

Minutes	
Title of Meeting:	PUBLIC Rotherham Place Board: Partnership Business
Time of Meeting:	9.30am – 10.30am
Date of Meeting:	Wednesday 20 May 2026
Venue:	John Smiths Room, Town Hall, Rotherham
Chair:	John Edwards
Contact for Meeting:	Joanne Martin: Joanne.Martin19@nhs.net Kirsty Gleeson: Kirsty.gleeson@nhs.net
Apologies:	Emily Parry-Harries, Director of Public Health, Rotherham MBC John Edwards, Chief Executive, Rotherham MBC Anthony Fitzgerald, Executive Place Director – Roth, NHS SY ICB Jude Archer, Assistant Director Transformation & Delivery NHS SY ICB Ian Spicer, Strategic Director, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, Rotherham MBC Matt Cottle-Shaw, Chief Executive Officer, Rotherham Hospice
Conflicts of Interest:	General declarations were acknowledged for Members as providers/commissioners of services. However, no specific direct conflicts/declarations were made relating to any items on today's agenda.
Quoracy:	Confirmed as quorate.

Members:

Bob Kirton **(BK)** Managing Director, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
 Claire Smith **(CS)** Portfolio Director – Contract and Commissioning, NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
 Anand Barmade **(AB)** Medical Director, Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC
 Simon Langmead **(SL)** Primary Care Lead for Neighbourhood Working, Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC

Participants:

Cllr Joanna Baker-Rodgers **(CBR)** Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board Chair, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
 Kym Gleeson **(KG)** Service Manager, Healthwatch Rotherham
 Matt Cottle-Shaw **(MCS)** Chief Executive Officer, Rotherham Hospice
 Jason Page **(JP)** Medical Director – Rotherham, NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
 James Eustace **(JE)** Care Group Director, Rotherham, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
 Jude Archer **(JA)** Assistant Director – Transformation & Delivery, NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
 Chris Barnes **(CB)** Chief Operating Officer, Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC

In attendance:

Joanne Martin **(JM)** Programme Lead – Transformation & Delivery, NHS SY ICB
 Nazreen Iqbal **(NI)** Healthy Hospital Programme Manager, TRFT
 Linda Strettle **(LS)** GP Partner, The Village Surgery, Rotherham

Minute Taker:

Kirsty Gleeson (**KLG**) Transformation and Delivery Project Officer (Rotherham), NHS SY ICB

Item Number	Discussion Items
61/05/26	Public & Patient Questions
There were no questions from members of the public.	
62/05/26	Women’s Health Presentation
<p>NI provided an overview of the Rotherham Women’s Health Network, highlighting its development from lived experience of inequalities and its continued growth with strong stakeholder involvement. The network remains focused on strengthening delivery and raising the profile of the Women’s Health Strategy, with a clear ambition to establish a Women’s Health Hub locally. The renewed April 2026 strategy was discussed, noting ongoing challenges including long waits, fragmented services and women not feeling listened to, alongside a stronger emphasis on pathway redesign, practice change and mental health education.</p> <p>Rotherham audit findings presented by LS demonstrated pressures within gynaecology pathways, including high volumes of routine referrals, long waits for menopausal bleeding cases, and opportunities to improve early intervention through advice and guidance, strengthened referral processes and local education. The Oxford model was highlighted as best practice, with all referrals reviewed within 72 hours and patients booked directly into hubs or GP settings using a mix of face-to-face and telephone appointments, resulting in a 50% reduction in gynaecology referrals. The development of a Women’s Health Hub in Rotherham was identified as a key opportunity to reduce pressure on existing services and improve access; however, it was noted that while the strategy is strong, it currently lacks a clear delivery plan and funding, and leadership support is required to progress the establishment of a local hub. NI/LS also requested funding to support a women’s health conference.</p> <p>Discussion highlighted system pressures and capacity challenges, particularly within the ICB where clinical resource is reducing, alongside gaps in the current Target Operating Model which does not explicitly reference women’s health.</p> <p>Variation in provision across practices was noted, with opportunities to standardise services such as coil fitting. BK reported that from a provider perspective, trusts are undertaking gap analysis following the national strategy, with an Advice and Guidance group established to help manage demand, which has increased significantly particularly within gynaecology despite ongoing investment to expand workforce and improve performance.</p> <p>Partners identified opportunities to link this work with neighbourhood models, with immediate “quick wins” around education and improving primary care consultations. NI/LS to link in with JM around neighbourhood models, CB at Connect Healthcare for primary care education and CBR for RMBC support to expand the women’s health network and explore funding opportunities for a women’s health conference.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: NI/LS/JM/CB/CBR</p>	

Strong support was expressed from RMBC and Healthwatch, both reinforcing that women often feel unheard, with further insight being gathered through ongoing surveys. The ICB confirmed commitment to escalate women’s health within Place planning, support training, strengthen neighbourhood links, and explore further opportunities. Members thanked NI/LS for their presentation.

63/05/26	Healthwatch Q4 Report
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KG presented the Healthwatch report covering Quarter 4 for information. KG highlighted that from January-March 2026, 271 clients had been sign posted to different organisations and the newsletter had grown by over 200 people. There was concern going forwards that if Healthwatch is not here, who will support this signposting work.

Key reports this quarter included the social care report which looked at front door response, it was noted that rates had not significantly improved since the previous review and Healthwatch are pulling an action plan together to address this. Some improvements are expected via implementation of the Unpaid Carers Act.

An Enter and View visit had taken place at Archway Pharmacy, and the external/rear collection area raised significant concerns about dignity, safety, and equality, particularly for patients collecting controlled medicines or using the needle exchange service. Public Health are currently reviewing the issue.

Service User Feedback Themes this quarter included long hospital waits times and poor communication between services. KG reported that positive work is underway with TRFT through the Waiting Well framework to address this. Difficulty accessing GP appointments particularly for working patients, issues with follow-up and communication and digital access were also highlighted as a theme during Q4. It was acknowledged that this is due to the ongoing pressures linked to digital access expectations. Other themes included: Dental Services: Continued access challenges. Mental Health: Lack of support waiting for assessment. Waiting times for ADHD/Autism assessments. Lack of support for family and carers. A query had been raised around whether RDaSH could adopt a Waiting Well-type approach, particularly for ASD/ADHD pathways.

Recommendations / System Priorities: Improve Single Points of Access (SPA). Ensure continuity of cover during staff absence. Improve access for non-digital patients. Strengthen joint working across organisations (especially ICB / RMBC / CHC).

CHC challenges were acknowledged by Board members, particularly relating to processes and coordination with a clear need to strengthen joint working between the ICB and RMBC. Partners confirmed that a “you said, we did” feedback loop is in place to demonstrate responsiveness to public insight.

Members thanked KG for the update.

64/05/26	Rotherham Place Partnership Update: March / April
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The update was provided for information. To be shared widely with partners.

65/05/26	Communications to Partners/Promoting Events & Consultations
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None raised

66/05/26	Draft Minutes and Action Log from Public Place Board
<p>The minutes from the meeting held on 15 April 2026 were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>The action log was reviewed.</p>	
67/05/26	Risks and Items for Escalation to Appropriate Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Healthwatch 	
68/05/26	Future Agenda Items:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Updates TOR for Place Board and agreement – June – Feedback from CIP meeting – June – Place Plan Performance report – June 	
60/04/26	Date of Next Meeting
<p>The next meeting will be held on: Wednesday 17 June 2026 at 9.30 –10.30am, John Smith Room, Rotherham Town Hall</p>	

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Members

John Edwards (Joint Chair)	Chief Executive	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Ian Spicer	Strategic Director, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Emily Parry-Harries	Director of Public Health	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Richard Jenkins	Chief Executive	The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Bob Kirton (Joint Chair)	Managing Director	The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Shafiq Hussain	Chief Executive	Voluntary Action Rotherham
Toby Lewis (Joint Chair)	Chief Executive	Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
Claire Smith	Portfolio Director – Contract and Commissioning	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Anthony Fitzgerald	Executive Place Director - Rotherham	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Anand Barmade	Medical Director	Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC
Simon Langmead (Joint Chair)	Primary Care Lead for Neighbourhood Working	Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC

Participants

Nicola Curley	Director of Children's Services	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Joanna Baker-Rodgers	Chair	Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board
Kym Gleeson	Service Manager	Healthwatch Rotherham
Matt Cottle-Shaw	Chief Executive Officer	Rotherham Hospice
Jason Page	Medical Director – Rotherham	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
James Eustace	Care Group Director, Rotherham	Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
Jude Archer	Assistant Director – Transformation & Delivery	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Chris Barnes	Chief Operating Officer	Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC