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

	2017					
	February	March	April	Мау	June	July
Helping Children's Services to improve (including tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))	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.	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> <li>Financial investments funding commences in CYPS to help reduce demand and improve the quality of service.</li> <li>CYPS Workforce Board established to focus on improving quality of practice.</li> <li>Agreement to consider a pooled budget arrangement with the CCG regarding mental health services (Section 75 Agreement).</li> </ul>	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.	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> <li>Improving Lives Select Commission submits its recommendations to DfE regarding alternative management arrangements for Children's Services.</li> <li>Commissioners and the Council meet the new DfE Minister for Children and Families to update him on progress in Children's Services.</li> <li>Lincolnshire County Council monitoring visit focussed on Adoption.</li> <li>Appointment of interim joint Assistant Director for Commissioning, Performance and Quality in CYPS.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>DCLT Troubled Families Unit undertakes a spot check of processed claims and confirms the approach is robust.</li> <li>New Principal Child and Family Social Worker starts.</li> </ul>

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Helping the Council improve	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).	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.	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> <li>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).</li> <li>Community Safety and Waste Management).</li> <li>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.</li> <li>'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.</li> <li>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).</li> <li>New Head of Performance, Intelligence and Improvement starts.</li> <li>Cabinet/Commissioners' agree the Council's Asset Management Policy and Strategy.</li> </ul>	Ofsted inspection into Adult Community Learning provision.	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.

	More primary and junior school pupils get their preferred school place (93% get first choice).	

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Supporting Councillors and wider partnerships	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.	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.		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.	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.	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, cochaired by the Council and Rotherham CCG.  Success of Council-led £1.3m bid to Controlling Migration Fund confirmed by DCLG.

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Other contributing factors and dealings by others	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.	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.	Former Tesco building in Forge Island is demolished paving the way for regeneration of the Town Centre.	'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.	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.	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).