	Carers Strategy endorsed by Cabinet/ Commissioners and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
Housing and Neighbourhoods achieved Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) accreditation which recognises the work we do to engagement with tenants and residents.	Quarter 1 Corporate Plan Performance Report presented to Cabinet/Commissioners' decision-making meeting – 19 measures progressing well and 12 not progressed in accordance with target set.	Clifton Park celebrated People's Choice Award - one of just ten in the whole of the UK to be successful in Keep Britain Tidy's "People's Choice" Awards.	Appointed to new permanent head of Human Resources.	Final Staff briefing sessions delivered by the Chief Executive and Leader, with support from the Deputy Leader – 7 sessions held in total since October and attended by 249 members of staff.	Redesigned enabling service launched – anticipated full capacity by April 2017.
	Cabinet and Commissioners agreed the Digital Council Strategy 2016-2019 and the establishment of a Digital Council Programme to ensure its delivery.	Commissioners met with the Strategic Leadership following new appointments to set out their requirements.	21 month progress letter sent to the Secretaries of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government and Department for Education proposing the return of all further functions, except CYPS, HR and Asset Management.	Implemented senior management recruitment and procurement approval requirements to reduce spend.	The Council receives positive feedback from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners after inspecting its policies and procedures (in compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act).
	Review of the workings of the Licensing Policy found no significant issues – report presented to the Licensing Board.	New Assistant Director responsible for culture, sport and tourism started.	Library Strategy 2016-19 and future service offer approved by Council.	LGA Resident Satisfaction survey.	
	External Adult Care Change Programme Board established – focussed around the transformational/place based plan.	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30 Year Business Plan agreed at the Cabinet/ Commissioners' decision-making meeting.	Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider directorate proposals to address the budget gap up until 2019/20 throughout November and December.	Meeting with the Minister for Department for Communities and Local Government to discuss the restoration of further functions.	
		First quarterly Licensing performance report presented to the Licensing Board and the Strategic Leadership Team.	First Big Hearts, Big Changes Employee Awards.	Formal consultation on the future offer for learning disability services in Rotherham started – ends 2nd February 2017.	

2016					2017
August	September	October	November	December	January
	Property function health check by CIPFA Performance in Public Services – number of opportunities for improvement identified.	Restructure of Adult Social Care to meet the requirements of the Care Act and better outcomes for customers.	Test-Launch 'I age well' which allows customers to map and plan their ageing journey and provides information regarding available resources and support and how to access these.	New adult case management system, 'Liquid Logic' went live.	
		Approval of Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.			
		Approval of investment into the Housing Income team to ensure ongoing support to tenants whilst maximising income.			

	2016					2017
	August	September	October	November	December	January
Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships	Devolution Deal consultation closes seeking peoples feedback regarding how new powers being devolved to the region should be used.	Rotherham Partnership held a 'Let's Drink Tea Together' event in the Town Centre to encourage people to come together and talk.	Members mentoring support update received from the Local Government Association –impressed by the commitment of councillors to tackle challenges and turn things around.	Member development evaluation received from the Local Government Association – satisfaction with the training was high, with sessions meeting or exceeding expectations.	Revised Rotherham Compact and associated dispute resolution process agreed by Rotherham Together Partnership chief executive officers.	The Rotherham Plan (Community Strategy) endorsed by the Rotherham Together Partnership.
	Consultation on the draft Rotherham Compact starts, setting out commitments to improve the way in which public organisations and the VCS work together for the benefit of communities and citizens.	Staff survey and focus group results shared with staff – conducted in May-June 2016 and 1,500 people responded. Action plan developed in response to the feedback received.	First Rotherham Together Partnership public engagement session to discuss progress made in the last 12 months and gather people's views – 4 sessions held in total.	Consultation on the draft Rotherham Compact ended.	Rotherham Council leaders welcomed new report into Trans-Pennine Tunnel which could open up the north.	Partnership protocol and partnership steering group terms of reference developed - aiming to support effective partnership working.
	Place-shaping sessions commenced – session held with Rotherham Together Partnership (RTP) chief executive officers.	Training for elected members appointed to the Staff Appeal Panel.	Lead Commissioner met with the Labour Group.	'Place-shaping' strategy key themes agreed by Rotherham Together Partnership chief executive officers – over 270 people took part in consultation workshops.	Final one to one introductory meeting with the elected members appointed in May – Commissioners met with all 24 elected members during the summer with the final meeting taking place in early December.	'Building Stronger Communities' Framework agreed by partners.
	Personal development survey sent to all members (completed by 60 % of members).	Meeting between Lead Commissioner, South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Executive to discuss progress since the Drew Review and Multi-Agency Escalation Procedure.	Member development panel re-established monthly meetings - overseeing the personal development plan process to ensure that members are properly equipped and supported to undertake their roles confidently and effectively.	First Rotherham Together Partnership e-bulletin published.	To date, all Overview and Scrutiny Management Board recommendations for pre-decision Scrutiny accepted by Cabinet.	First meeting of the new 'Place Board' to oversee the place shaping work.
	92 % of members have attended at least one session on corporate parenting or children's safeguarding since May 2015.	Scrutiny work programmes agreed for all Commissions and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.	New vision and principals for neighbourhood working agreed at the Cabinet and Commissioners' decision-making meeting.	White Young Green awarded contract for town centre masterplan - final draft due April/ May 2017.	60 member induction and development sessions held since May 2015.	Agreement of two out of three major capital projects by Sheffield City Region (purchase of Forge Island and works to the A618 Growth Corridor).
		Wates appointed as partners to deliver 200 new homes on a cluster of council sites.		Decision made to purchase Forge Island, a key component in Rotherham town centre's regeneration at the Cabinet/ Commissioners' decision-making meeting.		Two by-elections. Liberal Democrats win first seat in 16 years (from Labour – Brinsworth and Catcliffe). Labour win seat from UKIP (Dinnington).
				Introductory meeting between Lead Commissioner and Chief Constable, South Yorkshire Police.		
				Council Members and officers have led on sharing good practice at LGA seminars across the country on taxi licensing for Councillors.		
				Member personal development plan interviews commenced.		
				Sheffield City Region awarded £1.4million from Department for Transport (DfT) to work up business case for transport infrastructure related to Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District – bid undertaken by Rotherham Council and Sheffield City Council.		

2016						2017
August	September	October	November	December	January	
Other contributing factors and dealings by others	Select Committee published report regarding lessons to be learnt by Government and local authorities from Rotherham and Tower Hamlets interventions – called for consistent taxi Licensing standards across the country.	Showcased services at Rotherham Show and around 60,000 people attended.	National Hate Crime Awareness week – Locally the Safer Rotherham Partnership partners raised awareness of hate crime, encouraged people to report and promote local support services.	Select Committee chair, Clive Betts MP characterised the Government's response to their recommendations as 'deeply concerning' stating "Children and vulnerable adults will remain at risk in Rotherham for as long as the local authority's tough new Licensing rules can be undermined by taxis from other areas".	First charges made as part of Operation Stovewood – Three men charged with a total of 15 offences of indecent assault against a child in Rotherham, following an independent investigation by the National Crime Agency (NCA).	Final Local Government Settlement received.
		Extremely dangerous offender, Terry Gibbons jailed for 26 years for CSE offences.				Since October 2015, SYP have received 307 referrals and charged/summoned 33 people to court in relation to CSE.
		Councillors opposed the intent to re-route HS2 at Council meeting.	Shared Lives Week – information sessions held encouraging people to become Shared Lives carers, a unique form of support for vulnerable adults which allows them to live or spend time with carers in their own home on a long or short term basis depending on circumstances.		Councillor Andrew Roddison resigned following his conviction of sexual assault.	Leader of the Council writes to the Home Office reiterating the Council's position against a proposed EDL national demonstration in the town centre, due 25th February.
		Public Health team raised awareness of World Suicide Prevention Day.		BBC One Show featured Esther Rantzen regarding new Childline app – highlighted Rotherham and included interviews with Jayne Senior and some victims/survivors of CSE.		
		Rotherham community carnival organised by the Open Minds Theatre Group - people from across the borough invited to attend.	Operation Clover 2 – eight defendants found guilty of 19 sexual offences against three girls between 1999 and 2003 – received sentences totalling 96 years.	National Crime Agency arrested five men in connection with operation Stovewood (independent investigation) – will remain on bail while investigations continue.		
			National Adoption week – urged those considering adoption to get in touch.	Chancellor announced that £7.6m will be provided to Wentworth Woodhouse in his Autumn Statement.		
			Government response to the Select Committee report published in August – welcomed and agreed with the recommendations made by the Select Committee.	South Yorkshire Police has charged three 15-year-old boys with murder, in connection with the death of 34-year-old Rotherham man.		
			Gulliver's submitted planning application to build on 250 acres of the former Pithouse West site – a decision is expected to be made early 2017.			

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(February 2017 – July 2017)

ROTHERHAM MBC COMMISSIONERS' 30 MONTH PROGRESS REVIEW

TIMELINE OF KEY HEADLINES / PROGRESS (FEBRUARY 2017 – JULY 2017)

	2017					
	February	March	April	May	June	July
Helping Children's Services to improve (including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Audit of all Social Workers and Team Managers. Commissioner letter to DfE Secretary of State highlighting further progress in the service. Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness events aimed to give people the courage and information they need to seek help. Workshop with Elected Members (facilitated by ISOS Partnership) regarding Scrutiny Review of Children's Services delivery models. Visit by DfE to discuss progress following the submission of Commissioner Bradwell's quarterly progress report for the period (Nov 2016 – Feb 2017). Ofsted monitoring visit focussed on 'Front Door (First Response), Duty and Assessment and Early Help'. Complex Abuse (neglect) enquiry identifying connected familiar abuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of Fusion Bid to the Home Office and DfE requesting funding to support a multi-agency approach to support victims of CSE. The Council in partnership with Rotherham Rise is successful in its bid to increase funding (£200k boost) to help victims of domestic abuse rebuild their lives. Publication of Ofsted's second monitoring visit letter focussed on 'Front Door (First Response), Duty and Assessment and Early Help' confirms the Council is making continuous progress but still needs to improve in some areas. National Award issued to CSE Campaigners in Rotherham for their roles in demanding stronger taxi laws. Self-Audit against the National Standards carried out by the Youth Offending Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial investments funding commences in CYPS to help reduce demand and improve the quality of service. CYPS Workforce Board established to focus on improving quality of practice. Agreement to consider a pooled budget arrangement with the CCG regarding mental health services (Section 75 Agreement). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofsted's third monitoring visit focussed on Care Leavers. Job Fayre to recruit more Social Workers as part of the ongoing work to transform Children's Services. Family Group Conference model implemented. Integration between Early Help and Social Care at the Front Door commences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swinton Lock Activity Centre receives £350k lottery grant to help widen its network of support for CSE survivors. Publication of Ofsted's third monitoring visit letter focussed on Care Leavers confirms there are areas of strength and evidence of improvement. Signs of Safety implementation starts. Response letter received from the Youth Justice Board which agreed with the Council's self-assessment that the standards were fully met following two moderation exercises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving Lives Select Commission submits its recommendations to DfE regarding alternative management arrangements for Children's Services. Commissioners and the Council meet the new DfE Minister for Children and Families to update him on progress in Children's Services. Lincolnshire County Council monitoring visit focussed on Adoption. Appointment of interim joint Assistant Director for Commissioning, Performance and Quality in CYPS. Cost efficiency analysis carried out by Aldaba confirms that Rotherham are a high performing, low cost Youth Offending Team (YOT) which is 90% cost efficient when compared with other YOTs across England. DCLT Troubled Families Unit undertakes a spot check of processed claims and confirms the approach is robust. New Principal Child and Family Social Worker starts.

	February	March	April	May	June	July
Helping the Council improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioners' submit their two year (24 month) progress report to DCLG. Secretary of State for DCLG confirms he is 'minded to' return further functions back to the Council (Adult Social Care and the Council's partnership with the NHS, external partnerships, economic growth, town centre, grounds maintenance, audit and appointment of representatives to external bodies) following submission of the 21 month progress report in November 2016 . Cabinet/Commissioners' agree to the establishment of a Corporate Property Asset Management Board to have oversight of the Council's Asset Management Action Plan and single integrated overview of all Council land and property. Cabinet/Commissioners' receive an update on the Council's overall position on quarter three performance. Joint session between Commissioners' and the Senior Leadership Team to discuss progress. LGA Peer Review of Commissioning (Adult Care and Housing, Children and Young People's Services and Public Health). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary of State for DCLG confirms the return of further functions to the Council and issues revised Directions. As two-thirds of functions are now returned to the Council, Sir Derek Myers steps down as lead Commissioner, reducing the number of Commissioners from four to three. Mary Ney takes over the role as Lead Commissioner. Launch of the 'Love Where you Live' Campaign to encourage residents to get involved in making Rotherham a cleaner, happier place to live. Council's Housing Contract and Service Delivery Team win 'Most Innovative New Product' category at the National Housing Innovation Awards recognising the use of new technology for managing keys for vacant Council homes. Full Council agrees the 2017/18 budget and additional £10m investment in Children's Services. Agreement to increase Council Tax (3% rise under Government's Adult Social Care precept). First meeting of the Asset Management Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council delivers a £2m saving from employee terms and conditions effective from 1 April. Leader and Chief Executive take part in three staff briefings as part of the Council's continuing commitment to improve communication across the organisation. Visit by the Head of Intervention, DCLG to discuss progress with the Council following the return of two-thirds of functions. Publication of revised Commissioner working protocols and decision-making procedures to take account of the return of further functions. Assistant Director of Financial Services starts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of Commissioners' 27 month progress report to DCLG recommending the return of a further five functions (Performance Management, HR, Asset Management, Community Safety and Waste Management). Community Safety health check review undertaken by Blackburn and Darwen Council confirms the service is progressing well and in a good position to have the function returned. 'Deep Dive' Session on Domestic Abuse held involving the Lead Commissioner, Lead Cabinet Member, Chief Executive, lead officers and South Yorkshire Police resulting in actions being incorporated and picked up in the new Domestic Abuse Strategy and Action Plan. Visit by DCLG Interventions Team official to discuss progress on service areas recommended for return as outlined in the Commissioners' 27 month progress report (see above). New Head of Performance, Intelligence and Improvement starts. Cabinet/Commissioners' agree the Council's Asset Management Policy and Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofsted inspection into Adult Community Learning provision receives an inadequate rating. Commissioners have provided comments to the Council and it is reviewing its approach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary of State for DCLG confirms he is 'minded to' return a further five functions to the Council (Performance Management, HR, Asset Management, Community Safety and Waste Management). Cabinet/Commissioners' receive update on the Council's overall position on quarter four performance. Full Council agrees its new Council Plan 2017-2020 which sets out the Council's overall vision, headline priorities, indicators and measures. Joint session between Commissioners' and the Senior Leadership Team to discuss progress. Full Council agrees the Asset Management Policy and Strategy which sets out the Council's approach to usage and development of the Council's land and property assets in supporting the Council's Plan. Publication of the Ofsted Adult Community Learning inspection report confirms it found the service inadequate. Council launches its 'Child-Friendly Borough' campaign. New Head of Community Safety, Resilience and Emergency Planning starts.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More primary and junior school pupils get their preferred school place (93% get first choice).		
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2017						
	February	March	April	May	June	July
Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet/Commissioner' officially endorse the Rotherham Compact (an agreement between the Council, Voluntary and Community Sector and partners to work better together). • Rotherham 'Meet the Buyer' joint event held with the Council and Rotherham NHS Trust to enable businesses to engage with the supply chain of Rotherham and the Trust. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Strategy launch at New York Stadium attended by 450 people setting out collective aims for Rotherham - 'The Rotherham Plan 2025' provides a framework for partners' collective efforts to create a borough that is better for everyone who wants to live, work, invest and visit Rotherham. • Rotherham Pioneers Business Breakfast event aimed to engage with the business community, providing information about the Pioneers programme for Rotherham. • Community Safety and Streetscene presents to the Countywide Community Safety Forum sharing Rotherham's experiences on taxi licensing. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Building Stronger Communities Strategy' agreed by Cabinet/Commissioner s' confirming the Council Leader will chair a Building Stronger Communities Forum within the structure of the Rotherham Together Partnership. • The third of three locality workshops held to consider how partners can work more effectively together to meet local priorities. • Better Mental Health for All Strategy agreed by the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Pioneer event attended by 62 delegates aimed to engage with the business community. • Council launches the Draft Town Centre Masterplan. • First meeting of the Building Stronger Communities Forum and launch of the associated small grants programme. • Announcement of Apprentice of the Year 2017 winners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotherham's new Urgent and Emergency Care Centre opens to the public. • "Getting the Best out of Rotherham's Health and Social Care" public event. • First meeting – in shadow form – of the Rotherham Integrated Health and Social Care Place Board, co-chaired by the Council and Rotherham CCG. • Success of Council-led £1.3m bid to Controlling Migration Fund confirmed by DCLG.

2017						
	February	March	April	May	June	July
Other contributing factors and dealings by others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> McLaren Automotive announces plan to open £50m manufacturing plant at the Advanced Manufacturing Plant which will create more than 200 jobs. Council continues to reiterate its position against marches in Rotherham (English Defence League and Rotherham Unit Against Fascism counter demonstration held in the Town Centre). £3.5m funding received from Sheffield City Region for the Rotherham Higher Education Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homes and Communities Agency agrees to the Council's request to transfer ownership of Rotherham Magistrates Court building at £1 consideration which will create a catalyst for further investment to introduce new jobs, businesses and housing into the Town Centre Wentworth Woodhouse sold to Preservation Trust for £7m and safeguarded for the future which will boost the economy and visitor attraction of Rotherham. Secretary of State for DCLG agrees not to call in the planning applications for Gullivers Theme Park paving the way for building work to begin at the former Pithouse West site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former Tesco building in Forge Island is demolished paving the way for regeneration of the Town Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign launched jointly with Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership and charity WRAP to try and inform residents in South Yorkshire about how to eat well and cut down on wasting food. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Election. Rotherham residents set for major housing boost through a pioneering new scheme that will provide over 200 much needed new homes in the Borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government confirms its chosen route of the HS2 line through South Yorkshire. Further development work commences in the Town Centre (creation of a pedestrian bridge linking Forge Island to the Town Centre and demolition of the former Magistrates Court).

Timeline of key headlines / progress

(August 2017 – January 2018)

ROTHERHAM MBC COMMISSIONERS' 36 MONTH PROGRESS REVIEW

TIMELINE OF KEY HEADLINES / PROGRESS (AUGUST 2017 – JANUARY 2018)

	2017					2018
	August	September	October	November	December	January
<p>Helping Children's Services to improve (including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 98.9 per cent pass rate for A-Levels in Rotherham. Signs of Safety as part of the Rotherham Family Approach launch and training programme started. At the end of the summer term 98% of Looked After Children (LAC) had a Personal Education Plan. 87% of Personal Education Plans were externally quality assured as being of good or better standard. Acceptance and commencement of the Foster Carer Mockingbird programme, a family based approach which provides a dedicated network of support to foster carers. The programme has been proven to improve outcomes for looked after children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thorpe Hesley Primary School receives an Ofsted rating of 'Outstanding'. Case Audits undertaken of our 'most worried' LAC, Care Leavers and Children in Need cases jointly with practice partners Lincolnshire CC. Practice Learning days launched which provide line of sight for senior managers into the quality of practice of social care and early help. Multi-agency Assessment – Practice Development Group implemented to support the increase and quality of number of Early Health Assessments completed by partners. Edge of Care Team in place. 72 new school places created through construction projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and Young People's Services shortlisted for the Best Social Work Employer of the Year prize in the acclaimed Social Worker of the Year Awards 2017, recognising the outstanding work being done with vulnerable children. Twelve men charged with 44 child sexual abuse offences as part of the National Crime Agency's Operation Stovewood. Children's Services hold first Safeguarding Champion learning event with staff from across the Council to support the raising of awareness and embed across services. Celebration of National Adoption Week 2017. Launch of the Rotherham Learning Academy – social care faculty of RMBC's new supported virtual learning environment. Education Secretary Justine Greening MP opens her former Rotherham school's new £12m building (Oakwood High School). Council Tax exemption for Care Leavers approved by Cabinet. Refreshed Corporate Parenting terms of reference approved and member champions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofsted Single Inspection of Children's Services takes place. Commissioner letter to DfE Secretary of State confirms further progress in the service. Commissioner for Children's social Care visits four Children's Centres in Rotherham. Three men found guilty of indecently assaulting an underage girl following the first trial under Operation Stovewood. Rotherham's Young Inspectors win the "Volunteering and Social Action" category at the national Children and Young People Now Awards. Winner of the Youth Voice Worker of the year Award. <p>KS1 OUTCOMES – validated in November 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64.0% of pupils met the Expected Standard in reading, writing and mathematics, compared to 59.8% last year (increased by 4.2%), 0.4% above the National at 63.7%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three arrests by the NCA as part of Operation Stovewood investigations into historic allegations of CSE. <p>KS2 OUTCOMES – validated in December 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017, the percentage of pupils working at the expected standard (EXS) in reading, writing and mathematics combined is 61%; an increase of 7.1% from 2016. This combined attainment measure is in line with the national average and ranked second against other Local Authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The percentage of pupils reaching a higher standard is 7.1% an increase of 2.7% from 2016; this is 1.5% below the national average. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Services is given overall 'good' rating by Ofsted following the single inspection in November. Care Leavers' Service is rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted as part of the single inspection in November. Liberty House full inspection is published – retains Outstanding for second year. All Heads of Service in social care are now permanent following recruitment to final interim position. <p>KS4 outcomes – validated in January 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The percentage of pupils achieving grade 4 and above in English and maths is 59.0%; 0.1% below the national average (all schools) and 5.2% below the national average (state-funded schools). The percentage of pupils achieving grade 5 and above in English and maths is 37.1%; 2.5% below the national average (all schools) and 5.8% below the national average (state-funded schools).

	2017					2018
	August	September	October	November	December	January
Helping Children's Services to improve (including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))			<p>identified to lead on specific outcomes for young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pride of Rotherham awards held to celebrate the successes of more than 170 looked after children at a ceremony at the New York Stadium. <p>Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes - validated in October 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From 2013 to 2017 Rotherham has achieved better than nationally for a 'good level of development' (GLD), with an upward trajectory each year. The Local Authority average for a 'good level of development' GLD has increased by 14.7% from 57.7% in 2013 to 72.1% in 2017. Rotherham's performance for a GLD has improved from 70.4% in 2016 to 72.1% in 2017. This is 1.4% above the national average (70.7%). 2017 GLD outcomes are ranked first against our statistical neighbour comparisons and joint second against other LA's in the Yorkshire and Humber region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset Management successful in obtaining £1million DfE funding to replace hydrotherapy pool at Newman School. 		

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Helping the Council improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing team (Contracts, Investment and Compliance) shortlisted for award for UK's top ten 'Best Clients to Work With' in the Construction Enquirer awards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary of State for DCLG confirms the return of a further five functions to the Council (Performance Management, HR, Asset Management, Community Safety and Waste Management). Publication of six investigation reports commissioned by the Council to investigate criticisms raised in the Jay and Casey reports. Public meeting held on 6th September. Council receives first unqualified VFM conclusion for 2016/17 from its external auditors, KPMG. Clifton Park is voted one of the nation's favourite green spaces by the public. The park is one of just ten across the UK to be successful in Keep Britain Tidy's "People's Choice" Awards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barnsley MBC and Doncaster MBC undertake an Equality and Diversity Peer Review and confirm the Council is at 'Developing' stage and is committed to the equalities and diversity agenda. Leader and Chief Executive take part in four staff briefings as part of the Council's continuing commitment to improve communication across the organisation. Final recommendations for new election boundaries in Rotherham announces the number of councillors will be reduced to 59. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead Commissioner letter to Secretaries of State for DCLG and DfE confirms further progress in the Council. Employee Opinion Survey 2017 results published with the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team outlining next steps. Waste Service Consultation undertaken commences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Session between Commissioners' and the Senior Leadership Team to discuss progress. Joint Session between Commissioners' and Assistant Directors to discuss progress. Council publishes its 2018/19 budget proposals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic Abuse Peer review led by City of Bradford MDC recognising strong political and managerial leadership with good support from the relevant services. The Council is pursuing those areas identified for improvement. Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Performance Networks Award: National Finalist: Best Performer and most improved performer in Street Lighting. Waste Service Consultation closes. 6998 residents respond (approximately 6% of households within the borough).

	2017					2018
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Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38th Rotherham Show held in Clifton Park (9 & 10 September) attracting 70,000 people. Launch of a Safer Rotherham Partnership funded Hate Crime reporting project; delivered by REMA in partnership with Speakup and the Rainbow Project. Supporting the reporting of hate relating to LGBT, race, disability or religion. Home to School Transport Consultation undertaken between September and October, 244 respondents 201 parent carers (approximately 23% of service users). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louder Together morning tea event hosted by the Mayor of Rotherham (at the Town Hall) to bring women from different communities together. Re-structuring of the Safer Rotherham Partnership governance and performance management process in order to address 20 of the 29 recommendations of the Community Safety Peer Review carried out by Blackburn with Darwen Council. Domestic Abuse Strategy agreed by the Safer Rotherham Partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community achievement awards hosted by Voluntary Action Rotherham on behalf of the Rotherham Together Partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leader of the Council is elected as new Chair of Sheffield City Region Combined Authority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council marks Holocaust Memorial Day with a public event in the town centre with presentations from faith leaders, local dignitaries and performances from local schools. 'Anne Frank and You' exhibition returning to Rotherham Library Training for 120 community safety staff from across the partnership, including better use of collective tools and powers alongside problem solving. Review of multi-agency meeting structures working cooperatively with Councillors and partners in relation to case identification and new neighbourhood working. Building Stronger Communities meeting with partners, chaired by the Leader. Focussed on how the Council supports community-led approaches and how different voices are heard from people in the borough. Launch of the Stronger Rotherham social media brand on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter aimed to enable communities to tell stories and celebrate life in Rotherham.

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Other contributing factors and dealings by others		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boeing Sheffield, the company's first production company in Europe locates to the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (AMID) giving a further boost to the region's status as a world-leading centre of manufacturing excellence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Regeneration arm RIDO work on a new initiative to help new business start-ups in the area, through Sheffield City Region's Launchpad scheme. The Council marks World Mental Health Day with the Chief Executive and senior staff getting involved in a campaign launched by the Public Health team and NHS partners to raise mental health awareness to pupils across Rotherham. Second Housing Developer Summit held at New York Stadium attended by approximately 150 delegates. The event attracted architects, developers, investors, estate agents and building contractors to hear about ambitious plans for Rotherham's ongoing transformation and opportunities to build more homes in the town. Official opening of Rotherham's £12.2m new Urgent Emergency Care Centre at Rotherham Hospital. New sensory support centre officially opens in Rotherham. New anti-social behaviour crackdown launched to crack down on spitting, anti-social behaviour and littering in Rotherham. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Hearts, Big Changes Employee Awards. Local Employment and Advisory Forum (LEAF) 2017, Rotherham Jobs and Careers Fair held on 13th November at Magna. Final Joint Improvement Board held between Commissioners and the Council. All future improvement activity to be embedded within mainstream performance management framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Public Estate Phase 6 bids successful for Specialist Housing and Integrated Working. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted operations against organised 'out of town' fly-tippers initiated. Led by Rotherham but partnered by South Yorkshire Police, Derbyshire Constabulary, Sheffield City Council and North-East Derbyshire Council. Enhanced period of partnership liaison with NCA in relation to taxi drivers and historic CSE, built on established intelligence sharing and relationships.