



Consortium Introduction [April 2021]

Introduction

Established in 2003, The Children, Young People and Families Consortium is a group of around 30 Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) organisations who work together and with partners to develop and raise standards, influence the Children and Young Peoples' agenda in Rotherham and provide the best possible VCS contribution to improving outcomes for children, young people and families.

We host the **Voice and Influence Partnership**, a sub-group of the CYP&F Consortium which brings statutory and VCS services together to ensure that the voice and lived experience of children, young people and families are able to have meaningful impact on decisions that affect them whilst providing a point of contact for those who want to involve young people in service planning, decision making and policy development.

We also support the **Different But Equal Board**, a network of young people aged 11-18 (up to 25 with SEND) who come together to ensure that when plans or decisions affect children and young people they are involved at the outset and throughout in shaping these by utilising its member's unique talents and working alongside other young people and practitioners in order for this vision to become a reality.

Vision

All children, young people and families in Rotherham are happy, healthy and safe

Mission

Voluntary & Community Sector Organisations work in partnership to improve the lives and potential of children, young people and families in Rotherham.

Values

We are responsive, creative, trusted, accessible, user led, innovative, independent, credible, inclusive, diverse and child centred.

How We Operate

Consortium members meet monthly, receive regular information updates, attend subgroups and represent the Consortium on a wide range of strategic groups.

Members offer each other support and the consortium is a vehicle to respond collectively and in appropriate time-scales to our changing environment. We respond and contribute to current and emerging priorities such as the Rotherham Children and Young People's Plan, Health & Wellbeing Strategy, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Plan, The Rotherham Plan, Child and Young Person Friendly Borough and more recently, the Rotherham Covid-19 Recovery Plan.

The Consortium is a registered charity and uses various models of collaboration when bidding for contracts and grants to maximise resources and jointly bring funds into the borough. By working together, we increase knowledge, good practice and capacity amongst our members, represent the views of our members and their service users to statutory partners and engage with them as effective partners to develop innovative, cost-effective, collaborative projects and services.

Consortium Members

We are proud to host the widest and most diverse group of Voluntary and Community Sector organisations (both large and small) in Rotherham. Our membership pool currently includes;

Action Housing	Rotherham Community Transport
Apna Haq	Rotherham Parent Carers Forum
Barnardo's	Rotherham Rise
Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice	Rotherham United Community Sports Trust
BME Young People and Carers CIC	Rush House
Clifton Learning Partnership	Safe @ Last
Endeavour	Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust
Grimm & Co	South Yorkshire Eating Disorders Association
GROW	Swinton Lock Activity Centre
JADE Youth and Community	United Multicultural Centre
Kimberworth Park Community Partnership	Voluntary Action Rotherham
Remedi Restorative Services	YMCA White Rose
Rotherham Open Arts Renaissance	YWCA Yorkshire
Rotherham and Barnsley Mind	

Strategic Aims

- 1. Service Delivery & Commissioning**

To work with partners to innovate and change how services are commissioned and delivered continue meeting the needs of children, young people and families amidst a challenging environment and reduced resources
- 2. Collaborative Consortia Approach**

To ensure a collaborative consortia approach to pro-actively plan ways to maximise funding and other opportunities to anticipate and meet the needs of children, young people and families
- 3. Safeguarding Standards**

To promote excellent safeguarding standards amongst our voluntary sector members and share our learning to influence the wider sector to keep children and young people safe
- 4. Voice & Influence**

To ensure our service users (children, young people and families) and our member organisations have a voice to influence policy and change things for the better.
- 5. Best Practice & Workforce Development**

To build on the collective voice and experience of members to improve outcomes for children young people and families through sharing skills, knowledge and evidence-based practice and workforce development
- 6. Resilience & Cohesion**

To work collaboratively to promote resilience and cohesion within and between all communities in Rotherham

Consortium Strategic Coordinator

The Consortium Strategic Co-ordinator brings together all of the above elements of the Consortium and works to enable partnership working and maximise impact in areas such as;

- **Acting as a single point of access to VCS organisations** working with children, young people and families in order to share information and shape practice such as shared implementation of; Signs of Safety ways of working, use of the Safeguarding Online Self-assessment to ensure consistency and a level of assurance (which through the consortium's input is now being used across Children and Adult services) and the dissemination of safeguarding policy and practice.
- **Strategic representation** by the Consortium enables the VCS to be collectively "at the table and a two-way flow of information between the VCS and the local authority in order to understand the needs and demands of the borough and its communities, join the dots, make necessary connections and inform strategy and planning.
- **Collaborative working** such as the response to the Department of Education Holiday provision fund with Early Help and the submission of the Smiles for Miles Base project in partnership with the local authority enables cross sector partnership working for a whole system approach.
- **Delivering new and preventative services** by pooling information from the VCS, local authority and other partners, collating local and national research and linking this to funding opportunities which support work to benefit children and young people across the borough. Examples of some of these are; £262000 from the Ministry of Justice to respond to Child Sexual Exploitation, £50000 from the National Lottery heritage fund to improve cultural access and respond to findings from the RMBC Young Inspectors, £99,806 from the National Lottery Community Fund to extend services during Covid-19 and £484000 at final application stage for a borough-wide collaborative consortia approach project in partnership with the local authority.
- **The Voice and Influence Partnership** (chaired and co-ordinated by the Strategic Co-ordinator role) as a central mechanism involves children and young people of different identities meaningfully and appropriately in planning and decision making which affects them. This has resulted in children and young people being involved in public realm decisions, commissioning activities and recruitment processes.
- **The Different But Equal Board** supported by the Consortium Strategic Coordinator and Consortium member organisations is not just a group of young people, but a body for change that seeks to improve voice opportunities for future young people and offers an alternative perspective to voice initiatives. As young people representatives of member organisations, it provides links to groups of young people from a wider network.
- **Responding to requests for consultation, information and research** such as the snapshot of youth loneliness requested by Public Health, the development of a resource around EHCP's and the Moving On project in connection with the Rotherham CCG.

Strategic Representation

Our Strategic Coordinator and member organisations represent the consortium / VCS at a strategic and operational level in order to contribute to local strategy, policy, commissioning and service development and amplify the voice and experiences of our members and their service users in;

Rotherham Together Partnership

RTP CEO Group

- **Rotherham IH&SC Place Board**
 - Urgent Care and Locality Sub Group

Rotherham Community Hub

Rotherham Covid-19 Tactical Hub

- **Safeguarding Adults Board**

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership

Performance & Quality Assurance Delivery Group

Learning & Improvement Delivery Group

Child Exploitation Delivery Group

Practice & Review Delivery Group

- **Adult Social Care Improvement Board**

- **Business Growth Board**

- Local Integration Board

- **Building Stronger Communities Forum**

- Louder Together Steering Group

Early Help Steering Group

Children and Young Peoples Partnership Board

Youth Offending Team Management Board

- **Safer Rotherham Partnership**

- Silver Prevent Group

- Building Confident Cohesive Communities Group

SEND Strategic Board

Preparation for Adulthood Sub Group

Community Navigation Task and Finish Group

- **Rotherham Cultural Education Partnership**

- Rotherham Capital of Culture Steering Group

- Imagine Rotherham Steering Group

- Rotherham Active Partnership CYP Sub Group

- Safe in Sport Task and Finish Group

Health and Well-Being Board

Autism Partnership Board

- **South Yorkshire Safe in Sport Group**

Sexual Health Strategy Group

Operation Stovewood

Bronze Partnerships & Pathways Group

Bronze Consequence Management Group

- **Rotherham Strategic Housing Forum**

- Rotherham Independent Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel (Chair)

- **Thriving Neighbourhoods Programme Meeting**

SEMH Strategy Group

Public Covid-19 Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Sub-Group

CAMHS Trailblazer Local Reference Group

Education Wellbeing Return Task & Finish Group

- **Joint Strategic Commissioning Group**

- **VOICES Alliance Steering Group**

- **Rotherham VCS Strategic Reps Meeting**

Voice and Influence Partnership (Chair)

For more information, please contact **Ashley Leggott**; CYP&F Consortium Strategic Coordinator via Ashley.leggott@cypfconsortium.org.uk or 07731021393