



# Council

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**Wednesday, 23 January 2019**

**2.00 p.m.**

**Council Chamber, Town Hall,  
Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH**

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council 

# WELCOME TO TODAY'S MEETING

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## GUIDANCE FOR THE PUBLIC

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The Council is composed of 63 Councillors, who are democratically accountable to the residents of their ward.

The Council Meeting is chaired by the Mayor, who will ensure that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to respecting the rights and responsibilities of Councillors and the interests of the community. The Mayor is the Borough's first citizen and is treated with respect by the whole Council, as should visitors and member of the public.

All Councillors meet together as the Council. Here Councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the budget each year. The Council appoints its Leader, Mayor and Deputy Mayor and at its Annual Meeting will appoint Councillors to serve on its committees.

Copies of the agenda and reports are available on the Council's website at [www.rotherham.gov.uk](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk). The public can also have access to the reports to be discussed at the meeting by visiting the Reception at the Town Hall. The Reception is open from 8.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. each day. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain private information and these will be marked accordingly on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Council meetings. A member of the public may ask one general question in person which must be received in writing to the Chief Executive by 10.00 a.m. on the Friday preceding a Council meeting on the following Wednesday and must not exceed fifty words in length. Questions can be emailed to [councilquestions@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:councilquestions@rotherham.gov.uk)

Council meetings are webcast and streamed live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. At the start of the meeting the Mayor will confirm if the meeting is being filmed. You would need to confirm your wish not to be filmed to Democratic Services. Recording of the meeting by members of the public is also allowed.

Council meetings are open to the public, but occasionally the Council may have to discuss an item in private. If this occurs you will be asked to leave. If you would like to attend a meeting please report to the Reception at the Town Hall and you will be directed to the relevant meeting room.

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## FACILITIES

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There are public toilets, one of which is designated disabled with full wheelchair access, with full lift access to all floors. Induction loop facilities are also available in the Council Chamber, John Smith Room and Committee Rooms 1 and 2.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained via the ramp at the main entrance to the Town Hall.

If you have any queries on this agenda, please contact:-

Contact:- James McLaughlin, Head of Democratic Services  
Tel.:- 01709 822477  
[james.mclaughlin@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:james.mclaughlin@rotherham.gov.uk)

Date of Publication:- **15 January 2019**

# COUNCIL

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Wednesday, 23 January 2019 at 2.00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

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THE MAYOR (Councillor Alan Buckley)  
DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Jenny Andrews)

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Sharon Kemp)

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## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

### ANSTON AND WOODSETTS

IRELAND, Jonathan C.  
JEPSON, Clive R.  
WILSON, Katherine M.

### KEPPEL

CLARK, Maggi  
CUTTS, Dave  
HAGUE, Paul

### SITWELL

COWLES, Allen  
SHORT Peter, G. J.  
TURNER, Julie

### BOSTON CASTLE

ALAM, Saghir  
MCNEELY, Rose M.  
YASSEEN, Taiba K.

### MALTBY

BEAUMONT, Christine  
PRICE, Richard  
RUSHFORTH, Amy L.

### SWINTON

CUSWORTH, Victoria  
SANSOME, Stuart  
WYATT, Kenneth J.

### BRINSWORTH AND CATCLIFFE

BUCKLEY, Alan  
CARTER, Adam  
SIMPSON, Nigel G.

### RAWMARSH

BIRD, Robert  
MARRIOTT Sandra  
SHEPPARD, David R.

### VALLEY

ALBISTON, Kerry  
REEDER, Kathleen  
SENIOR, Jayne E.

### DINNINGTON

MALLINDER, Jeanette M.  
TWEED, Simon A.  
VJESTICA, John

### ROTHER VALE

ALLCOCK, Leon  
BROOKES, Amy C.  
WALSH, Robert J.

### WALES

BECK, Dominic  
WATSON, Gordon  
WHYSALL, Jennifer

### HELLABY

ANDREWS, Jennifer A.  
CUTTS, Brian  
TURNER, R. A. John

### ROTHERHAM EAST

COOKSEY, Wendy  
FENWICK-GREEN Deborah  
KHAN, Tajamal

### WATH

ATKIN, Alan  
ELLIOT, Jayne C.  
EVANS, Simon

### HOLDERNESS

ELLIOTT, Michael S.  
PITCHLEY, Lyndsay  
TAYLOR, Robert P.

### ROTHERHAM WEST

JARVIS, Patricia A.  
JONES, Ian P.  
KEENAN, Eve.

### WICKERSLEY

ELLIS, Susan  
HODDINOTT, Emma  
READ, Chris

### HOOBER

LELLIOTT, Denise  
ROCHE, David J.  
STEELE, Brian

### SILVERWOOD

MARLES, Steven  
NAPPER, Alan D.  
RUSSELL, Gwendoline A.

### WINGFIELD

ALLEN, Sarah A.  
ELLIOTT, Robert W.  
WILLIAMS, John

# **Council Meeting Agenda**

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**Time and Date:-**

Wednesday, 23 January 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

**Venue:-**

Council Chamber - Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

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**1. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To consider any announcements by the Mayor in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3(2)(ii).

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend the meeting.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS**

Any communication received by the Mayor or Chief Executive which relates to a recommendation of the Cabinet or a committee which was received after the relevant meeting.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING (Pages 1 - 30)**

To receive the record of proceedings of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 and to approve the accuracy thereof.

**5. PETITIONS**

To report on any petitions received by the Council received by the Council and receive statements in support of petitions in accordance with Petitions Scheme and Council Procedure Rule 13.

**6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To invite Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests they may have in any matter which is to be considered at this meeting, to confirm the nature of those interests and whether they intend to leave the meeting for the consideration of the item.

**7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

To receive questions from members of the public who may wish to ask a general question of the Mayor, Cabinet Member or the Chairman of a Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.



## **8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Mayor, to consider excluding the press and public from the meeting in relation to any items of urgent business on the grounds that private information is likely to be divulged.

There are no such items at the time of preparing this agenda.

## **9. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT**

To receive a statement from the Leader of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.

## **10. MINUTES OF THE CABINET (Pages 31 - 60)**

To note the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 19<sup>th</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

## **11. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES (Pages 61 - 180)**

To consider a recommendation from Cabinet to commence a review of polling places across the borough.

## **12. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – RENTS AND SERVICE CHARGES FOR 2019/20 (Pages 181 - 191)**

To consider a recommendation from Cabinet in respect of approval of housing rent and service charges for 2019/20.

## **13. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - MODERN METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION (Pages 192 - 212)**

To receive for information recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in respect of a scrutiny review of modern methods of construction.

## **14. THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS - UPDATES FROM WARD COUNCILLORS (Pages 213 - 218)**

To receive updates from ward councillors from Wingfield, Anston & Woodsetts, and Boston Castle on the activities supporting Thriving Neighbourhoods across the Borough

## **15. STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (Pages 219 - 224)**

To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of the Standards and Ethics Committee.

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

**16. AUDIT COMMITTEE (Pages 225 - 234)**

To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of the Audit Committee.

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

**17. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (Pages 235 - 245)**

To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

**18. PLANNING BOARD (Pages 246 - 250)**

To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of the Planning Board.

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

**19. LICENSING (Pages 251 - 256)**

To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of the Licensing Board Sub-Committees.

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

**20. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO DESIGNATED SPOKESPERSONS**

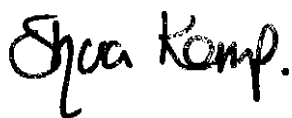
To put questions, if any, to the designated Members on the discharge of functions of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority and South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11(5).

**21. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS AND CHAIRMEN**

To put questions, if any, to Cabinet Members and Chairmen (or their representatives) under Council Procedure Rules 11(1) and 11(3).

**22. URGENT ITEMS**

Any other public items which the Mayor determines are urgent.



**SHARON KEMP,**  
Chief Executive.

**The next meeting of the Council will be on  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 at 2.00 p.m. at Rotherham Town Hall.**

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, 5th December, 2018**

Present:- The Mayor of Rotherham (Councillor Alan Buckley) (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Albiston, Allcock, Allen, Andrews, Atkin, Beaumont, Beck, Bird, Brookes, Carter, Cooksey, Cowles, Cusworth, B. Cutts, Elliot, M. Elliott, R. Elliott, Fenwick-Green, Hoddinott, Ireland, Jarvis, Jepson, Jones, Keenan, Khan, Lelliott, McNeely, Mallinder, Marles, Marriott, Napper, Price, Read, Reeder, Russell, Sansome, Sheppard, Short, Simpson, Steele, Taylor, Tweed, Vjestica, Walsh, Watson, Williams, Whysall and Wyatt.

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-

<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

**100. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor was pleased to present his activity since the last Council meeting which was attached for information to the Mayor's letter.

The Mayor also referred to Councillor Lyndsay Pitchley suffering a stroke and, on behalf of the Council, passed on the very best of wishes for a speedy recovery.

**101. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clark, D. Cutts, Ellis, Evans, Hague, Pitchley, Roche, Rushforth, Senior, John Turner, Julie Turner, Wilson and Yasseen.

**102. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications received.

**103. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018, be approved for signature by the Mayor.

Mover:- Councillor Read

Seconder:- Councillor Watson

**104. PETITIONS**

The Mayor reported receipt of a petition, which had not met the threshold for consideration by Council, and would be referred to the relevant directorate for a response to be prepared:-

- From 235 residents calling on the Council to consider reducing the speed of traffic from the current 40 mph to 30 mph on the stretch of Doncaster Road between Fosters Garage and Thrybergh Country Park.

Mr. Taylor addressed the Council as part of the presentation of the petition.

**105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Albiston declared a personal interest in Minute No. 116 (Council Motion – HS2) and chose to leave the room and not observe the vote.

**106. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

(1) Mr. Jackson asked did the Council accept, that any reduction in the amount of green waste composted due to the changes in refuse collection, would be a failure of the Council's waste policy, and incur unnecessary cost and create a situation of more home composting/garden fires for vulnerable benefits groups.

Councillor Hoddinott did not believe that there would be a failure of the Council's waste policy. Whilst the Council had no way of knowing how much garden waste was composted in people's gardens, home composting was the most environmentally friendly way of disposing of garden waste so where it was safe to do so that was to be encouraged. The Council currently had home compost bins on offer at a reduced cost.

Equally there was no evidence from the rest of the country that charging increased the number of garden fires. The Cabinet Member reminded everyone that most Councils in the country have already introduced charges for green waste before Rotherham.

The Cabinet Member had spoken to Mr. Jackson before about the economics of garden waste. As well as collection costs, the disposal of the garden waste that was collected from residents incurred a cost. The Council paid a contractor to treat the waste, which was the case in all other local Authorities. Any proposal to process garden waste and sell the compost that was produced assumed that there was a profit to be made from the process. This was not the case. The cost of processing the waste would hugely outstrip any potential income that could be made.

In a supplementary question Mr. Jackson referred to the Council collecting or making less compost through not have a full collection system. He, therefore, presented some further information to the Mayor which would explain in full and give a glimpse for the future.

The Mayor assured Mr. Jackson he would read the information he had been presented with.

Councillor Hoddinott confirmed, however, that 32,000 households have now signed up for the new garden waste service and so would receive all year round garden waste collections.

That was nearly one in three of all the properties in the borough.

Even if the weight of garden waste coming through the Council's collections reduced, and it may not do, overall it was expected that the full programme of changes that were being introduced would increase the amount of waste recycled in total, and at the same time save the Council about half a million pounds a year.

Officers have offered to meet to discuss this further and this offer still stood to Mr. Jackson.

(2) "T" was unable to attend today's meeting so the question would be answered in writing.

(3) Mr. D. Smith was unable to attend today's meeting so the question would be answered in writing.

(4) Mr. Sylvester welcomed the news that Members would be reporting to Council on the work they were doing under the potentially excellent neighbourhood working strategy but asked what procedures would be in place to ensure the reports were robust, factual and relevant to the communities they served?

Councillor Watson confirmed part of the role of neighbourhood working and the new neighbourhoods strategy was to improve both the communications and engagement with residents; connecting and shaping Council services at a neighbourhood level.

Each ward had a ward plan that captured locally identified priorities and the activities and projects that would be reported back to Council would illustrate just some of the ways as to how those priorities were being tackled and, therefore, relevant to those particular communities. These were on the Council's website and if they were not factual or robust then the local residents involved would certainly be challenging their accuracy.

At each Council meeting from now on Councillors from three different wards would report back on the work they were undertaking with their local residents, community groups and partner organisations.

In a supplementary question Mr. Sylvester referred to the potential excellent neighbourhood working across the borough which was far better than the work in the previous Area Assemblies. In Scrutiny many of the potential problems were identified regarding devolved budgets and cross area working. There were good examples of where it was working well and Wingfield had been identified as incredibly good with Councillors from different parties working together. There were some issues with some of the Ward Plans. The one for Silverwood Ward indicated that Councillors would attend Thrybergh Parish Council as part of the consultation, but only Councillor Napper had attended. Looking at the Ward Plan for East

**COUNCIL MEETING - 05/12/18**

Herringthorpe no consultation had taken place other than residents complaining. Mr. Sylvester, therefore, asked if there could be anything wrote in where the Ward Plans could be challenged or questioned through scrutiny for any comments or recommended change.

Councillor Watson confirmed residents could telephone, email or attend a surgery with their Ward Councillor and he was aware that Improving Places Select Commission would monitor the Strategy.

Today was the first attempt at the Ward Plans being presented to Council and feedback was welcome on how things could be done better. He hoped that next year's Annual Report that would be presented to Improving Places would prove to be an excellent neighbourhood working strategy.

**107. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:-** That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, that should the Mayor deem if necessary the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that any items involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.

**108. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT**

The Leader of the Council wished to say a few words in relation to the story covered initially in The Times newspaper last week, and subsequently in other media. He spoke for everyone in this chamber whose hearts went out to those involved in the story. Many had met Sammy Woodhouse personally, and held her in the highest of respect. Clearly her experiences in the family court have been traumatic, and that was a cause of real sorrow to all. It was not possible to comment on the specifics of Sammy's case. Family Courts were held in private and revealing information about individual cases could result in contempt of court. The privacy of the child in the case was also paramount.

The issue centred around part of the family court proceedings and whether parents who did not have parental responsibility must legally be informed about certain legal proceedings in the family courts involving their children.

Social workers must listen to and act in the best interests of the child at all times and the Leader was confident that staff have followed the national rules correctly. Social workers have not tried to use the family courts to give convicted violent criminals access to any children, or to arrange custody for perpetrators of child sexual exploitation.

As the Local Government Association said in their statement last week: "Councils are absolutely committed to making sure the welfare and wellbeing of the child is paramount in decisions about their care.

However while these are complex issues, councils have to operate within the existing legal framework at all times."

Some commentators last week suggested that social workers should choose when to follow the law just as a matter of "common sense".

Had, in Rotherham, during government intervention, a social worker decided that the law did not need to apply, the Council would have been dealing with an entirely different and legitimate set of concerns.

The Leader wanted to be clear that elected politicians did not direct individual safeguarding and family court cases. Those who have argued that politicising these processes further were, in his opinion, gravely mistaken.

None of this changed the heartache from recent days, but it did not mean that the national rules were right.

Rotherham's priority remained working to safeguard vulnerable children within the borough. Contact with the Ministry of Justice had continued over the last week and the potential issues around current practice directions in England and Wales were being treated with the gravity and urgency that they required.

An announcement from the Ministry of Justice was awaited on their next steps and support had been reiterated to participate along with other Council's in any considerations of the guidance that may be proposed.

The Ministry of Justice have confirmed that their previous statements regarding 'failings' were given prior to a review of the case, and they were now considering potential issues with practice directions in England and Wales. They have said there was no suggestion Rotherham Council had operated outside of the current practice guidelines.

Of course, any clarification did not help victims and survivors affected by current guidance, and Rotherham was committed to working constructively with victims, survivors and the Ministry of Justice on the important issues raised.

The Leader was proud of all the progress made in Rotherham over the last four years and during the last week it felt like steps had been taken backwards.

Rotherham was in a different place to what it was in 2014. Not just because the Commissioner intervention was brought to an early conclusion, or because Children's Services recovered its "Good" Ofsted

**COUNCIL MEETING - 05/12/18**

rating faster than anywhere else in the country had. Looking at the Council agenda today, this was a better Council than the one visited by Alexis Jay.

This would not mean that things would not go wrong and that everything was done right, but the Council would act with integrity in putting it right.

The measure of a person was not how they fell down, but how they got up. This was not the moment to turn inwards, but to continue to do better and to be better.

The Mayor invited Councillors to ask questions or make comments on the statement by the Leader.

Councillor Cusworth reiterated, as the Leader had already suggested, this was not the place for the chamber to discuss individual cases, but expressed how difficult this was and could not imagine what women of Rotherham and survivors endured. She was amazed at the strength and bravery demonstrated in helping to bring perpetrators to justice. The matter brought to the Council's attention in the media was of serious concern and was assured Rotherham followed the national rules correctly.

At Improving Lives Select Commission yesterday Christine Cassell from the Local Children's Safeguarding Board attended and reinforced how amazing the transformation of Rotherham had been and unprecedented. If the Leader was in agreement the Improving Lives would like to explore the possibility of a piece of work looking at this process further down the line.

The Leader was amenable within the legal boundaries for Scrutiny to look into a piece of work on these proceedings.

**109. MINUTES OF THE CABINET**

**Resolved:-** That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018, be received.

Mover:- Councillor Read

Second:- Councillor Watson

**110. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - CONSULTATION ON THE ADOPTION OF SCHEDULE 3 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 AND A ROTHERHAM SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENSING POLICY**

Further to Minute No. 62 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 consideration was given to the report which sought approval to commence public consultation on the adoption of the Schedule, which would give local communities a greater say about the presence of sex establishments, including sex entertainment venues, sex shops and sex cinemas. This would allow the Council to more effectively



regulate such premises through a formal Sex Establishment Licensing Policy.

It was also intended to develop a draft policy, including proposals relating to the type of locations and number of sex establishments, and to seek views on that draft policy. Whilst this would potential aid a consultation, as it would give consultees a draft set of locations and a suggested number of sex establishments to consider, it could potentially limit the range of sensitive localities being identified, and limit the range of responses in relation to the number of sex establishments in particular locations and likely to elicit a more comprehensive range of views about sensitive localities and the appropriate number of sex establishments within those localities.

Councillor Keenan was in support of the report and deplored an industry where human beings were treated as commodities and booked or sold and this consultation gave everyone the opportunity to express their views. Children had the right to move around the borough and attend churches and schools whilst not having to encounter such establishments. Rotherham, despite what it referred to in the media, was a decent wholesome town and this consultation allowed people to make views heard and make the town a safer place.

Councillor Steele supported the report and thanked Councillor Hoddinott and the officers for protecting the interests of those who worked in this industry and welcomed the equality impact assessment.

Councillor Carter supported the policy and the proposals to regulate the industry, safeguard rights of the workers and ensure rights of all individuals were safeguarded. He supported the consultation with regards to sex establishments in Rotherham.

Councillor Cusworth was also in support of the report.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the proposal to adopt Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended) be considered, and the commencement of public consultation in relation to the proposed adoption be approved.

(2) That, in line with Option 2(b) (Section 4), a proposed draft Sex Establishment Licensing Policy, to run parallel to consultation on the adoption of Schedule 3 above, be approved.

Mover:- Councillor Hoddinott

Seconder:- Councillor Beaumont

**111. RECOMMENDATION FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Further to Minute No. 55 of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, consideration was given to the term of office of the

**COUNCIL MEETING - 05/12/18**

current Independent Member serving on the Audit Committee which was due to cease on 9th December, 2018.

The appointment of an Independent Member of the Audit Committee was a function of the Council and the Audit Committee were recommending that Mr. Bernard Coleman be re-appointed as the Independent Member of the Audit Committee for a twelve-month term of office until 31st December, 2019.

**Resolved:-** That Mr. Bernard Coleman be re-appointed as the Independent Member of the Audit Committee with a term of office ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019.

Mover:- Councillor Wyatt

Seconder:- Councillor Walsh

**112. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS - AUDIT COMMITTEE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY**

Consideration was given to the following nominations as substitute members on the Audit Committee and Scrutiny Committee of the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority:-

- Audit Committee                      Councillor Bob Walsh
- Scrutiny Committee                  Councillor Jeanette Mallinder

**Resolved:-** That the appointments as substitute members be approved.

Mover:- Councillor Read

Seconder: Councillor Lelliott

**113. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY UPDATE**

Councillor Steele, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, provided an update on the latest work carried out by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the Select Commissions - Health, Improving Lives and Improving Places over the last few months.

This was the second update for 2018-19 of the work undertaken by Scrutiny during the last few months and good progress was being made with the planned programme and as always additional items have been scrutinised, including multi-agency working in complex abuse investigations and homelessness prevention.

An initial session with Voluntary Action Rotherham went well and led to members of Rotherham Parent Carers Forum contributing to the scrutiny of child and adolescent mental health, bringing their perspective as parents and service users.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had been busy with budget scrutiny looking at proposals for the next two years as well as close monitoring of the in-year position.

The Health Select Commission was monitoring progress on more integrated working in health and social care and on the social, emotional and mental health agenda.

Improving Lives Select Commission focused on the next phase of early help and the sufficiency strategy for looked after children, as well as having a positive meeting with the young inspectors

Improving Places Select Commission had largely focused on housing and neighbourhood strategies, in addition to finalising the joint review with the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on modern methods of construction.

The Chair wished to pass on his thanks to all scrutiny members for their hard work.

**Resolved:-** That the report be received and the contents noted.

Mover:- Councillor Steele

Seconder:- Councillor Cowles

#### **114. THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS - UPDATES FROM WARD COUNCILLORS**

Further to Minute No. 55 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, consideration was given to the annual Ward Updates for Wales, Wath and Wickersley as part of the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy.

The Strategy signalled a new way of working for the Council both for Members and for staff and covered every ward in the borough and would be delivered through ward plans developed with residents to address local issues and opportunities. Ward Members would be supported by the neighbourhood team and would work with officers and residents from a range of organisations to respond to residents.

Councillor Read, on behalf of the Wickersley Ward, gave an update on ward priorities, which were based on proposals from an extensive residents' survey with emphasis on young people. The Ward was able to join up estate regeneration within Flanderwell Park and with funding from the Housing Revenue Account with Ward Members' own delegated budget the unsafe play area was developed with young people engaged on the design.

In addition, sessions were also arranged to engage some extra youth work to engage young people in diversion activities at certain times of the year.

Speeding came through in the survey much more and certainly work had taken place on Brook Lane and on the road between Bramley and Ravenfield to try and get speed reduced. Reference was also made to litter and a number of schemes like community clean ups had been undertaken. Good progress had been made, but this was plenty more challenges within this process which would be taken forward.

Councillor Hoddinott confirmed a lot of work had been taken place and reported on other activities such as the work on Markfield Drive with physical improvements to the estate and she thanked Councillor Beck for his support. The community centre was now back up and running regular coffee morning and craft workshops which sat alongside the surgeries and the annual Christmas singalong which would take place in the next few days. One of the highlights was the school council elections at Flanderwell School and the environmental projects they were undertaking.

The community speed watch on Brook Lane would be established as a regular occurrence with the local police and a further one would take place with Bramley Sunnyside School in the new year.

There were still many challenges with anti-social behaviour and criminal damage and a plea was made for residents to work with Ward Members to pass on information and look at solutions. Solar lighting had been purchased and erected on footpaths to deter criminal damage and anti-social behaviour. In last few weeks the Police had also been visiting houses to talk to families who were causing a nuisance.

Councillor Beck, on behalf of the Wales Ward, confirmed a key priority had been community safety and engaging vulnerable parts of the community.

Key projects had also been undertaken with local schools, raising environmental awareness of litter and making sure people took greater responsibility for keeping areas clean.

Ward Members also worked with agencies, neighbourhood watch and youth groups with a community safety event in September, 2017 engaging residents with advice and equipment to help them feel safer in their homes.

A piece of work on Alders Way had also taken place following the congregation of youths in a dark alley way which was resolved with the erection of a solar powered lamp-post to illuminate the alley way resolving a particular problem for residents in the area.

A community safety initiative on Peregrine Way, Harthill highlighted the need for keeping elderly homes safe and a number of safety devices were fitted to homes free of charge.

Flagship projects over the last year had been the Wales High School pedestrian safety scheme involving work with local neighbours, residents and the school for safer pedestrianised areas and widened footways.

Billy and Belinda Bollards, following on from other success in the borough, were also erected at some primary schools. These bollards were designed to look like small young children to assist with slowing down traffic. It was the intention for these to be erected outside all primary schools in the ward this financial year.

Ward Members were committed to taking forward serious issues whilst also making it fun for the people involved.

Councillor Atkin, on behalf of the Wath Ward, referred to neighbourhood working activity at the flagship community facility, run by local people, Montgomery Hall.

The three Ward Councillors along with other Council colleagues in areas such as Housing, Libraries, Streetpride, Green Spaces and the Police worked effectively together successfully, along with various sports clubs and volunteers. Wath Rugby Club's achievement was also being recognised and they had been invited by the Mayor to the Town Hall.

Volunteers played an important role in the community and a cross ward litter picking group had been formed with the Hoover Ward. Ward Councillors had provided litter pick equipment. The group were hoping to fill their 3000<sup>th</sup> bag by Christmas.

Lynn Cadman was singled out for her volunteering efforts with turning Montgomery Hall into a thriving and well managed asset. It was thanks to her that the Hall provided a much needed community facility being used by the community most days.

Special recognition also needed to be given to Lucy Reeder, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, shared with Swinton. Ward Members were concerned they were to lose her support, but lobbied officers to ensure her work could continue and that her work in the ward was recognised.

Councillor Elliot spoke positively about Wath Gala and the Christmas Festival which was becoming increasingly popular in the community supported by local businesses. These events provided opportunities for local charities and small businesses along with the community in engaging together and empowering volunteers. Events such as these created a better community and it was so humbling and proud to see members of the ward volunteer their time to move forward with things they wanted to do. Wath was a great place to live and was improving all the time.

Councillor Steele, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, welcomed the opportunity for these ward reports to be considered

by Council and for what worked and did not work to be shared. As indicated by a member of the public it was not felt appropriate for these reports to be considered by Scrutiny.

Resolved:- That the ward updates be received and the contents noted.

**115. NOTICE OF MOTION - SCHOOL TRANSPORT CHARTER**

Proposed by Councillor Steele and seconded by Councillor Lelliott:-

This Council supports:-

- the work of the Rotherham Youth Cabinet and their Counterparts a cross South Yorkshire in developing the South Yorkshire Transport Charter.

This Council recognises:-

- that the Charter will improve accessibility and safer transport and travel across South Yorkshire for all young people. The charter sets out the principles for all partners and also the responsibilities for children and young people themselves as transport users.

This Council resolves:-

- to thank the young people in Rotherham for their contribution to developing the charter following work undertaken in takeover day with Scrutiny.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

**116. NOTICE OF MOTION - HS2**

Proposed by Councillor R. Elliott and seconded by Councillor M. Elliott:-

This Council notes:-

- the recent developments and disclosures about the out of control and spiralling costs of HS2
- the need for improved links throughout the region to Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool and Hull.
- the ravaging impact of austerity on social services and the urgent need to increase spending on children and young people, adult social care and education.

This Council resolves:-

- to call on the Government to cancel the HS2 project immediately, thus saving Rotherham, South Yorkshire and the Nation from an unmitigated economic and environmental disaster.

- to call on the Government to allocate the funding released from cancellation for use to boost local infrastructure and social spending
- to call on local MPs and the Mayor of the Sheffield City Region to support the Council and our communities by lobbying for the cancellation of the HS2 project.

Councillor Lelliott proposed and Councillor Watson seconded the following amendment:-

**To replace**

That this Council resolves to:-

- call on the Government to cancel the HS2 project immediately, thus saving Rotherham, South Yorkshire and the Nation from an unmitigated economic and environmental disaster.
- call on the Government to allocate the funding released from cancellation for use to boost local infrastructure and social spending.
- call on local MPs and the Mayor of the Sheffield City Region to support the Council and our communities by lobbying for the cancellation of the HS2 project.

**And insert**

This Council resolves:-

- to call on the Government to abandon the Leeds leg of the HS2 project immediately, thus saving Rotherham and South Yorkshire from the significant adverse environmental impact which will result.
- to call on the Government to allocate the funding released from the abandonment of the Leeds leg to boost essential improvements to local transport infrastructure and the Northern Powerhouse.
- to call on local MPs and the Mayor of the Sheffield City Region to support the Council and our communities by lobbying for the abandonment of the Leeds leg of the HS2 project.
- to continue to raise the concerns of local residents that affected by the amended route of HS2, and the disruption that will be caused during its construction."

On being put to the vote the amendment to the motion was put and won and became the substantive motion.

On being put to the vote, the substantive motion was carried.

**117. PLANNING BOARD**

**Resolved:-** That the reports, recommendation and minutes of the meetings of the Planning Board be adopted.

Mover:- Councillor Sheppard

Seconder:- Councillor Williams

**118. LICENSING**

**Resolved:-** That the reports, recommendation and minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee and Licensing Board Sub-Committee be adopted.

Mover:- Councillor Beaumont

Seconder:- Councillor McNeely

**119. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO DESIGNATED SPOKESPERSONS**

**(1) Councillor Carter** asked was he able to know the full final legal bill – including detriment costs – following the outcome of the Judicial Review into the unlawful duty system, Close Proximity Crewing in South Yorkshire?

Councillor Atkin confirmed the issue was raised at the meeting of the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority on 26th November. The position was explained to the Members of the Authority that the claims have been settled, in principle, subject to the individual claimants being consulted by their legal advisers and trade union representatives.

Only once it had been clarified that the proposed terms had been agreed by the individual claimants the full details of the compensation agreed would be reported to the Fire and Rescue Authority.

In terms of the financial implications of the costs of the judgement, which would include the compensation as well as the costs of the revised IRMP, these were being addressed within the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked would South Yorkshire Fire Authority be increasing the Council Tax precept to the maximum amount to help cover the cost of the detriment payments.

Councillor Atkin confirmed there were no plans to increase the cost to cover the detriment payments, but the Fire Authority would be setting the budget under the normal process.

**(2) Councillor Carter** asked what were SYFR's reserves balance at the time CPC was rolled out?

Councillor Atkin confirmed Lowedges and Aston Park Fire Stations went live with CPC at the end of 2014. At this time, the Authority's earmarked



and general reserves were around £25 million. Reserves could only be spent once and were not a realistic or viable way of paying for long term, revenue spending such as staff pay.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked would the Fire Authority be dipping into reserves to cover the detriment payments and/or increase the provision of fire cover as determined by this Council in the motion to the Fire Authority earlier this year given there was £25 million in the pot and did he agree there were now funds to enable this to happen.

Councillor Atkin reiterated reserves could only be spent once and were not a realistic or viable way of paying for long term, revenue spending such as staff pay. £17 million had already been committed to essential capital investment. None of these measures would have been necessary had it not been for the austerity and budget cuts enforced by the Coalition Party during 2010-2015.

## **120. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS AND CHAIRMEN**

**(1) Councillor B. Cutts** formally withdrew this question.

**(2) Councillor Brookes** referred to the recent care proceedings case which had provoked a clear and strong moral reaction from all. Victims and their families should be protected from their rapists. The law notwithstanding, did the Deputy Leader agree that the Council was doing all it could to support staff to raise concerns and question practice over potential harm and ethical issues?

Councillor Watson confirmed the protection of individuals, whether children or adults, was central to social work practice. Practitioners worked hard to ensure that vulnerabilities and risks were understood and taken into account within the work that they did. It was important that staff worked within national guidance and statutory procedures to ensure that the complex nature of their work was set within national practice and had adherence to practice across the country.

By implementing Restorative Practice and Reflective Supervision social workers were encouraged to raise concerns and escalate challenges to their line managers in order to achieve the best outcomes for their children and young people. The Council would work hard to ensure that social workers and team managers have time for reflective discussion and where appropriate escalate concerns about case work to more senior managers. The Council were working hard to continue to promote the culture of learning throughout the service where workers were encouraged to be curious, raise concerns and reflect on what actions were required for each individual situation.

In a supplementary question Councillor Brookes was pleased to hear about the ongoing journey and the culture of learning and understood the Council had operated in the guidelines and asked if, with more foresight

and with more questions being asked, there may have been a different outcome and perhaps a different one going forward for similar cases that may arise.

Councillor Watson confirmed it was impossible to talk about individual cases, but he was confident that workers did what was required by law and advised of them. Going forward any changes that may happen or be suggested Rotherham's staff should not be in a position where they were unable to follow the law.

**(3) Councillor Carter** asked how many other rape victims who have had children consequently have had their rapists contacted about parental responsibility?

Councillor Watson thought it would be helpful to clarify parental responsibility – this was a legal term outlined in the Children Act 1989. It set out the rights, duties and responsibilities that a parent had in relation to their child. When issuing care proceedings the Council was required to contact all persons with parental responsibility and any person who the Council believed to be a parent without parental responsibility.

Family care proceedings were held in private in order to protect children and, therefore, the Council could not provide information on specific situations including the circumstances in which children were conceived.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked given that a number had not been provided how many rape victims have been contacted in this way.

Councillor Watson pointed out as reported in the news following Sammy's story there were certainly other cases in other parts of the country involving biological fathers who have been convicted of violent offences who have been legally entitled to certain parental rights. Whilst he could not comment on what may or may not have happened here, when Councils were all following the same rules, it was inconceivable that there have not been other similar cases nation-wide.

**(4) Councillor Carter** asked who sanctioned whether or not a rapist was contacted by RMBC to be involved in their child's care?

Councillor Watson explained when the Council issued care proceedings to safeguard a child, it was required to give notice of those proceedings, by law to any person holding parental responsibility for that child and/or any person the Council believed was a parent of any child who was a subject of those proceedings. A parent with parental responsibility by law would automatically become a party to care proceedings. It was for the Court to decide whether a parent without parental responsibility should become a party to the proceedings.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked when was the Deputy Leader made aware of this being taken forward of rapists being contacted in terms of the Children's Act.

Councillor Watson explained that these requirements in law were operational matters and not strategic. He did not believe Lead Members would be asked to comment on specific cases moving forward as it would be expected that staff acted within the law within their profession.

**(5) Councillor Carter** asked what representations had RMBC made to the Ministry of Justice to clarify guidance on contacting rapists about parental responsibility?

Councillor Watson confirmed the Council had been in continued contact with the Ministry of Justice since the articles in the press last week and was confident that the serious matters raised regarding the current practice directions in England and Wales were being treated with the gravity and urgency that they required.

An announcement was currently awaited from the Ministry of Justice on their next steps and the Council have re-iterated support to engage with them in their actions on this matter. The Council were very happy to work with them on what might be considered a suitable way of dealing with cases like this in the future.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked was this the first contact relating to these guidelines with the Ministry of Justice in the aftermath of the press stories.

Councillor Watson confirmed the first contact would have been last week. However, Rotherham had its own Legal Team that knew how the law worked so you would not expect the Council every time a Social Worker had to take a decision to ring up the Ministry of Justice to see if they agreed with the action being taken.

**(6) Councillor Carter** asked what representations had RMBC made to try and change the law about contacting rapists about parental responsibility?

Councillor Watson explained the Council had requested, along with many others, that the Ministry of Justice undertake a review of practice guidance and support had been offered to such a national review as it was felt Rotherham had experience in this field.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked when did those first representations happen.

Councillor Watson referred to the answer above and confirmed the first contact would have been last week.

**(7) Councillor Short** asked had the Council signed a non-disclosure agreement with HS2 Rail Link?

Councillor Lelliott confirmed a Service Level and Non-Disclosure Agreement with HS2 was signed by the Council on 13th July, 2017.

The Council had signed it because without signing it, HS2 would not provide information to the Council and, therefore, the Council's ability to represent local communities would be impaired.

In a supplementary question Councillor Short was disappointed, but not surprised that twenty-six Councils, including North Yorkshire, had signed these agreements. The perception by the public were these agreements were gagging orders to keep residents in the dark to prevent them from mounting campaigns against building HS2. It was a perception and not in public interest at all, but only that of HS2. By signing the agreement it would appear the Council was not supporting the residents it claimed to be supporting. The Council was saying it was against HS2, but quietly had signed a legal agreement.

Councillor Lelliott wished to clarify the position. Perception was not always fact and true. Signing the agreement meant that HS2 could share information with the Council in advance of it becoming public and for the Council to respond to proposals. Without this the Council would not be able to make representations on behalf of the Council and on the people it represented. Signing of the agreement was a necessity to ensure the Council was kept informed of developments.

**(8) Councillor Cowles** asked if the position could be clarified on the Cross Keys and No. 28 Moorgate Street with regard to their current NDLR tax status and did this result in a cost to the tax payer, if so, how much was the taxpayer percentage contribution and what had been the taxpayer cost to-date?

Councillor Alam confirmed the Open Minds Theatre Company (OMTC) took the tenancy of the both properties from 30th September, 2016 and they received 80% mandatory Charitable Non-Domestic Rates relief on them both.

They had been liable to pay the remaining 20% of the Non Domestic Rates from the tenancy start date.

Legislation required the cost (loss of income) of the 80% mandatory relief to be shared in the following proportions:-

- 50% Central Government.
- 49% RMBC.
- 1% Fire Service.

Reduced business rates income to the Council in relation to the Cross Keys, Moorgate Street from 30th September, 2016 to 31st March, 2019 was £3,188.74.

Reduced business rates income to the Council in relation to 28 Moorgate Street, as a result of the 80% mandatory relief from 30th September 2016 to 31st March 2019, was £1,292.50.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles understood the properties were being used for storage and resource. However, he had never seen anyone taking stuff in or out. Furthermore, a notice had been posted indicating an asbestos problem and realistically people should not be disturbing this material. He asked if the Council could investigate what was going on with these buildings, how much was being stored, if the charity was making best use of its funds, taxpayers money and storage utilisation.

Councillor Alam confirmed that the charity had given assurances that they were using these buildings for storage and the legal position was that if they were using the building for occupation then they were entitled to relief.

**(9) Councillor Cowles** referred in a recent communications release concerning Eastwood properties. The officer referring to the properties described them as “two rat infested homes”, PR 21562, their words not his and he asked did this clearly indicate the failure of the Eastwood Deal and Selective Licensing?

Councillor Beck confirmed no, but that it showed that if the Council had followed Councillor Cowles’ advice and that of the opposition party and not introduced selective licensing, the residents in those properties would still be living in rat infested houses.

Instead, because of the policy the Council introduced, the landlord was facing criminal charges, an unsafe property had been closed, and the tenants were living in suitable accommodation. He would always defend that the Eastwood Deal and selective licensing were a success.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles believed this indicated the initiatives had failed. Selective licensing did not give the Council any powers it did not already have. It merely transferred cost and raised rents as a result. If this was success then he would not like to see failure. The press release went on to cover rat infestations, gardens full of rubbish and a further house with a rodent problem. All these issues had been raised by himself previously. The Eastwood Deal had been in place at whatever cost, the local MP had visited recently and a rodent had run out in front of her. She commented that you would not get rid of the problem until the waste was removed. Rodents did migrate and on occasions when Councillor Cowles had walked at the back of the Town Hall he had seen rodents as there was waste food all over the place. The problem was

becoming widespread. The emails he had referred to previously in the summer highlighting this problem had also been sent to the Cabinet Member responsible so she could not deny that she was not aware of the rodent problem. He asked when would the Council tackle the problem with some urgency.

Councillor Beck confirmed Eastwood did have its challenges, but good progress was being made. Crime and anti-social behaviour was falling in Eastwood and standards was rising which could be evidenced. More people were playing a part in that area of the town. When properties were first inspected in Eastwood more than 90% did not meet legal requirements. Now over 94% met the standard expected. The Council would continue to work to bring about improvements.

**(10) Councillor Napper** asked what steps was RMBC taking with regards to complaints against the Customer Service Department?

The Leader did not specifically know what Councillor Napper had in mind. However, the formal complaints procedure was managed outside of the Customer Services Department.

This year there had been a total of 36 formal complaints received regarding Customer Services since 1st April, 2018.

44% (11 out of 25) of complaints for Customer Services were upheld or partially upheld since 1st April, 2018. Any further specific issues the Leader was happy to pick those up.

In a supplementary question Councillor Napper referred to a visit to the Town Hall last week where he was asked by the Chair of the Northern Housing Panel if any people had complained to him about Customer Services. He found this quite alarming with the number of complaints that the problem was not being dealt with.

The Leader reiterated the invitation to pick up these matters after the meeting.

**(11) Councillor Napper** asked did RMBC employ a Housing Fraud Officer?

Councillor Beck confirmed the Council did not employ a specific Housing Fraud Officer, but the Housing Service did have a number of checks in place for the detection and prevention of fraud. For example, all Right to Buy applications were put through a series of checks by officers working in the Right to Buy and Leasehold Service to ensure fraudulent applications were not made. When processing applications officers would include proof of ID and proof of residency and carry out anti money laundering checks.

In respect of tenancy fraud officers working in the Housing and Estate Management Service carried out a rolling programme of tenancy audits/verification checks by visiting tenants in their home and asking a series of questions to confirm who was living in the property and the details of the household corresponded with the tenancy. Such visits and enquiries helped investigate any allegations of non-occupation or subletting of Council tenancies.

**(12) Councillor Jepson** asked what was the future of the Chesterfield Canal Steering Group given that there have been no meetings held since April of this year. He had contacted the Assistant Director for Culture, Sports and Tourism some eight weeks ago on this matter and was still waiting for a reply.

Councillor Allen confirmed a reply with an explanation and an apology had been forwarded onto Councillor Jepson. The next meeting of the Steering Group was scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.

In a supplementary comment Councillor Jepson was hopeful the meeting would take place as it had been nine months since the last one.

**(13) Councillor Carter** asked what progress had been made since the last full Council meeting in regards to ending period poverty in our secondary schools?

Councillor Watson confirmed all schools and academies have a delegated budget which included an amount allocated to address health, safety and welfare issues. As part of this arrangement, secondary schools routinely held a stock of female sanitary products in first aid/medical rooms and designated facilities for the use of pupils where needed.

What appeared to be a problem for some pupils was their inability to ask for help. It was, therefore, proposed that an approach be made to the secondary heads at their meeting next week where the Deputy Leader was to speak to them about the principle of having somewhere in school a stock of products without pupils having to ask.

There was also a national project called the "Red Box Project", which placed red boxes in supermarkets in the same way as food banks so that members of the public could donate products so they could be put into schools and be readily available. An appointment had been made with the Chair of the "Red Box Project" to consider such a scheme in Rotherham to which Councillor Carter would be invited. There was a local scheme, however, and the details would be shared once contact had been made.

This was an issue as austerity continued to bite for families on very limited incomes that would have to make the choice about food, heating or sanitary protection. This was a serious issue that needed to be taken forward.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked if the meeting would consider how the “Red Box Project” could be rolled out in Rotherham with local businesses and local charities helping out.

Councillor Watson confirmed he would be approaching local business or local charities to see how they could help with funds to roll out this programme.

**(14) Councillor Carter** asked what were the results of the recent homelessness audit carried out in Rotherham?

Councillor Beck confirmed the Council did not do a homelessness audit, but did monitor the number of homelessness cases and the number of rough sleepers through an annual count. This information was returned to Government as part of a national count return.

The service was currently working with eighteen known rough sleepers and was writing a new Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy that would be published in the spring.

The Council had also seen an increasing demand around homelessness. It was important to make a distinction of those vulnerable at the point of being homeless and having no home. This was an increasing issue for services and the Council took its duties seriously to work with those people to find a home as soon as possible through Council housing stock or out in the private/voluntary sector.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter firstly asked about the annual canvas, what form this took in the borough and how it happened and secondly, what statutory provision and obligation did the Council provide to homeless people in finding accommodation.

Councillor Beck confirmed the Council did signpost. Rotherham was fortunate to have Shiloh, the homelessness charity in Masbrough, who were there to support people who found themselves homeless. With them the Council were working hard to help people in those situations. The Help for Homeless People Card had also been issued and circulated.

In terms of the national audit a day was selected during the year for Council officers to count the number of rough sleepers found throughout the borough during the day. This was a growing issue nationally and it was very important the Council continued to do all that it could.

**(15) Councillor Jepson** withdrew this question and asked that it be deferred to the Council Meeting in January, 2019.

**(16) Councillor Carter** asked how many retail units were now vacant that were occupied in April, 2017 in Rotherham town centre?



Councillor Lelliott confirmed the town centre had eleven more vacant properties in April, 2018 than it did in April, 2017. Sixteen of the properties which were recorded as vacant in April, 2017 had been re-occupied by April, 2018.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked was the net change seven fewer retail units or eleven more.

Councillor Lelliott confirmed that in April, 2017 of 378 town centre properties 94 (24.86%) were vacant.

In April 2018 of 376 town centre properties 105 properties were vacant (27.9%).

**(17) Councillor Jepson** referred to all Councillors recently being given the opportunity to object to the Government's proposals to allow shale gas exploration to be classed as permitted development which removed the decision making on these applications at a local level and asked did the Leader agree that it was disappointing that only nine chose to do so.

The Leader confirmed he was one of the nine who had signed this as Leader of the Council, but was aware that not all Members had received the email in the first place so was unable to comment on their behalf.

The Leader was also aware that the Planning Board had formally written to Government formally opposing those changes and Scrutiny had looked at this also so a number of Members had actively taken part in some discussions opposing those proposals.

In a supplementary question Councillor Jepson welcomed the answer from the Leader and wondered if not all Members had seen the email. Perhaps it would be helpful if this could be recirculated to all Members so that they were aware of changes.

The Leader confirmed this would be done.

**(18) Councillor Carter** asked did the Cabinet Member not think the previously mentioned changes to burial times in Rotherham went far enough in addressing the needs of Rotherham's communities?

Councillor Hoddinott explained the proposed changes introduced an additional 3.5 hours of available burial capacity each day which was a significant increase in overall capacity from the current arrangements.

This was a change that had been long campaigned for and the Cabinet Member took the opportunity to thank the faith and community groups, scrutiny, officers and Councillor Alam for their support in getting the change and making it happen.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter again asked if this change went far enough for dusk and daytime hours when compared to neighbours in terms of this being a first class service that Rotherham deserved.

Councillor Hoddinott noted Councillor Carter referring to dusk and daytime hours and pointed out that some of the comparators were larger cities when Rotherham needed to be compared with towns. The position would now be monitored as this was a pilot from 1st April, 2019. The three and a half hours a day extra was a significant increase in the service and she was pleased that this change had been achieved.

**(19) Councillor Carter** asked when did the Cabinet Member intend to make a formal announcement on the proposed changes to burial times?

Councillor Hoddinott confirmed the formal announcement date was yet to be agreed, but this would be well in advance of the trial which was planned for April, 2019.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked how did the Cabinet Member propose this announcement would take place.

Councillor Hoddinott explained there would be a series of briefings and public announcements along with discussions with community and faith groups. In getting this change there would also need to be a sequence of events that would require discussions with Registrars, the Coroner and Funeral Directors about how the opening hours would affect their business and services.

**(20) Councillor Jepson** asked when would the results of the 'Waste Bin Review' of 2017 be implemented and the promised new bins installed borough wide. He had contacted Streetpride on 20th March this year to report a badly damaged bin at North Anston, this had still not been replaced and asked if there was a reason why.

Councillor Allen confirmed that there was a backlog of litter bin requests. The Council had undertaken a procurement exercise to implement the replacement programme. The programme had now begun, but a decision was made to replace the old open-topped concrete bins as a priority, given the impact of these on the local environment, especially during windy weather. The service was now starting to work through the programme, and it was expected the damaged litter bin at North Anston would be replaced early January.

As part of the capital budget this year, the Council were investing £56,000 in renewing and replacing litter bins.

An eight week trial was shortly to be embarked upon for solar powered compaction bins and on conclusion the results would be fed back into the Streetpride Working Group for a discussion.

In a supplementary question Councillor Jepson asked if he could have a copy of the programme of replacement bins for when these were likely to be rolled out around the borough on a ward by ward basis if possible.

Councillor Allen would discuss with officers if this was possible to supply.

**(21) Councillor Carter** asked could RMBC guarantee that current safeguarded land in the local plan would not be developed on during this plan period?

Councillor Lelliott confirmed it would be safeguarded.

**(22) Councillor Jepson** referred to the Council deciding to set a two year budget up to 2020/21 and asked did the Leader agree that this would place financial restrictions and influence any future decisions that needed to be made by the new administration that would take over following the next elections in May, 2020.

The Leader explained that by law, the Council had to determine its budget requirement by 11th March each year and set a balanced budget to apply for the following financial year 1st April to 31st March. The responsibility to do this fell to the Elected Members of Council in place at that time and provided some certainty in the plans moving forward.

**(23) Councillor Carter** asked how much Council owned land had RMBC sold to housing developers in the past five years?

Councillor Lelliott confirmed that 27.12 acres (10.97 hectares) of Council owned land had to been sold to Housing Developers since December, 2013.

**(24) Councillor Carter** asked did RMBC intend to take on some of its neighbouring local authorities' housebuilding requirements beyond its own requirement under the "duty to cooperate" in this local plan period?

Councillor Lelliott confirmed the Council did not.

**(25) Councillor Carter** asked what was the process and policy for contacting the Council and subsequent end of tenancy when a relative died who lived in a Council house?

Councillor Beck confirmed that when a Council tenant passed away, the Next of Kin would notify the Council. This could be done in person at one of the customer service centres, over the phone through our Corporate Contact Centre or in writing.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked what happened with that information, was it disseminated to other Council departments and how long were the family given to vacate the property.

Councillor Beck confirmed the information was disseminated to other services and usually it was around two weeks that the family were given to vacate the property.

**(26) Councillor Carter** asked how did RMBC deal with meeting dietary requirements of school children with medically diagnosed intolerances or allergies at school?

Councillor Watson explained the school meals service had a rigid process for dietary requirements. A meal would be supplied to meet the needs of the pupil providing they had been diagnosed by a doctor/dietician. Written medical evidence was required prior to provision of any school meal. The service would be notified of any pupil dietary requirements by the school the pupil attended. The service did not have direct access to any pupil personal information.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked given that process what procurement took place to ensure that school children, in terms of free school lunches, were given a suitable equivalent meal and what was the process when something went wrong or a mistake was made with food given to a child that was not appropriate to their allergy or intolerance.

Councillor Watson explained that one of the problems was if a child was not at a larger school where there were choices each day. However, if you were that one child that had a specific dietary requirement it would be unreasonable to cook different choices each day. It did limit the element of choice and Councillor Watson could not see a cost effective way around this.

In terms of mistakes with diets Councillor Watson had no knowledge of any such situation, but if Councillor Carter was aware of any specific case then he asked if he could share the information with him after the meeting.

**(27) Councillor Carter** asked how would the long overdue introduction of kerbside plastic recycling be communicated to residents?

Councillor Hoddinott explained a seminar was held to inform Elected Members of the process by which the changes to recycling would be implemented and communicated to residents and this took place on the 2nd October, 2018. This was well attended.

The Communications Plan was also discussed by the Improving Places Select Commission and how the detail would be communicated to residents

Changes to collections would be communicated in writing to all households, supplemented by bin tags and stickers at the appropriate time. Information would also be made available online, including a video.

Another seminar was taking place on 8th January, 2019, to further inform Elected Members about how the services would be introduced and communicated to residents. Councillor Carter had been invited to attend.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked for the date when the changes would be communicated and when would the recycling take place.

Councillor Hoddinott confirmed all this detail would be reported at the seminar. The recycling changes would be rolled out in four phases across the borough in stages so people would get to know at the relevant time. This would take around three months weather permitting.

**(28) Councillor Carter** referred to the Government announcing last month a top up of the Transforming Cities Fund to £2.4 billion and asked how much have each of the six Combined Mayoral Authorities been guaranteed in funding from this?

The Leader confirmed the 2018 Budget said that the Government was extending the Transforming Cities Fund by a year to 2022/23 and that this would provide an extra £240 million to the six (sic) metro mayors for significant transport investment in their areas: £21 million for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, £69.5 million for Greater Manchester, £38.5 million for Liverpool City Region, £23 million for West of England, £71.5 million for the West Midlands, and £16.5 million for Tees Valley.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked would the Leader agree that not getting the devolution deal for South Yorkshire means that it was now missing out on a significant amount of money.

The Leader confirmed he did agree South Yorkshire was missing out.

**(29) Councillor Carter** asked since the last Council meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> October, what contact had the Leader had with the other three South Yorkshire Council Leaders in securing their agreement to progress the Sheffield City Region devolution deal?

The Leader confirmed he was in contact with the other three South Yorkshire Council Leaders and Dan Jarvis, the Elected Mayor, and would continue to drive this issue.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked if the Council was any nearer in reaching agreement on this as it would seem to him that the Sheffield City Region Mayor had been in post more than six months and no progress had been made.

The Leader confirmed the Sheffield City Region Mayor had been in post for six months, but prior to that the Leader himself had been the chair so perhaps more than anyone the Leader felt the pain on this issue.

The Mayor had said publically that he had met with the Secretary of State in the last few days and he would continue to push with the Government to deliver on a manifesto commitment that we should sign up on the 2015 deal first and then try to use this for the authorities that wished to move to a one Yorkshire proposal. It would be premature for the Leader to speculate on any discussions, but the Mayor had the Leader's full support on taking this forward.

**(30) Councillor Carter** asked when would the proposed new pedestrian crossing in Anston by the A57 crossroads be built?

Councillor Hoddinott explained there was no confirmed start date for the works. There had been objections to the Traffic Regulation Order required to enable the scheme to progress. The Cabinet Member along with Ward Councillors were keen to progress this crossing in this area and she looked forward to supporting them in this.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter asked if this crossing was now at risk of not going ahead, where would the money from the Sheffield City Region be spent instead.

Councillor Hoddinott explained every effort would be made to resolve this. The Traffic Regulation Order was being processed and officers were looking to get a resolution to this by the end of January, 2019.

**121. URGENT ITEMS**

There were none.

The Mayor, however, drew attention to the Memory Tree in the Town Hall reception and invited Members of the Council to leave a message and make a donation to the Mayor's Charity.

He formally closed the meeting by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council**

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*Email the Council for **free** @ your local library!*

**Our Ref:**

CQ2/05122018

Dear T

Further to the question that you were going to ask at the full council meeting but were unfortunately unable to attend, please find below a written response.

*“As increasing numbers of perpetrators of CSE are charged and then convicted, increasing numbers of families are being devastated. What is the Council doing to support these families and in particular those children (mainly from our Muslim community) who are completely innocent of their father’s crimes?”*

The issue had been raised to the Council through working groups of the Safeguarding Children’s Board, the Safer Rotherham Partnership and directly by the group Mothers for Justice, who the Council continues to work with.

A range of issues such as social work practice, support available through early help, GP’s and mental health services through to arrest tactics and hate crime are reviewed on a multi-agency basis dependant on the needs of individual families and actioned as a part of this work.

We are committed to continuing this work to provide the best outcomes for all children across the borough.

Yours sincerely



**Councillor Chris Read**

**Leader, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council**

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**Our Ref:**

CQ3/05122018

Dear Mr Smith

Further to the question that you were going to ask at the full council meeting but were unfortunately unable to attend, please find below a written response.

*“Who gave the legal advice to the social worker who visited a convicted multi child rapist to advise him to go to court to apply for access to the child he sired by rape?”*

As you are aware, the Council cannot comment on individual situations as Family Court matters are confidential and are heard in private.

When the Council issues care proceedings to safeguard a child, it is required by law to give notice of those proceedings to any person holding parental responsibility for that child and /or any person the council believes is a parent of any child who is a subject of those proceedings.

Parents with parental responsibility receive a full set of court papers and parents without parental responsibility are notified of the date of the court proceedings. Both parents are entitled to seek free legal advice to support them in family court matters.

A parent with parental responsibility by law will automatically become a party to care proceedings. It is for the Court – not social workers – to decide whether a parent without parental responsibility should become a party to the proceedings.

Yours sincerely



**Councillor Chris Read**

**Leader, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council**



**THE CABINET**  
**19th November, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Read (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Allen, Beck, Hoddinott, Lelliott, Roche and Watson.

Also in attendance Councillor Steele (Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board).

**48.           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

**49.           QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

(1) A member of the public referred to the two year budget proposals for the financial year 2021 when the number of Councillors was set to reduce by four. This meant a potential saving of £42,000 which was not listed or could not be seen in the consultation proposals and he asked was this because after the next local elections it was the intention to secretly and quietly confirm an increase of 6.7% in the many Councillors' basic allowance?

The Leader, supported by the Strategic Director of Finance, confirmed that a reduction would be built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy so where costs naturally fell out these would be included. There was no secret plan for increasing Members' allowances.

In a supplementary question the member of the public referred to the difference in special responsibilities where Rotherham's were far higher than in Sheffield by around £100,000. This in itself was far more than twenty of the separate items on the list of budget proposals. He asked was this more important to maintain than say the budgets for Healthwatch, libraries or the Sight and Sound budget?

The Leader explained the allowances paid to Members were set by an Independent Remuneration Panel. This was looked at three years ago when the Panel were challenged with reducing the allowances. A substantial amount of money was taken out at that time as part of the challenge. This was about making sure Rotherham was in line with other South Yorkshire authorities. Whilst attention was drawn to Sheffield the figures were comparable with Barnsley and Doncaster and slightly lower.

Members had to receive some remuneration for the work that they did and whilst the Independent Remuneration Panel determined what Rotherham should receive, Sheffield in turn would determine their own. Whatever was decided in Rotherham paying politicians was always unpopular.

(2) A member of the public made reference to the development of York Road (Item 14 on the agenda) where he had a couple of garages. He explained about the difficulty he experienced on returning home in the early hours from work and being unable to park his vehicle. He, therefore, asked if there would be any parking provision for the two or three residents who actually used their garages each day and the restrictions created by the parking permits in that area.

Councillor Lelliott, Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy, explained consideration would be given as part of the development brief. It was noted the garage sites were currently on the short term let only due to the proposed development in that area.

In a supplementary question the member of the public asked if consideration could be given to parking bays during the building work stages.

Councillor Lelliott, Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy, confirmed this would be given consideration to see what space was available at the start of the process and what conditions could be included to put something in place.

(3) Councillor Cooksey, in her capacity as a Ward Councillor for Rotherham East, sometimes attended a Neighbourhood Watch Group which met at St. Steven's in Eastwood. Concern had been expressed about the high number of privately rented accommodation in Eastwood which, in some cases, had incidents of anti-social behaviour. This had caused problems for the well-established occupants in that area and it was requested that, as part of the development, there be a mixed tenure accommodation and it was asked what kind of guarantees were available for buyers to adhere to this aspiration.

Councillor Lelliott, Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy, confirmed that consideration would be given to the wider area and the development brief. There would be conditions attached for whichever developer came forward, but controlled wherever possible.

The Leader pointed out that the Council would have some control over the development rather than just selling the land off. However, the Council could not guarantee who would purchase the properties, but it would do everything in its power to maintain as much control as possible.

## **50. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the Cabinet and Commissioners' Decision Making Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018, be agreed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**51. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:-** That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the agenda items 13, 14 and 15 on the grounds that the appendices involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

**52. CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) SECTION 75 AGREEMENT (EXTENSION)**

Further to Minute No. 52 of the meeting of the Cabinet and Commissioners held on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, consideration was given to the Section 75 Agreement which had been approved between the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG) and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC).

The Section 75 Agreement replaced an existing Partnership Agreement for the commissioning arrangements between RMBC and the RCCG for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Rotherham. The Section 75 Agreement strengthened the shared commitment of the two organisations to deliver service improvement and transformation of CAMHS through a joint market approach. Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group remained supportive of this arrangement.

The Section 75 Agreement built upon the existing partnership by adding a robust framework for managing the service; it set out performance management arrangements and formalised a pooled funding arrangement for the provision of CAMHS services over the medium term.

The Agreement, which was established following approval by Cabinet and Commissioners, had been hosted by the RCCG who has acted as the lead commissioner for the pooled fund in partnership with RMBC. It was established to last until 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018 unless both parties agreed to an extension of one or two years. The period since 1<sup>st</sup> November had been covered through a suspension in financial regulations, agreed by the Deputy Section 151 Officer, to ensure that there was no gap in service provision for vulnerable children and young people.

It was noted that the CAMHS Service in Rotherham provided by RDaSH was enhanced and complimented by the Looked After and Adopted Children's Therapeutic Team (LAACTT) which was an in-house service provided by the Council. The Therapeutic Team provided a therapeutic service to looked after adopted children in accordance with the Adoption Support Services (Local Authorities) Regulations 2005 and the adoption national minimum standards 2011.

The aim of the Therapeutic Team was to provide a dedicated specialist therapeutic service to Looked After and Adopted Children, certain children who have been in care, including those in special guardianship order placements, and care leavers.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the renewal of the existing Section 75 Agreement for joint commissioning and a pooled fund for the provision of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) for a further two years (to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2020) as provided for in the Agreement be approved.

(2) That the authority be delegated to the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services to sign a written agreement to extend the Section 75 Agreement on behalf of the Council.

(3) That the Council's financial contribution into the pooled fund from the 2018/19 and 2019/20 budgets be approved.

### 53. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Consideration was given to the report which presented an overview of the provisional un-validated educational outcomes of children and young people in primary, special, secondary schools and academies in Rotherham for the academic year ending in the summer of 2018. National averages in the primary phase were sourced from the National Consortium of Examination Results (NCER) software. The Department for Education (DfE) would publish provisional national averages for all phases later in the Autumn Term 2018. Final validated data for all phases would not be available until February, 2019.

Performance in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) for a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD) had continued to rise and was, again, above the national average (by 1.4% in 2018).

In Key Stage 1, 65% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics combined in 2018, compared to 64% in 2017. Rotherham had improved by 1% and was in line with the national average at 65.4%. In the greater depth standard for reading, writing and mathematics combined at KS1, Rotherham had improved by 0.5% to 12.7%; this was 1% above the national average at 11.7%.

In **Key Stage 2**, 61.5% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics combined in 2018, compared to 60.8% in 2017. Rotherham had improved by 0.7% and was 2.5% below the national average. In the higher standard for reading, writing and mathematics combined at KS2, Rotherham improved by 1.1% to 8.2%; this is 1.7% below the national average at 9.9%.

In 2018, the average **KS1- KS2** progress score for Rotherham LA in reading is -0.6 (sig-), in writing was +0.7 (sig+) and in maths is + 0.0. The progress measure in reading was identified as significantly below the national average; the progress in writing was identified as significantly above the national average.

At **Key Stage 4**, the average Attainment 8 score per pupil had decreased by 1.7 points to 43.3 in 2018. The national average increased by 0.1 points to 46.5 (state-funded i.e. LA maintained schools, academies and free schools) and decreased by 0.3 points to 44.3 (all schools including the independent sector). The LA average is 3.2 points below the national average (state-funded schools) and 1.0 point below the national average (all schools).

At **KS4**, the percentage of pupils achieving grade 5 or above in English and maths was 37%; 6.2% below the national average (state-funded schools) and 2.9% below the national average (all schools).

At **Key Stage 5**, Rotherham LA overall A\* to E pass rate had increased by 0.2% to 99.1% in 2018. Provisional national averages published on the BBC news website showed that the overall A\* to E pass rate had marginally fallen to 97.6%. Rotherham LA average was 1.5% above the national average.

Moving forward with schools and academies it was planned to build a more cohesive approach to school improvement through the establishment of the Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership (RESP) with the primary aim of establishing this board to help lead educational strategy across the Council.

In response to queries about the progress between boys and girls it was noted that there continued to be a gap in achievement between girls and boys, but this reflected the national picture. The gap in Rotherham had increased slightly from 13.0% in 2017 to 13.4% in 2018. This was just below the 2018 national gender gap of 13.5%.

**Resolved:-** That the report be received and the latest provisional un-validated education outcomes in Rotherham in 2018 noted.

#### **54. MEMBERSHIP OF THE FOSTERING PANEL**

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval to appoint a new Member to serve on the Fostering Panel to fill the vacancy created after Councillor Cusworth stepped down from serving on that body.

**Resolved:-** (1) That Councillor Bob Bird be appointed to serve on the Fostering Panel for the remainder of the municipal year.

(2) That the Cabinet's thanks and appreciation for the hard work undertaken be forwarded onto Councillor Cusworth.

**55. THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS - THE ROTHERHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD STRATEGY 2018-2025**

Consideration was given to the report which presented for approval the new Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy 2018-2025, which set out a fresh approach to working with residents and partners across the Borough.

The Council's vision was for every neighbourhood to be a thriving neighbourhood where people have a good quality of life. Central to this was the role of Elected Members providing a leadership and engagement role in each Ward.

The Strategy was framed around three key outcomes which described what the Council would like to see in each Ward across Rotherham:-

- Neighbourhoods were safe and welcoming with good community spirit.
- Residents were happy and healthy and love where they lived.
- Residents used their skills and assets to contribute to the outcomes that mattered to them.

The Strategy signalled a new way of working for the Council both for Members and for staff. The Strategy covered every Ward in the Borough and would be delivered through ward plans developed with residents to address local issues and opportunities. Ward Members would be supported by the neighbourhood team and would work with officers and residents from a range of organisations.

Members would be asked to report to Council on an annual basis with an update on progress in each Ward in a logical format for the public.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy 2018-2025 be approved.

(2) That Members in each Ward provide a report to Council on an annual basis covering developments in their Ward.

**56. SEPTEMBER 2018/19 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT**

Consideration was given to the latest report which set out the financial position as at the end of September, 2018 and was based on actual costs and income for the first half of the financial year with forecasts for the remaining six months of 2018/19. Financial performance was a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework, and essential for the achievement of the objectives within the Council's Policy Agenda.

As at September 2018, the Council needed to identify a further £3.1m of cost reduction actions by financial year-end in order to achieve a balanced financial outturn, after taking account of the £10m budget contingency approved within the 2018/19 budget.

The overspending against budget in Children's and Young People's Services Directorate was continuing in the current financial year as a result of demand for services outstripping budget capacity. The number of children in care continued to increase this financial year and had reached 655 at the time of writing this report. The forecast overspend on Children's Services had now increased to £15.7m

Mitigating savings and actions identified to date were set out in Table 1 and described within the report.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board confirmed this report had been considered at the meeting of the Board on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 who were fully supportive of the recommendations. Further work would continue to monitor progress of the overspends in Children and Young People's Services.

Cabinet Members noted the current position and the budget pressures facing the Council and the work taking place to meet the continuing demand.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the forecast General Fund outturn position be noted.

(2) That further actions identified to reduce the forecast level of expenditure be reported back to Cabinet.

(3) That the updated position of the Capital Programme be noted.

**57. BUSINESS RATES DISCRETIONARY RELIEF APPLICATIONS FOR NOVACITY LTD. AND HARTHILL WITH WOODALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Consideration was given to the report detailing the two applications made by the following companies for the award of a business rate discretionary relief in accordance with the Council's Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy (approved 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016):-

- Novacity Ltd.
- Harthill with Woodall Community Association.

**Resolved:-** (1) That 100% discretionary relief be awarded to Novacity Ltd, Summit 1, Mangham Road, Greasbrough, Rotherham, S61 4RJ for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.

(2) That 20% top up relief be awarded to Harthill with Woodall Community Association, Sports Centre, Woodall Lane, Harthill, Sheffield, S26 7YQ for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.

**58. TUC GREAT JOBS AGENDA**

Further to Minute No. 85 of the Council Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018, consideration was given to the report which detailed the approved Council Motion on the Trade Union Congress (TUC)'s Great Jobs Agenda.

This report provided more information about the Great Jobs Agenda and the actions that the TUC would like employers and Government to take to ensure that every worker had a great job with fair pay, regular hours and the opportunity to progress.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the TUC's Great Jobs Agenda be noted and consideration be given to how the principles set out in the Great Jobs Agenda applied to the Council's workforce.

(2) That consultation take place with Trade Unions to seek agreement on notice for allocating/changing shifts.

(3) That more detailed information on agency workers be published in annual reports.

**59. STRATEGIC ACQUISITION OF SIX BUNGALOWS AT PENNY PIECE LANE, NORTH ANSTON**

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval to purchase six, two bedroom bungalows at Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, from Duchy Homes. These bungalows were Section 106 planning gain units and would be purchased by the Council at approximately 60% of the open market value. The forecast completion date of these units was December, 2019.

There was evidenced demand for bungalows in this location and resources were available in the strategic acquisitions budget to purchase them as part of an ongoing programme of acquisitions of new Council homes to replace properties sold under the Right to Buy and to maintain stock levels.

**Resolved:-** That the purchase of six bungalows at Penny Piece Lane from Duchy Homes using the Housing Revenue Account Strategic Acquisitions budget be approved.



**60. YORK ROAD REDEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT BRIEF, APPOINTMENT OF DEVELOPER AND DISPOSAL**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on progress following the market testing of a redevelopment opportunity for a site on York Road and requested approval and delegated authority required to progress this project in order to bring the site forward for development.

Ward Members have been consulted on the submissions received and further consultation would be undertaken in respect of the submitted detailed proposals for them to report back to MKembers of their local communities. Every effort would be taken to mitigate any local concerns where possible.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the aims and objectives for the redevelopment of York Road as set out at paragraph 2.6 of this report be approved.

(2) That an open tender procurement process be conducted in accordance with Rotherham Council's Contract Procedural Rules and Domestic and European Procurement Law.

(3) That the disposal of the York Road site as part of the successful Development Brief be approved.

(4) That authority be delegated for the appointment of the successful development partner and the final terms of the disposal and/or development agreement (in respect of the Development Brief) to the Assistant Director of Planning Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services and the Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy.

(5) That the Assistant Director of Legal Services be authorised to negotiate and complete the necessary legal agreements.

**61. DISPOSAL OF THE FORMER ST ANN'S BUILDING, ST LEONARD'S ROAD, ROTHERHAM**

Consideration was given to report which sought approval to dispose of the former St Ann's Building on St Leonard's Road, Rotherham.

The property was advertised through traditional marketing channels for all disposal options to establish the best future use of the property, with a total of three proposals received. These proposals were considered by the Asset Management Board who recommended that the property be disposed as set out by way of private treaty as detailed in the report.

Cabinet Members noted the poor state and dilapidated state of the building and considered disposal to be the best option.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the disposal of the former St Ann's Building, as shown edged in red at Appendix 1 by private treaty to the recommended purchaser as detailed at paragraph 2.7 3 of the exempt Finance Addendum Appendix 2, be approved.

(2) That, in the event of the disposal not being completed (e.g. if the purchaser withdraws or time elapses), the site be disposed of on the open market, as set out in Option 2.

(3) That the Acting Assistant Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport be authorised to negotiate and agree the terms and conditions of the proposed disposal, with the Assistant Director of Legal Services negotiating and completing the necessary legal documentation.

**62. CONSULTATION ON THE ADOPTION OF SCHEDULE 3 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 AND A ROTHERHAM SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENSING POLICY.**

Consideration was given to the report which outlined a proposal to consult on the adoption of Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 that, following amendment through the Policing and Crime Act 2009, classified the following establishments as sex entertainment venues:-

- Lap, pole and table dancing;
- Strip shows;
- Peep shows and live sex shows.

This report, therefore, sought a recommendation to Council to approve the commencement of public consultation on the adoption of the Schedule, which would give local communities a greater say about the presence of sex establishments, including sex entertainment venues, sex shops and sex cinemas. This would allow the local authority to more effectively regulate such premises through a formal Sex Establishment Licensing Policy.

The report, therefore, also sought Cabinet approval to begin public consultation on a proposed Sex Establishments Licensing Policy to run parallel to consultation on the adoption of Schedule 3.

This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but confirmed they were supportive of a wide ranging consultation and that engagement with industry workers take place on a safe and anonymous basis during the consultation period.

Cabinet Members welcomed the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the proposals to have in place a Sex Establishment Licensing Policy on conclusion of public consultation on the proposed adoption.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the proposal to adopt Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended) be considered, and that Council be recommended to approve the commencement of public consultation in relation to the proposed adoption.

(2) That public consultation be approved, in line with Option 2(b) (Section 4), on a proposed Sex Establishment Licensing Policy, to run parallel to consultation on the adoption of Schedule 3 above.

**63. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Consideration was given to the circulated report, the contents of which were included as part of the relevant item and the details included accordingly.

**THE CABINET**  
**Monday, 17th December, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Read (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Allen, Beck, Hoddinott, Lelliott, Roche, and Watson.

Also in attendance Councillor Steele (Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board)

**64.       DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Read declared a personal interest in Minute No. 78 (Swinton Town Centre Redevelopment) on the grounds of the close proximity of a close family member to the scheme and did not participate in the vote.

**65.       QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from members of the public.

Councillor Sansome commented on the report as part of Minute No. 78 (Swinton Town Centre Redevelopment) and welcomed the involvement of Ward Members in taking the proposals forward.

**66.       MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the Cabinet and Commissioners' Decision Making Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, be agreed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**67.       EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:-** That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the agenda items 15, 16, 17 and 20 on the grounds that the appendices involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

**68.       ADULT SERVICES NON-RESIDENTIAL CARE CHARGING POLICY REVIEW**

Consideration was given to report which detailed how the Care Act 2014 focused on improving people's independence and wellbeing. It made clear that it was the duty of the Council to provide or arrange services that helped prevent or delay people developing needs for care and support. The Council must maintain a service for providing advice and information relating to care and support and the Act stated that Councils may make a charge for meeting needs, covering the cost that was incurred by the

Local Authority in meeting the needs to which the charge applies. In order to do this, a financial assessment was required to determine an individual's contribution to their care cost.

The report, therefore, set out the options available to the Council for non-residential care charges, including options for the financial assessment. An initial review had been undertaken on the non-residential adult care charging policy and had identified key areas for proposed change. The report detailed the Council's current policy which had been benchmarked against other Authorities in the region, and outlined a number of proposed changes for consultation in five key areas:-

- Minimum/maximum charge.
- Additional carers.
- Charge from start of service.
- Review of Disability Related Expenditure (DRE).
- Attendance Allowance/Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payments.

**Resolved:-** That public consultation be commenced with service users and carers so as to inform the changes to the current policy and to provide opportunity for the public to provide feedback on the following proposals:-

- (a) The removal of the maximum charge for non-residential care, while maintaining the minimum charge of £1.
- (b) The introduction of charges where additional carers are provided.
- (c) Amend the policy so that service users are charged from the start of their service provision, instead of from when they are informed of their financial contribution following their financial assessment.
- (d) To include the full value of high rate Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance, and the enhanced daily living component of Personal Independence Payments, when carrying out non-residential financial assessments for all services not just services provided at night.
- (e) To consult on a standard list or rate of Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) to be allowed in the financial assessment.

## **69. HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PATHWAY TENDER**

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on the changing needs of young people accessing housing related support services. It outlined recommendations for the future commissioning of the Housing Related Support Service for young people aged 16 - 25.

The main purpose of the supported housing service was to provide short term safe accommodation and assist vulnerable young people to gain the skills needed to obtain and/or maintain a secure accommodation and supported young people's transitions from supported housing into their own tenancy as well as offering intervention where there was an increased risk of homelessness.

The contracts were awarded in October, 2017 and formed part of the Young People Pathway. The contract period was awarded for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2017 to 30th September, 2018, with an option of a one year extension subject to a contract review. The Council have taken advantage of the built in contract extension for a period of nine months to allow for the re-procurement for the service.

Several cost benefits linked to this service in terms of health, education, future issues which in turn would assist with saving money.

The report set out in detail:-

- An overview of the current commissioned services and key issues.
- The national and local context of young people's changing needs, due to young people presenting with more complex issues.
- An overview on the revision of the existing services and the progress to co-produce a future model that will meet the needs of all young people.
- Outlined how Adult Care and Children were jointly developing clear pathways which may differ depending on the needs of the individual and the statutory requirements for Children and Young People's Services.

Cabinet Members sought clarity on the timeline for the tender process which was set out as part of the report, which would lead to the award of contact by May, 2019. It was suggested that a further report be submitted to Cabinet on the conclusion of the procurement process.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the new service model defined following the completion of the Co-production work and this will inform the specification for the new contractual arrangements be noted.

(2) That the tender for the Housing Related Support Service for young people aged 16-25 following completion of co-production work with relevant stakeholders to develop the new service be approved.

(3) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet on the conclusion of the procurement process.

**70. ANNUAL UPDATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EDUCATION PROVISION AT WAVERLEY**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed how the Waverley residential and business community development site based in Rotherham had outline planning consent for up to 3,890 homes, retail units, community facilities, two primary schools and green infrastructure.

The report, therefore, provided an update in relation to the establishment of education infrastructure on the Waverley site.

As the full pupil yield from new housing could take several years to be realised, the current trigger points to release funding to develop the second Waverley primary school were currently considered to be too early and would have an adverse effect on Waverley Junior Academy as, if the second school opened too early, there would potentially be significant surplus capacity in both schools until the pupil yield increased and schools were funded based on pupil numbers from schools census.

A longstanding Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 funding agreement stipulated the funding release trigger points and timescale for the use of the funding to create primary school education infrastructure. Stipulations have been met for Waverley Junior Academy and any subsequent deed of variation relating to trigger points for school number two would need to be determined through the planning process should it be required to increase the trigger of occupied dwellings for the second primary school by a further 800 occupied dwellings by the developers.

**Resolved:-** That the annual update report be noted.

**71. PROPOSAL TO INCREASE CAPACITY AT ASTON ACADEMY THROUGH BASIC NEED FUNDING**

Consideration was given to the report regarding Aston Academy which was currently oversubscribed and the trend set to continue in future years given its popularity.

This report, therefore, sought approval to fund an increase in capacity at the school to accommodate the current and future demand for places, subject to a successful planning application.

There were significant additional costs to the building project as there were four temporary classrooms and a school gymnasium with changing rooms on site which have a temporary planning consent, as they are located on Green Belt land. These resources were installed as an interim solution as the school was to be completely rebuilt under the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project. Subsequently, the Department for Education terminated the BSF project and Aston Academy's rebuild project was cancelled. The temporary classrooms and gymnasium would

have to be replaced and relocated on site as part of the previous planning conditions. The cost of this work could be met from DfE funds provided to the Local Authority to meet their statutory obligations to provide sufficient school places in maintained schools, academies and free schools. Any other maintenance projects would have to be met by the Academy itself.

**Resolved:-** That, subject to a successful planning application, the proposal to allocate £4.5m capital to increase capacity by 150 places at Aston Academy by the installation of additional classroom space to accommodate future pupil numbers and to replace temporary classrooms currently on site be approved.

**72. PROPOSAL TO MAKE PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS TO THE WILLOWS SCHOOL**

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval to commence a period of statutory consultation in relation to proposals to make prescribed alterations to the Willows School in line with the requirements of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 by increasing the number of places available by twenty and changing the age range of the school to nineteen so students could continue their education in a familiar environment.

This formed part of the report approved by the Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), Sufficiency and Increase in Educational Provision – Phase1 and the proposals to increase the number of SEND places available in the Borough by an additional 125 places between 2018 and 2021.

Cabinet Members welcomed these proposals in the borough when the lack of SEND provision was being reported as a concern nationally.

**Resolved:-** (1) That a period of statutory consultation be approved to commence by the posting of a public notice in relation to making prescribed alterations to the Willows School.

(2) That a further report be submitted in due course detailing the outcome of the consultation and seeking determination.

**73. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and set out a framework for understanding the challenges the Council faced and supported corporate planning. It helped the Council to shape its finances over the medium term by examining the projected resources available to meet the priorities as set out in its Council Plan.



The Strategy sets out the framework and principles upon which current and future financial projections, over the medium term, would be predicated. The MTFS financial projections were revised and updated alongside the setting of the revenue budget 2018/19 and illustrated budget gaps of £29.7m over the period 2019/20 and 2020/21. The financial projections have been reviewed and updated again alongside the development of a two-year budget for 2019/20 and 2020/21 and were incorporated into the MTFS. The details of the budget including outcomes of consultation would be reported to Cabinet and Council in February, 2019 when the Budget and Council Tax Report 2019/20 was considered.

The Strategy document attached to this report represented an interim update to the Council's medium term financial plans, which would be further updated following completion of budget consultation and the receipt of further information on the Council's funding from Government within the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2018/19.

This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but requested the Strategy be updated by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services to take account of the funding announcements from Central Government and addressed the concerns expressed by Members.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved and that it be noted that the final version of the Strategy would be submitted to Cabinet and Council in February, 2019.

(2) That the Strategy be updated by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services to take account of the funding announcements from Central Government and addressed the concerns expressed by Members.

#### **74. CHANGES IN LEGISLATION FOR THE COUNCIL TAX PREMIUM ON EMPTY PROPERTIES**

Consideration was given to the report that detailed how from 2013/14 the Government introduced changes affecting the way that Council Tax was charged on certain types of empty property or second homes, by allowing Local Authorities increased discretion to set the level of charges locally.

One option available to Local Authorities was the introduction of a 50% Premium for long term empty properties which had been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a period of over two years. The principle of the introduction of the Premium was to incentivise owners to bring empty properties back into use.

The Council introduced the Council Tax Premium with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2013 with the 50% Premium being charged on the two year anniversary of a property becoming unoccupied and substantially unfurnished.

In the November 2017 Budget statement, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that authorities would be given the power to increase the Council Tax Empty Homes Premium from the current level of 50% to 100% as further encouragement to owners to bring empty properties back into use.

In January 2018 Cabinet approved the introduction of the 100% Premium, which was expected to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2019. However it had subsequently been announced that further changes were to be introduced to the Premium for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22, which would allow Councils to apply larger premiums to properties unoccupied and unfurnished for over five and ten years. It was understood that further guidance regarding implementation of the 2020/21 and 2011/22 changes may be released by the Government at a later date.

Legislation to introduce the changes to premiums received Royal Assent in November 2018 and it was expected that guidance in respect of the changes that could be applied from 2020/21, would be issued thereafter.

Cabinet Members supported these proposals and welcomed any incentive to bring long standing unoccupied properties back into use.

**Resolved:-** That it be recommended to Council that subject to the legislation being introduced an increase in the Empty Property Premium as follows:-

- (a) From 2020/21 a 200% premium for properties unoccupied and unfurnished for over five years.
- (b) From 2021/22 a 300% premium for properties unoccupied and unfurnished for over ten years.
- (c) Any decisions required in relation to the implementation of premiums following the issue of Government guidance, be delegated to the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Finance.

## **75. REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES 2019**

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval to recommend to Council for the commencement of a statutory review of polling districts and polling places within the borough.

A preliminary review had been undertaken by Council officers to inform the Returning Officer's initial proposals which were set out in the Consultation Paper attached at Appendix 2.

Some current polling places would not be available in future, and the review also took into account the impact of the ward boundaries which would come into effect at the 2020 elections. Where possible schools had been removed as polling stations to prevent closures which could impact on education.

Cabinet Members welcomed the review and sought assurances that the maps were accurate.

**Resolved:- (1)** That Council be recommended to:-

- a. approve a review of polling places in 2019 following the process described in this report.
- b. note the scope of the review and the proposals for changes.
- c. agree the outline timetable for the review, as set out in Appendix 1.
- d. power to designate polling places in accordance with section 18B of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is continued to be delegated to the Chief Executive, such power to be exercised only in circumstances where a decision is required at short notice and it is not possible to await a decision of Council.

(2) That following the outcome of the consultation on the review, the Assistant Director of Legal Services report to Cabinet with final review proposals for determination in order for Cabinet to make final recommendations to Council.

## **76. COUNCIL PLAN Q2 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Consideration was given to the report which set out details of the Performance Report and Performance Scorecard and an analysis of the Council's current performance against fourteen key delivery outcomes and seventy measures. This report was based on the currently available data and also included an overview of progress on key projects and activities which contributed to the delivery of the Council Plan.

At the end of the second quarter (July to September 2018) 24 measures had either met or had exceeded the target set in the Council Plan. This represented 45% of the total number of indicators where data was available or where targets have been set. This was a slight decline in performance from the first quarter when 47% of indicators hit their targets. The Priority area with the highest proportion of targets met was Priority 1 (Every child making the best start in life) where 53% of indicators were marked on target.

The direction of travel was positive for 33 (57%) of the indicators measured in this quarter. This was a significant improvement compared to the 45% figure for last quarter and suggested that, although there had been an increase in the number of targets marked as “off track”, overall performance was improving.

Cabinet Members were invited to highlight progress and performance related to their portfolio areas.

Councillor Watson, Deputy Leader, reported on the good practice in children’s social care with repeat protection plans in two years going down to an all-time low. In addition, the reduction in the number of exclusions from schools which were fixed term was reducing which highlighted the good work taking place.

Councillor Beck, Cabinet Member for Housing, reported on the number of new homes as a result of Council intervention was positive and was fulfilling the need for housing for groups of vulnerable people. The selective licensing scheme was also performing above the target with 97% of dwellings now inspected and working through to compliance. This was a positive picture.

Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Cleaner Greener Communities, was pleased to report on the direction of travel for the number of engagements with the Council’s culture and leisure staff and the number of visits to facilities. Around 10,000 more people attended Rotherham Show in 2018 taking the total up to 60,000 attendees.

Street cleaning and grounds maintenance had seen a slight increase in requests for service, but the actual number of complaints was incredibly low.

Councillor Lelliott, Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy, reported on economic activity and how planning remained at 100% at both major and minor applications. Rotherham was still the fastest growing economy, but there were still pressures on the town centre. Rotherham was not unique and development of Forge Island and Markets would help with this.

Councillor Hoddinott, Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety, confirmed hate crime outcomes had fallen significantly and in the right direction with an increase in the outcomes. Staff would continue to talk to Police on how positive outcomes for victims were achieved. Victim satisfaction was very high as a result of the investigations going forward.

One area for improvement and performing well was anti-social behaviour. Officers and the Police were working with repeat victims, which was going down, and anti-social behaviour perception, which was going up.

In terms of enforcement new service with Doncaster was now having a dramatic effect showing an increase with fixed penalty notices.

Councillor Roche, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, reported on the measures for Public Health which saw a reduction in smoking during pregnancy. Rotherham was one of the few authorities that tested for CO2.

Work was taking place with the new provider with overall progress being made in the reduction in the number of successful completions of drug treatment.

Councillor Alam, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Finance, reported on the areas performing well relating to non-domestic business rate collections and council tax collections. 85% of actions from the Equalities Peer Review had also been implemented. Areas for improvement included the closing of complaints within timescale and number of days lost to sickness, which was hovering just above the target. Work was progressing to address these areas of concern and how employees could be assisted back to work.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the overall position and direction of travel in relation to performance be noted.

(2) That consideration be given to measures which have not progressed in accordance with the target set and the actions required to improve performance, including future performance clinics.

(3) That the performance reporting timetable for 2018-2019 be noted.

## **77. ROTHERHAM TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN - FORGE ISLAND AGREEMENTS**

Consideration was given to the report which within the Masterplan identified the redevelopment on Forge Island as an essential catalyst to wider regeneration.

Following an extensive selection process, a development partner had been identified for the Forge Island development, this report sought approval for the approach required to deliver this. This included both the legal and financial aspects outlined in the 'Agreement for Lease' and 'Development Agreement' documents.

The head lease approach required that the developer raised funding for the total development costs and built out the scheme in return for the Council taking a head lease of the completed development over a fixed term. The Council, as head lessor, would sublet to and collect rents from operators, which would generate an income stream to fund the head lease costs. This was the option being proposed.

Under the proposal submitted by Muse, the Council did not take on the head lease until the various phases of the development were completed and a sufficient number of sub-tenants have been secured and have entered in to lease agreements, thereby minimising the financial risk for the Council.

This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but requested that quality updates be provided, that the Cabinet Member provide exception reports in the event of the scheme not progressing to plan, that further assurances be provided that the insertion of a break clause was not feasible prior to entering the lease agreement and that a report be provided on the feasibility of inserting a break clause for future major projects.

The Chair confirmed Cabinet were happy to accept the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board's recommendations and assured the Chair of the Board that the financial arrangements were feasible, but would be content for further information to be provided in taking break clauses forward.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the entering into a development agreement and the granting of the long lease of the Forge Island development site to the selected developer, Muse Developments Ltd. be approved.

(2) That the outlined financial approach to deliver the Forge Island development be approved and the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment be authorised to approve the final proposal in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy; subject to confirmation by the Strategic Director for Finance and Customer Services that the final proposal is affordable within the Budget and Financial Strategy and within the following parameters:

- The initial rents the Council is entitled to receive from occupiers are greater than the initial head lease rent and
- The financial modelling over the 35 year period shows that the Council's anticipated income from the development exceeds the total anticipated head lease costs.

(3) That the Assistant Director of Legal Services be authorised to agree the final legal documentation.

**78. SWINTON TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT BRIEF, APPOINTMENT OF DEVELOPER AND DISPOSAL**

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on progress following the market testing of a redevelopment opportunity for two sites one a vacant Council owned site proposed for residential development and the other the existing Council buildings in Swinton Town Centre.

The site was fronted by Council owned retail and residential units and community facilities, the rear of the site was vacant. The vacant element was suitable for housing and the development of this land offered the opportunity to bring forward improvements to the Council owned assets. This report also requested the approval required to progress this project through the submission of a Development Brief to the open market.

**Resolved:-** (1) That aims and objectives for the redevelopment of Swinton Town Centre as set out at section 2 of this report be approved.

(2) That an OJEU compliant procurement process be approved to be undertaken in accordance with Rotherham Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Domestic and European Procurement Law.

(3) That Option 2 be approved as set out at paragraph 4.2 of the report. This option foregoes an amount of capital receipt to the Council in order to achieve regenerative benefits to the Community and the Council in relation to the redevelopment.

(4) That a further report be submitted following the evaluation of the tender submissions received, which recommends the endorsement of the preferred proposal and any approvals required for the disposal of land and property.

**79. COMMUNITY ENERGY SWITCHING SCHEME**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed the proposed community energy switching scheme which would be open to all Rotherham residents and would reduce the number of households paying high tariffs for gas and electricity and reduce fuel poverty. Although the scheme would be open to all residents it should be particularly beneficial to hard to reach and vulnerable tenants to assist them to identify and change to a cheaper tariff. Residents could save around £200 to £300 per year in an average three bedroom semi-detached house.

Having completed the recommended feasibility study the purpose approval was sought to carry out an OJEU procurement process to identify a potential partner to develop a community energy switching scheme and inform a business case that would be developed based on the results of the tender.

Cabinet Members offered their full support, particularly where residents would not transfer onto a variable tariff scheme after twelve months, but the best deal at the time would be sought and the need for consumers to keep changing suppliers.

This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but asked that customer support and service standards were ensured and built into the tender framework and that the performance of customer support and service standards be reported on a quarterly basis to the Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the OJEU procurement process be approved to identify a potential partner to develop a community energy switching scheme and inform a business case that will be developed, based on the results of the tender.

(2) That the business case and Tender Evaluation Report be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

#### **80. IMMOBILISATION OF VEHICLES - PERSISTENT EVADERS AND UNTAXED VEHICLES**

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval in respect of the adoption of a policy which facilitated the immobilisation of vehicles. Approval of the proposals would allow untaxed vehicles and vehicles that were the subject of multiple unpaid parking penalty charge notices (PCNs) to be immobilised (clamped). This would prevent them being driven away prior to removal and achieve a safer working environment for officers and contractors by preventing dangerous actions of some drivers.

This report had been considered by the Improving Places Select Commission and reported into Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but requested the viability of reducing the number of offences from six to three be explored, that the introduction of vehicle immobilisation be widely publicised and that an update report be provided after the introduction of vehicle immobilisation.

The Chair confirmed the Cabinet were happy to accept Overview and Scrutiny Management Board's recommendations, but that the viability of reducing the number of offences was still being explored.

**Resolved:-** That the operational implementation of the immobilisation of untaxed vehicles and vehicles of persistent evaders of Parking PCNs, on the public highway be approved.



**81. LEASE OF GREEN SPACE, SCHOOL LANE, PARKGATE TO ROTHERHAM UNITED COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST (RUCST)**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed how the recreation ground at School Lane, Parkgate had been leased to Inzone (Yorkshire) Community Interest Company since 2014 under the Asset Transfer Policy. The lessee now wished to surrender their lease and there was a risk that valuable facilities and infrastructure that they have invested in would be lost as a consequence.

It was, therefore, proposed that the lease be reassigned to Rotherham United Community Sports Trust (RUCST) who have confirmed they would purchase, maintain and provide these facilities for continued community use. RUCST would need to access grant funding to operate and develop the site, and such funding was dependent on them having tenure of the site for twenty-five years without break clauses. Since this was a deviation from Policy, approval was sought to grant an Asset Transfer Policy Lease Agreement to RUCST without break options and set out the special circumstances which related to this.

Cabinet Members were happy to support the recommendations as this would continue to benefit the community in improving fitness.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the grant of a new Asset Transfer Policy Lease Agreement be approved, as detailed in Option 1 of this report on land at School Lane, Parkgate, as shown edged in blue in the site plan at Appendix 1.

(2) That the Assistant Director of Planning Regeneration and Transport negotiate and agree the terms and conditions of the lease.

(3) That the Assistant Director of Culture, Sport and Tourism Service agree and monitor the service level agreement.

(4) The Assistant Director of Legal Services negotiate and complete the necessary documentation.

**82. RIVERSIDE HOUSE CAFÉ**

Consideration was given to the report which provided detail on the implementation proposal to achieve a proposed 2019/20 budget saving by commissioning an external partner to deliver the Riverside House Café provision.

Riverside House had now been open for seven years during which time the café has become an established feature.

Soft market testing of the opportunity as a business venture had established interest and it was considered that a commissioned partner could offer a more cost effective solution to opening the café. Existing staff would be transferred through to the organisation via TUPE.

This report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process who were in support of the recommendations, but confirmed that if the tender process was not successful that future proposals be brought back for review and that preliminary work be undertaken at the earliest opportunity on alternative options in the event of the tender process not being successful.

**Resolved:-** That the conducting an open tender procedure process in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Domestic and European Procurement Law, in order to identify a partner to deliver the Riverside House Café through a lease and profit share tenancy agreement, be approved.

### **83. IMPROVING AIR QUALITY IN ROTHERHAM**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed how air quality was now a major issue of growing interest and significance at a national and international level.

The National Air Quality Plan, published by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in July 2017, identified those Local Authorities with areas that are not compliant with the European Union (EU) Ambient Air Quality Directive were identified through national air quality modelling. Twenty-eight Local Authorities were included ('mandated') in the plan, including Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) and Sheffield City Council (SCC). RMBC and SCC were 'jointly mandated' on the basis that the Parkway in both Sheffield and Rotherham was identified as being non-compliant.

This had placed Rotherham and Sheffield under a legal duty to improve the Borough's air quality by reducing NO<sub>2</sub> emissions below the legal limits in the shortest possible time. The Councils were required to submit a proposal to Government (an Outline Business Case) to demonstrate how they would reduce emissions in the shortest possible timescale, by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018.

A feasibility study has been undertaken to locally assess air quality across Rotherham and Sheffield, to identify key locations where air quality was above the EU limits and to identify and assess mitigating actions to improve air quality at these locations. The findings of the study indicate that Sheffield would need to introduce a Category C charging zone (covering non-compliant buses, taxis, HGVs, LGVs), within (but including) the inner ring-road of the city centre, in order to achieve legal compliance by 2021. The study concluded, however, that a charging zone was not required in Rotherham for the Borough to achieve compliance.

The study identifies that measures would need to be taken at four specific locations across Rotherham to achieve compliance. The proposals in Rotherham, therefore, focused on changes to speed limits on the Rotherham section of the Parkway, improvements to the Rotherham bus fleet and the routing of buses on Rawmarsh Hill and Fitzwilliam Road, and the restriction of HGVs on Wortley Road.

These options were proposed to be accompanied by a number of additional measures, which aimed to support businesses to improve their fleet and improve air quality, such as targeted support to upgrade vehicles.

The Council would seek Government funding, through the Outline Business Case, to deliver on these proposals.

Following submission of the Outline Business Case, a wide-ranging statutory consultation across Rotherham and Sheffield was proposed to begin in early 2019. The Councils would seek the views of people who lived and worked across both areas, and the views of Rotherham's businesses and residents. This consultation would inform the submission of a Full Business Case to Government later in 2019.

The Council is therefore required by law to identify mitigating actions to improve air quality at these sites in the 'shortest possible timescale'. The sites were:-

- Sheffield Parkway in RMBC area (A630) (8% reduction in NO2 required).
- Rawmarsh Hill (A633), Rawmarsh (6% reduction in NO2 required).
- Fitzwilliam Road (A630), Eastwood (2% reduction in NO2 required).
- Wortley Road and Upper Wortley Road, Kimberworth and Thorpe Hesley (A629) (3% reduction in NO2 required).

The M1 remained a major cause of air pollution for Sheffield and Rotherham, however, responsibility for the M1 fell to Highways England rather than the Local Authorities. Whilst Highways England have been involved with the development of Sheffield and Rotherham's proposals the Council continued to urge Government to take a more robust, strategic approach with Highways England, to address emissions from the

motorway network.

This report had been considered by the Improving Places Select Commission and then referred to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-scrutiny process. The Board were in support of the recommendations, but requested that the fleet of vehicles used by RMBC be reviewed to ensure that they meet the required regulations, that, on completion of the consultation, the final business case should make clear those points which have been included arising from the consultation, that the Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety notify the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board when funding has been received from Government for the initiative, that the Clean Air Zone be kept on the scrutiny work programme and that the outline consultation plan be reported to Improving Places Select Commission.

The Chair confirmed Cabinet would do its best to support all the recommendations as part of the pre-scrutiny process.

Councillor Hoddinott, however, pointed out that there was no regulation specifically on Council vehicles, but took on board the need to look at air quality and contributions in terms of vehicles. Equally in terms of Government funding this had already been received for officer time and research which would be subject to further funding of the mitigation measures.

The Chair pointed out that the measures required were all subject to Government rules and based on a national model. However, the Parkway did cross over the border into Rotherham which meant the Council were mandated to take action where it was identified in the report.

This matrix approach of policy measures would be undertaken and it would show the residents of Rotherham that action was being taken and the Council's role in fulfilling the policy without resorting to a congestion charge arrangement.

**Resolved:-** (1) That Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's (RMBC's) commitment to improve air quality in the Borough and to improve health outcomes for residents be endorsed.

(2) That it be recognised that Rotherham and Sheffield's air quality challenge is intrinsically connected and therefore approves the development of a joint air quality plan and package of interventions with Sheffield City Council (SCC) to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of people living, working and visiting our areas.

(3) That the evidence and analysis of the air quality challenge across the areas and the most challenging locations which breach legal limits for NO<sub>2</sub> pollution be supported and noted.

(4) That the proposed mitigating measures to bring Rotherham's air quality within the legal limit for NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the shortest possible time be approved.

(5) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy and the Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety, to jointly submit, with Sheffield City Council, the Rotherham and Sheffield Outline Business Case to Government by 31st December, 2018.

(6) That a further report on Rotherham's clean air proposals be submitted, once Government has assessed the proposals in our Outline Business Case.

(7) That the launch of a statutory consultation in early 2019 on the Borough's proposals to tackle NO<sub>2</sub> pollution be approved.

**84. FOOD SERVICE INSPECTION PLAN 2018-19 AND INTRODUCTION OF A PRE-INSPECTION SERVICE OFFER**

Consideration was given to the report which detailed how the Food Standards Agency required all Competent Authorities to have an up-to-date, documented Food Service Plan, which was readily available to food business operators and consumers. This plan must be subject to regular review and clearly state the period of time for which the plan had effect.

The Food Standards Agency undertook a focussed audit of this Authority in May, 2010 and reported that the framework for the plan was in line with the Service Planning Guidance in the Framework Agreement. The Food Service Plan for 2018/19 followed this outline.

Food hygiene ratings were increasingly important to the food industry, with customers taking an active interest in the hygiene standards of the premises from which they ate, and accordingly making informed choices.

There was an opportunity to offer a pre-inspection advice service to food business owners. The service could provide valuable information and guidance prior to statutory inspections which, if heeded, would enable businesses to enhance their premises and deliver a higher food hygiene rating.

The Council therefore proposed to introduce an in-house offer to the food industry, to provide bespoke advice and guidance and support businesses to achieve compliance and improved food hygiene ratings. This would support food business, and deliver improved food hygiene outcomes for Rotherham's residents.

Whilst there were a number of food premises which would not take advantage of the offer, either because they have their own internal compliance systems, or where they did not see food hygiene as a priority, it was expected that a market existed for support to businesses who were eager to improve their rating and attract more customers.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board confirmed this had been part of the budget proposals that had been considered and supported.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the Food Service Plan for 2018/19 be approved.

(2) That the introduction of a new Council service to provide pre-inspection advice to food businesses, for which a charge of £195 plus VAT will be made, be approved.

**85. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Consideration was given to the circulated report, the contents of which were included as part of the relevant item and the details included accordingly.

## **Summary Sheet**

### **Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Council – 23 January 2019

### **Report Title**

Recommendation from Cabinet – Review of Polling Places

### **Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

Yes

### **Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services

### **Report Author(s)**

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### **Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-wide

### **Summary**

At its meeting on 17 December 2018, the Cabinet considered a report in respect of the review of Polling Places which contained recommendations for the Council to approve the commencement of the review. Cabinet agreed to make the recommendations to Council.

The original report providing detail to the proposals is appended in order to provide Members with sufficient knowledge to agree the proposals.

In order to give effect to the recommendations from Cabinet, consideration and approval by Council must be given to the recommendation set out below.

### **Recommendations**

1. That approval be granted to undertake a review of polling places in 2019 following the process described in this report.
2. That the scope of the review and the proposals for changes be noted.
3. That the outline timetable for the review, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed.

4. That power to designate polling places in accordance with section 18B of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is continued to be delegated to the Chief Executive, with such power to be exercised only in circumstances where a decision is required at short notice and it is not possible to await a decision of Council.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1	Review of the Polling Places – Report to Cabinet – 17 December 2018
Appendix A	Review Timetable
Appendix 2	Notice of Review
Appendix 3	Consultation Paper
Appendix 4	Maps of current wards
Appendix 5	Maps of new wards

**Background Papers**

[Electoral Commission guidance on the review of polling districts and polling places](#)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**  
Cabinet – 17 December 2018

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No



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## **Summary Sheet**

### **Name of Committee and Date of Committee Meeting**

Cabinet – 17 December 2018

### **Report Title**

Review of Polling Places 2019

### **Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

Yes

### **Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Judith Badger, Strategic Director Finance & Customer Services

### **Report Author(s)**

Claire Wardle, Electoral Services Manager  
01709 823521 or [claire.wardle@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:claire.wardle@rotherham.gov.uk)

### **Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-wide

## **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek a recommendation from Cabinet to Council for approval of the commencement of a statutory review of polling districts and polling places within the borough.

## **Recommendations**

1. That Cabinet recommend to Council that:
  - a. approval is granted to undertake a review of polling places in 2019 following the process described in this report.
  - b. the scope of the review and the proposals for changes be noted.
  - c. the outline timetable for the review, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed.
  - d. power to designate polling places in accordance with section 18B of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is continued to be delegated to the Chief Executive, such power to be exercised only in circumstances where a decision is required at short notice and it is not possible to await a decision of Council.

2. That following the outcome of the consultation on the review, the Assistant Director of Legal Services report to Cabinet with final review proposals for determination in order for Cabinet to make final recommendations to Council.

**List of Appendices Included**

- Appendix 1 Review Timetable
- Appendix 2 Notice of Review
- Appendix 3 Consultation Paper
- Appendix 4 Maps of current wards
- Appendix 5 Maps of new wards

**Background Papers**

[Electoral Commission guidance on the review of polling districts and polling places](#)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**  
Council – 23 January 2019

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Review of Polling Places 2019**

### **1. Recommendations**

#### **1.1 That Cabinet recommend to Council that:**

- 1.1.1 approval is granted to undertake a review of polling places in 2019 following the process described in this report.
- 1.1.2 the scope of the review and the proposals for changes be noted.
- 1.1.3 the outline timetable for the review, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed.
- 1.1.4 power to designate polling places in accordance with section 18B of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is continued to be delegated to the Chief Executive, such power to be exercised only in circumstances where a decision is required at short notice and it is not possible to await a decision of Council.

#### **1.2 That following the outcome of the consultation on the review, the Assistant Director of Legal Services report to Cabinet with final review proposals for determination in order for Cabinet to make final recommendations to Council.**

### **2. Background**

#### **2.1 Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district.**

#### **2.2 The following definitions may be helpful when reading the report and Appendices.**

- “Polling districts” are geographical electoral areas into which wards and constituencies may be sub-divided.
- “Polling places” are the buildings or areas designated by the council where electors in a polling district go to vote in person.
- “Polling stations” are the number of issuing desks in the building that is the designated polling place.

#### **2.3 The Electoral Administration Act 2006, as amended, introduced a duty on all local authorities in Great Britain to review their polling districts and polling places at least once every five years. The Council undertook the last full compulsory review between November 2013 and December 2014. An interim review was undertaken in 2017, but a full review is now due and should be completed by December 2019.**

- 2.4 The Local Government Boundary Commission carried out an electoral review of the Rotherham Borough between September 2016 and October 2017. The Rotherham (Electoral Changes) Order was made on 8 March 2018, and the new ward boundaries will take effect from May 2020. The polling places review will consider the polling places and polling districts for the new wards.
- 2.5 Ward boundaries cannot be changed as part of this review. Ward and constituency boundaries are the responsibility of the Local Government and Parliamentary Boundary Commissions respectively. This review can only consider the internal boundaries of polling district within wards.
- 2.6 The review will be governed by the provisions of Schedule 1A to the Representation of the People Act 1983, and follow the Electoral Commission guidance on the review of polling districts and polling places.

### **3. Key Issues**

- 3.1 A preliminary review has been undertaken by council officers to inform the Returning Officer's initial proposals which are set out in the Consultation Paper attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.2 Some current polling places will not be available in future, and the review also takes into account the impact of the ward boundaries which will come into effect at the 2020 elections. The main issues considered in the development of the initial proposals were:
  - a) To try and identify new polling places in areas where the existing provision is unsuitable or unavailable
  - b) To consider, as appropriate, feedback received following recent elections raised by members of the public, elected members and other stakeholders
  - c) To ensure, as far as practicable, that any new polling places are accessible to people with disabilities
  - d) To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances
  - e) To try and minimise disruption to schools. It should be noted that the Returning Officer is entitled to use schools and academies free of charge. However, where alternative premises exist which can provide better facilities for voting, they may be considered.
  - f) To minimise any inconvenience to voters where polling district boundaries are altered as a result of the ward boundary changes.
- 3.3 Further details about the existing polling scheme and the proposals for changes are outlined in the Consultation Paper, a copy of which is attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.4 Following this initial assessment of the current issues and proposals of change, the process for designating new polling places should be robust and allow input from interested parties. There are five key stages in the review process.

- 3.4.1 Notification of the review – the Council will give public notice of the review, using the Notice attached at Appendix 3, and will publicise the review via the council website and press release.
- 3.4.2 Consultation – As well as making details of the consultation available on the website, the consultation paper will be sent to borough ward members, parish councillors, MPs, and local political parties. It will also be sent to any other interested persons or groups, including local disability groups
- 3.4.3 Concluding the review – All representations will be considered, and a further report will be brought to Council with final proposals for determination.
- 3.4.4 Publishing the conclusion of the review – the final decisions will be published, along with the reasons for those decisions, and along with all representations received during the consultation period.
- 3.4.5 Appeals process – certain persons, on specific grounds, can appeal to the Electoral Commission about the alteration of polling places.

#### **4. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 4.1 Option 1 – Do not carry out a review, and do not change any polling places before the 2020 elections. This option has been discounted because the council has a statutory duty to carry out a review, and some existing polling places will not be available in 2020.
- 4.2 Option 2 – Carry out a full review of polling places commencing in February 2019 to allow sufficient time to consult and determine changes in time for the Borough, Parish and Police and Crime Commissioner elections in May 2020.
- 4.3 It is recommended that a full review of polling places be undertaken, following the statutory process and guidance issued by the Electoral Commission.

#### **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 As outlined in paragraph 3.6 (2), certain stakeholders will be consulted directly. The review will be widely publicised and any elector will be entitled to respond.

#### **6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- 6.1 An outline timetable for the review is given at Appendix 1, commencing with the notice of review on 4 February 2019. The work involves seeking comments on the existing arrangements and initial proposals for change, preparing final proposals, Council determination of the final proposals, publishing the conclusions, and altering the electoral register as required.
- 6.2 The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 provides for decisions on polling districts and places to be made by the Council.

- 6.3 The Assistant Director for Legal Services will be responsible for implementing the decisions.

## **7. Financial and Procurement Implications**

- 7.1 The cost of conducting the review will be funded from within the existing Electoral Services budget.
- 7.2 Subject to the final recommendations following the consultation, any increased hire charges arising from the use of private premises, if necessary, will be offset by a reduction in the number of polling stations.
- 7.3 There are no financial implications for the General Fund. The Council only funds the cost of Borough elections, with all other elections being funded from grant monies from Central Government.

## **8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The Council has a legal duty to review polling districts and polling places, as described in this report. The legislative framework for reviews of polling districts and places consists of: (i) sections 18A to 18E and Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, as inserted by section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006; (ii) section 17 of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews.

## **9. Human Resources Implications**

- 9.1 None arising directly from this report.

## **10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

- 10.1 The voting age is 18 or over. The recommendations link to the council priority - every adult secure, responsible and empowered.

## **11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications**

- 11.1 The council must seek to ensure that, so far as is reasonable and practical, every polling place for which it is responsible is accessible to people who are disabled. Provision of reasonably convenient polling arrangements is an essential element of the free and fair elections required under Protocol 1, Article 3 of the Human Rights Act.

## **12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates**

- 12.1 None arising directly from this report, but partners and other directorates will be engaged as appropriate through the consultation.

**13. Risks and Mitigation**

- 13.1 Polling places are essential for the conduct of elections. Inadequate provision of polling places and polling stations could have a detrimental effect on voter turnout and could be the source of an election challenge.

**14. Accountable Officer(s)**

Dermot Pearson, Assistant Director (Legal Services)

Approvals obtained on behalf of:-

	<b>Named Officer</b>	<b>Date</b>
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Nikki Kelly	18.11.2018
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Dermot Pearson	18.11.2018
Assistant Director of Human Resources (if appropriate)	N/A	N/A
Head of Procurement (if appropriate)	N/A	N/A

*Report Author*                      *Claire Wardle, Electoral Services Manager*  
    *01709 823521 or [claire.wardle@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:claire.wardle@rotherham.gov.uk)*

This report is published on the Council's website or can be found at:-

<http://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories=>

## Appendix 1 – Draft Timetable

<b>Review of Polling Places 2019 – Draft timetable</b>	
Resolution from Council providing for commencement of the review	Wednesday 23 January 2019
Notice of Interim Review published in relevant areas and elected members of the area notified	Monday 4 February 2019
Commencement of Consultation on current provision and proposed changes	Monday 4 February 2019
End of Consultation	Friday 26 April 2019
Consider comments and if necessary revise proposals	Friday 17 May 2019
Final proposals published via Agenda papers and website	22 July 2019 (tbc)
Cabinet Meeting	5 August 2019 (tbc)
Council meeting – approval of polling place scheme	4 September 2019 (tbc)
Publication of review result	September 2019
Publish Electoral Register on new wards and polling districts	1 December 2019
Elections on new boundaries and polling place scheme	Thursday 7 May 2020 (Borough, Parish and Police and Crime Commissioner elections)





## ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Notice of Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council is carrying out a review of polling districts and polling places in the borough.

This is in accordance with the requirements of section 18C of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Details of the current arrangements and the Returning Officer's proposals for changes can be viewed:

- on the council's website at [www.rotherham.gov.uk/elections](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/elections)
- at the Customer Service Centre, Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham
- at Aston Library & Neighbourhood Hub, Worksop Road, Aston
- at Maltby Library and Neighbourhood Hub, Braithwell Road, Maltby
- at Wath Library, Montgomery Square, Wath
- at Dinnington Library and Neighbourhood Hub, Laughton Road, Dinnington
- at Rawmarsh Library & Neighbourhood Hub, Barbers Avenue, Rotherham

Any registered elector may make representations on the current and proposed arrangements. We welcome comments and suggestions from anyone who has expertise in access for people with any type of disability.

Where possible, people making representations should suggest alternative places that may be used as polling places.

Representations should be made in writing by no later than **Friday 26 April 2019** to Electoral Services by using the online form on the council's website, or by post to Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham S60 1AE, or by email to [electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk).

The results of the review will be published by the Council in September 2019 and will be available for inspection on the council's website and the above mentioned offices. Persons or groups making submissions need to be aware that, upon completion of the review, all correspondence/representations received must by law, also be published.

**Dated 4 February 2019**

**Sharon Kemp, Chief Executive**

# Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

## Consultation Paper

Consultation Period runs from 4 February to 26 April 2019

## **1. Background to the Review**

Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district for Parliamentary elections. The arrangements made for parliamentary elections are also used at other elections, and the council must keep the arrangements under review.

The Electoral Administration Act 2006, as amended, introduced a duty on all local authorities in Great Britain to review their polling districts and polling places at least once every five years. Rotherham council undertook the last full compulsory review between November 2013 and December 2014, so another full review is now due and should be completed by December 2019.

## **2. Boundary changes**

The Local Government Boundary Commission carried out an electoral review of the Rotherham Borough between September 2016 and October 2017. The aim of the electoral review was to recommend ward boundaries that mean each councillor represents approximately the same number of voters.

The Boundary Commission's final recommendations have been made law through the Rotherham (Electoral Changes) Order, made on 8 March 2018. The new ward boundaries will take effect from May 2020. The ward boundary changes are significant, affecting each area of Rotherham:

- Instead of 21 wards, there will be 25 wards
- Each ward will be represented by two or three councillors
- The number of councillors will reduce from 63 to 59

A map of the new wards is reproduced at p.6, and a list of the new wards and the number of councillors that will represent each ward is set out on p.7.

Further information about the electoral review can be found at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/yorkshire-and-the-humber/south-yorkshire/rotherham>

As a result of the changes to electoral wards, the polling districts in the borough need to be reviewed and amended. The polling district boundary changes required are included in this compulsory review of polling districts and polling places.

Maps of the current wards and polling districts and the new wards and polling districts can be found on the council's website at [www.rotherham.gov.uk/elections](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/elections) or are available from Electoral Services.

It should be noted that electors will continue to be electors of their current ward in the event of any local by-election occurring before the May 2020 elections.

The Parliamentary Boundary Commission for England has recently published its final recommendations for new constituency boundaries, which will now be subject to parliamentary approval. If approved, the Wentworth and Dearne constituency would be renamed Wentworth and Hoyland, and it would take in three different wards from Barnsley MBC. The current Wickersley Ward would be in the Rotherham parliamentary constituency rather than the Wentworth constituency, and so this potential change must be taken into account when reviewing the polling arrangements for the new Bramley & Ravenfield and the Wickersley North Wards.

*Neither the ward boundaries, nor the parliamentary constituency boundaries, can be changed as part of the council's review of polling districts and polling places, as they are the responsibility of the relevant Boundary Commission.*

### **3. Definitions**

"Polling districts" are geographical electoral areas into which wards and constituencies may be sub-divided. In areas with parishes, each parish should be its own polling district.

"Polling places" are the buildings or areas designated by the council where electors in a polling district go to vote in person.

The polling place should in normal circumstances be situated within the polling district for which it is designated, but in some circumstances, for example where no suitable polling place can be found, then the polling place may be designated outside the polling district.

"Polling stations" are the number of issuing desks in the building that is the designated polling place, which generally range from one to three. The Returning Officer determines the number of polling stations depending on the electorate at a particular election. Wherever possible there should be no more than 2,500 electors (excluding postal voters) allotted to a polling station.

### **4. The Review Process**

A preliminary review has been undertaken by council officers to inform the proposals now set out in the representations of the (Acting) Returning Officer. The proposals have been included in this consultation paper, from p. 8, and the council invites comments on these proposals.

The main issues considered in the development of the proposals were:

- a) To try and identify new polling places in areas where the existing provision is unsuitable or unavailable.
- b) To consider, as appropriate, feedback received following recent elections raised by members of the public, elected members and other stakeholders.

- c) To ensure, as far as practicable, that any new polling places are accessible to people with disabilities.
- d) To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- e) To try and minimise disruption to schools. It should be noted that the Returning Officer is entitled to use schools and academies free of charge<sup>1</sup>. However, where alternative premises exist which can provide better facilities for voting, they may be considered.
- f) To minimise any inconvenience to voters where polling district boundaries are altered as a result of the ward boundary changes.

The council is required to publish a notice of the holding of a review. Information about the review is made available on the council's website. The consultation paper will be sent to councillors, Members of Parliament, local political parties, parish councils, and any other interested groups or persons, including those who have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.

## 5. Making comments

The council would welcome comments on the proposals. We would encourage anyone making representations to suggest alternative polling districts or places to those proposed where appropriate, along with their reasons, so that they may be given full consideration.

Anyone registered as an elector in the Rother Valley, Rotherham or Wentworth and Dearne constituencies may make representations to the council. Please note that all representations are required by law to be published.

Representations will also be considered from persons who have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for person who have different forms of disability.

Any representations must be received by **Friday 26 April 2019**, and should be addressed to:

Electoral Services, Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham, S60 1AE

or emailed to: [electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk)

The sheet at Appendix 1 may be used for submitting your views. Or you can respond using our online form via [www.rotherham.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/consultations)

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<sup>1</sup> Rule 22, Sch 1, Representation of the People Act 1983

## 6. The Review Timetable

Publication of notice of review	Monday 4 February 2019
Publication of consultation paper including (Acting) Returning Officer's proposals	Monday 4 February 2019
Closing date for representations	Friday 26 April 2019
Council's Cabinet meeting – recommendation of polling place changes	5 August 2019 (tbc)
Council meeting – ratification of polling district and polling changes	4 September 2019 (tbc)
Publication of Electoral Register on new wards and polling district boundaries	1 December 2019
Rotherham Borough Council Elections /Parish elections / Police and Crime Commissioner elections	Thursday 7 May 2020

## 7. Completion of review

The council will publish:

- The results of the review
- The minutes of council meetings concerning the review
- All correspondence received in connection with the review
- All representations made by any person in connection with the review

## 8. Role of the Electoral Commission

The council will follow guidance issued by the Electoral Commission in undertaking the review.

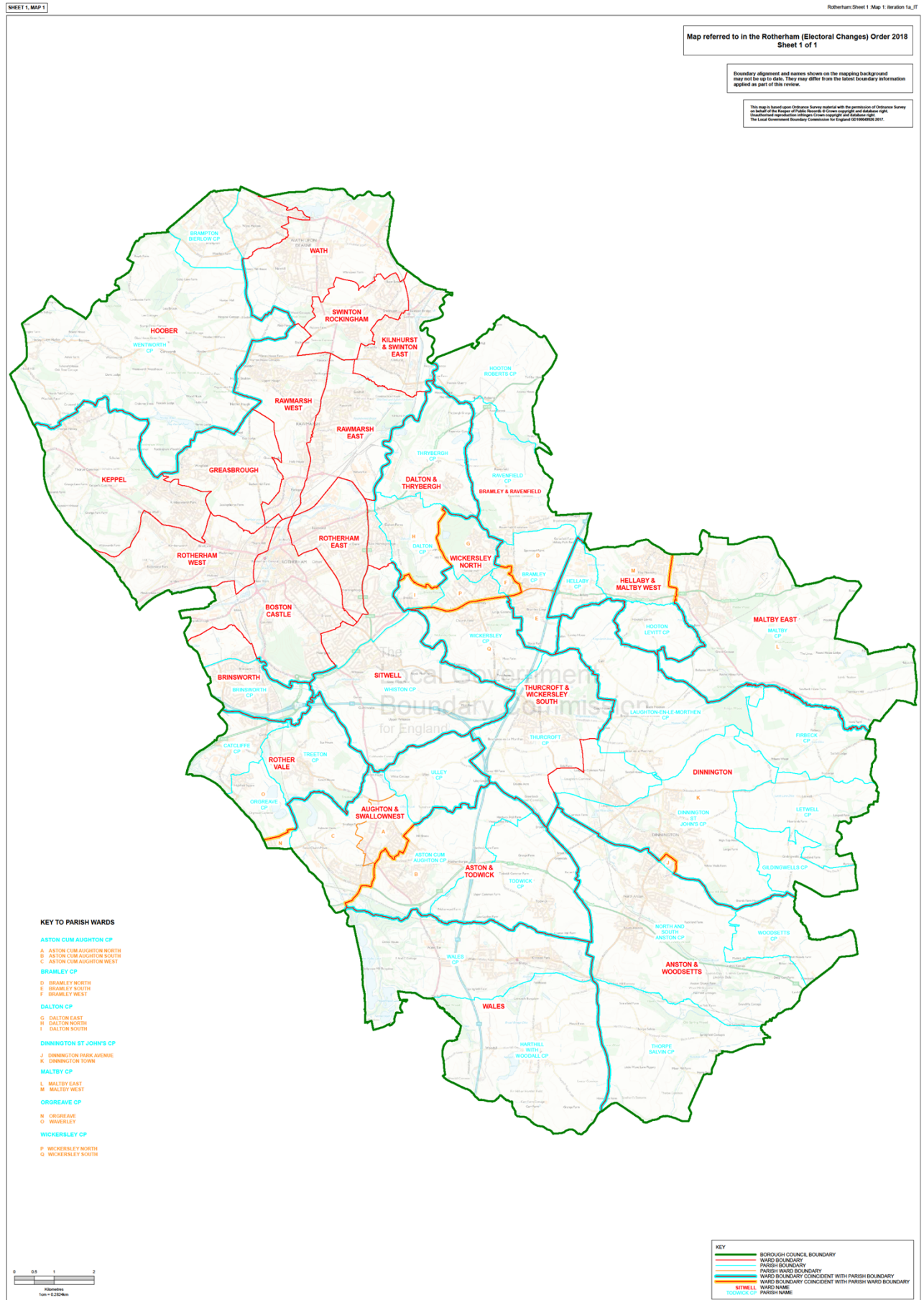
Although the Electoral Commission has no role in the review process itself, it can consider comments if people do not think that the review has met the reasonable requirements of electors or taken sufficient account of the needs of disabled electors.

The following people can make representations to the Electoral Commission:

- 30 or more registered electors
- any person who made comments during the review
- any parish council or parish meeting for the area
- any non-electors who the Commission feels has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons

The Electoral Commission has the ability to direct the council to make alterations to polling places if it thinks that is necessary.

## New Borough and Parish Wards coming into effect for May 2020 local elections



## List of new wards from May 2020

Ward	Number of Councillors	Electorate (2022)
Anston & Woodsetts	3	9,714
Aston & Todwick	2	7,348
Aughton & Swallownest	2	6,849
Boston Castle	3	10,526
Bramley & Ravenfield	2	7,423
Brinsworth	2	7,715
Dalton & Thrybergh	2	7,503
Dinnington	3	10,089
Greasbrough	2	6,567
Hellaby & Maltby West	2	6,467
Hoober	3	10,286
Keppel	3	11,058
Kilnhurst & Swinton East	2	6,342
Maltby East	2	6,945
Rawmarsh East	2	7,365
Rawmarsh West	2	7,286
Rother Vale	2	6,550
Rotherham East	3	10,917
Rotherham West	3	10,812
Sitwell	3	10,285
Swinton Rockingham	2	6,447
Thurcroft & Wickersley South	2	7,573
Wales	2	7,480
Wath	2	6,854
Wickersley North	3	9,862
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>206,263</b>



## Polling station scheme and Returning Officer's Proposals

Electorates as at 1 July 2018 (electorate figures are approximate in the case of new / amended polling districts)

### 1 - Anston & Woodsetts Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
AA	ANA	Anston (North Ward)	1,278	Anston Greenlands Primary School, Edinburgh Drive	Single	None	No
AB	ANB	Anston (North Ward)	1,197	Anston Park Junior School, Park Avenue	Double (polling place will be shared with ANF)	None	No
AC	ANC	Anston (North Ward)	1,587	Anston Parish Hall, 15A Ryton Road	Single	None	No
AD	AND	Anston (South Ward)	1,377	South Anston Methodist Community Hall, Sheffield Road	Single	None	No
AE	ANE	Woodsetts	1,011	Woodsetts Village Hall, Gildingwells Road	Double (polling place is also used for DIF – Dinnington Ward)	None	No
DE (12%)	ANF	Dinnington St John's (Park Avenue Ward)	261	Anston Park Junior School, Park Avenue	Double (polling place shared with ANB)	Previous DE polling district split – 12% to this ward, and 88% remaining in Dinnington ward	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Dinnington St Joseph's Catholic School.

RB	ANG	Thorpe Salvin	276	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill	Double (polling place is also used for WAA – Wales Ward)		No
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### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Anston & Woodsetts ward is based on the previous Anston and Woodsetts ward with the addition of part of Dinnington Parish and Thorpe Salvin Parish.

Anston Park Junior School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school. No alternatives have been identified to date, but suggestions for alternatives are welcome.

A new polling district of ANF will need to be created for electors in the Borrowdale Crescent and Park Avenue area which is being transferred from Dinnington Ward, as this is a new parish ward as a result of the boundary changes. Previously, these electors would have voted at Dinnington St Joseph's Catholic School in Dinnington Ward. It is desirable to avoid sharing polling places across wards, to minimise confusion for voters and complications at the counting of votes. The new polling district is too small and without any suitable polling place within its boundaries to justify having its own polling station. The proposed polling place for this new polling district is Anston Park Junior School, as this is situated in the Anston and Woodsetts Ward. . The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place.

## **2 - Aston & Todwick Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)**

<b>Previous Polling District</b>	<b>New Polling District</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Electo rate (exclud ing postal voters)</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>Polling station</b>	<b>Changes due to boundary review</b>	<b>New polling place</b>
FA (44%)	ASA	Aston-cum-Aughton (South Ward)	869	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall, Rosegarth Avenue	Double (polling place shared with AUA)	Previous FA polling district split – 44% to this ward, and 56% to Aughton & Swallownest Ward	No
FB	ASB	Aston-cum-Aughton (South Ward)	1,945	Aston Hall Junior & Infant School, Church Lane	Single	None	No
FC	ASC	Aston-cum-Aughton (South Ward)	1,361	Aston Lodge Primary School, Lodge Lane	Single	None	No
RC	ASD	Todwick	967	Todwick Village Hall, Kiveton Lane	Single	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Aston & Todwick Ward is made up of part of the previous Holderness ward with the addition of Todwick Parish and the removal of part of Swallownest.

The polling district of ASA will consist of nearly half of the former FA polling district. The voters from FA would have previously voted at Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall, and we propose that this continues. Although this would mean sharing a polling place between Aston & Todwick Ward and Aughton & Swallownest Ward, the polling place is considerably more convenient for the affected voters and is large enough to contain two polling stations.

### **3 - Aughton & Swallownest Ward** (Rother Valley Constituency)

<b>Previous Polling District</b>	<b>New Polling District</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Electorate (excluding postal voters)</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>Polling station</b>	<b>Changes due to boundary review</b>	<b>New polling place</b>
FA (56%)	AUA	Aston-cum-Aughton (North Ward)	1106	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall, Rosegarth Avenue	Double (polling place shared with ASA)	Previous FA polling district split – 56% to this ward, and 44% to Aston & Todwick Ward	No
KB	AUB	Orgreave	385	Aston Fence J&I School, Sheffield Road	Double (polling place shared with AUD)	None	No
KC	AUC	Aston-cum-Aughton (West Ward)	1027	Swallownest Community Centre, Rotherham Road	Double (polling place shared with AUF)	None	No
KD	AUD	Aston-cum-Aughton (West Ward)	454	Aston Fence J&I School, Sheffield Road	Double (polling place shared with AUB)	None	No
KE	AUE	Ulley	101	Ulley Village Hall, Main Street	Single	None	No
FD	AUF	Aston-cum-Aughton (North Wd)	740	Swallownest Community Centre, Rotherham Road	Double (polling place shared with AUC)	None	No

FE	AUG	Aston-cum-Aughton (North Ward)	1020	Aughton Early Years Centre, Main Street	Single	None	No
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### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Aughton & Swallownest Ward is made up part of the of the previous Holderness and Rother Vale wards with the addition of Ulley and Orgreave parishes.

The polling district of AUA will consist of over half of the former FA polling district. The voters from FA would have previously voted at Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall, and we propose that this continues. Although this would mean sharing a polling place between Aston & Todwick Ward and Aughton & Swallownest Ward, the polling place remains convenient and is large enough to contain two polling stations.

The Head of the Aughton Early Years Centre, and others, have asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the Centre. Prior to 2015, the polling place for AUG was Aughton Junior Academy, Turnshaw Avenue. It has been suggested that this was a better polling place.

Electoral Services officers have visited a number of premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the AUG polling district, including Aughton Junior Academy, Windy Ridge and Heighton View Neighbourhood Centres, and Aston-cum-Aughton Leisure Centre.

Aughton Junior Academy is not considered ideal in terms its approach from the road and limited parking. There are no rooms which could be used to prevent closing the school for the day. The two Neighbourhood Centres are quite small, with limited parking and it is likely that their use as a polling place would inconvenience the neighbouring residents. It has not been confirmed that the Leisure Centre can accommodate being designated as a polling place, and Aston Academy does not appear suitable or appropriate.

Therefore it is proposed that Aughton Early Years Centre be retained as the polling place for AUG, at is considered to be the most suitable venue.

#### 4 - Boston Castle Ward (Rotherham Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
BA	BCA	n/a	350	MyPlace Rotherham, St Ann's Road	Single	None	No
BB	BCB	n/a	682	Talbot Lane Methodist Church, Moorgate Street	Single	None	No
BC	BCC	n/a	658	United Methodist Church Clifton, Lister Street	Single	None	No
BD	BCD	n/a	604	Beeversleigh Community Centre, Clifton Lane	Single	None	No
BE	BCE	n/a	2,498 (2249 as amended – see Table 1 below)	Broom Valley Club Room, Guest Place	Double	See Table 1 below	No
QJ (40%)		n/a	445			Previous QJ polling district split – 40% to this ward, and 60% to Rotherham East Ward (See table 1 below)	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Herringthorpe Infant School.
BF	BCF	n/a	857 (1106 as amended – see below)	Boston Castle, Boston Castle Grove	Single	See Table 1 below	No

BG	BCG	n/a	586	Canklow Woods Primary School, Wood Lane	Single	None	No
BH	BCH	n/a	269	Garden Building, Clifton Park, Clifton Lane	Single	None	No
BI	BCI	n/a	366	The Hub, 103 Canklow Road	Single	None	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The Boston Castle Ward is largely unchanged, with the addition of part of the former QJ polling district from the former Valley Ward.

The voters from QJ would have previously voted at Herringthorpe Infant School. While it is proposed that Herringthorpe Infant School is retained for the voters transferring to Rotherham East ward, it would be more appropriate for the voters transferring to this ward to vote in a polling place for the Boston Castle ward.

The part of the QJ polling district transferring to Boston Castle is quite small and does not contain a suitable polling place. However, simply adding this area to BCE would make the polling district too big for one polling place, and the electorate would increase to approximately 2943.

Therefore we propose to amend the boundary between BCE and BCF and reassign some of the electors from the Broom Valley Club Room to the Boston Castle polling station. This would be a more convenient polling station for the electors shown in Table 1 and it would relieve some of the pressure from the Broom Valley Club Room. The net polling station electorate in BCE would decrease to 2694 and the electorate in BCF would increase to 1106.

This would also mean that the use of Broom Valley Community School as a polling place could be avoided, although it would be a suitable contingency.

<b>Table 1 – Properties to be transferred from BCE to BCF</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Hall Grove	12	21	12
Hall Road	78	139	90
Heather Close	20	34	20
Moorgate Chase	34	23	12
Moorgate Grove	24	40	32
Moorgate Lane	5	8	1
Moorgate Road (no. 43 to 71 only)	18	41	13
Rotherstoke Close	30	38	18
Welham Drive	17	34	21
Whiston Grove	25	50	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>249</b>



**5 - Bramley & Ravenfield Ward** (Rotherham Constituency; Rother Valley Constituency; Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
EB	BRA	Bramley (South Ward)	1639	Bramley Youth Centre, Flash Lane	Single	None	No
NG	BRB	Bramley (North Ward)	618	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street	Triple (Polling place is also used for BRC and WYF in Wickersley North Ward)	None	No
TC (22%)	BRC	Bramley (North Ward)	273	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street	Triple (Polling place is also used for BRB and WYF in Wickersley North Ward)	Previous TC polling district split – 22% to this ward, and 78% to Wickersley North Ward	No
NH	BRD	Ravenfield	1573	Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive	Single	None	No
NI	BRE	Hooton Roberts (parish meeting)	102	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane	Triple (polling place shared with DAA and DAC in Dalton & Thrybergh Ward)	None	No
TE	BRF	Bramley (North Ward)	912	Bramley Grange Primary School (The Grange Zone), Howard Road	Single	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Bramley & Ravenfield Ward is made up parts of Bramley parish which were previously contained in Hellaby, Silverwood and Wickersley borough wards, with the addition of Hooton Roberts and Ravenfield parishes.

The polling place for both NG and TC previously was Bramley Parish Hall. It is proposed that this is retained for the BRB and BRC polling districts, as well as being used for the WYF district in Wickersley North ward.

The new BRC polling district will be quite small, but it cannot be merged with the BRB polling district because of the proposed parliamentary constituency boundary (BRC will be in the Rotherham constituency, but BRB will be in the Wentworth and Hoyland constituency). It would not be appropriate to merge BRC with BRF, because the Bramley Grange Primary School would not be a convenient polling place for many electors in BRC.

The polling place for the former NI polling district was Thrybergh Parish Hall, which was also used for two other Silverwood polling districts. As Hooton Roberts will be in Bramley & Ravenfield ward, and the other two districts will be in Dalton & Thrybergh ward, some consideration was given to designating Ravenfield Parish Hall as the polling place for BRD. However, voters would have further to travel, so in the absence of a suitable alternative within the district itself, it is proposed that Thrybergh Parish Hall be retained for BRE.

## 6 - Brinsworth Ward (Rotherham Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
CA	BWA	n/a	582	Rotherham West Community Centre, Brinsford Road	Single	None	No
CB	BWB	Brinsworth	2192	Brinsworth Community Hall, Brinsworth Lane	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	None	No
CC	BWC	Brinsworth	892	Brinsworth Howarth Primary School, Whitehill Lane	Single	None	No
CD	BWD	Brinsworth	1101	Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School, Howlett Drive	Single	None	No
CE	BWE	Brinsworth	899	St Andrews Church, Bonet Lane	Single	None	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Brinsworth Ward is based on the previous Brinsworth and Catcliffe Ward, with the removal of Catcliffe.

As Brinsworth Community Hall was being refurbished at the 2018 elections, Brinsworth Manor Infants School was used instead, but the Community Hall will now be available for future elections. There is no reason to change the other polling places for this ward.

## 7 - Dalton & Thrybergh Ward (Rotherham Constituency; Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
ND	DAA	Thrybergh (North Ward)	519	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane	Triple (polling place shared with BRD and DAC)	None	No
NE	DAB	Thrybergh (North Ward)	713	Staple Green Community Centre, Staple Green	Single	None	No
QA	DAC	Thrybergh (South Ward)	1075	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane	Triple (polling place shared with BRD and DAA)	None	No
QC	DAD	Dalton (North Ward)	467	The Willow Tree Children's Centre, Foljambe Drive	Single	Slight adjustment of boundary, will not affect any electors	No
QE	DAE	Dalton (North Ward)	760	Trinity Croft CE J&I School (Parish Room), Dalton Lane	Single	Slight adjustment of boundary, will not affect any electors	No
QF	DAF	Dalton (North Ward)	477	Dalton Parish Hall, Doncaster Road	Single	None	No
QG	DAG	n/a	1211	High Greave Junior School (Sports Hall), High Greave Road	Single	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Dalton & Thrybergh Ward is made up part of Dalton parish and the whole of Thrybergh parish which were previously contained in the Valley and Silverwood borough wards, and including East Herringthorpe.

The Willow Tree Children's Centre is not part of the Children and Young People's Service review of children's centres, and is considered the most suitable venue for a polling place in the DAD polling district.

There is no reason to change any of the current polling places for this ward.

## 8 - Dinnington Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
DA	DIA	Laughton-en-le-Morthen	767	Laughton Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue	Single	None	No
DB	DIB	Thurcroft (South Ward)	1136	Monksbridge Community Centre, Monksbridge Road	Double (polling place shared with DIC)	None	No
DC	DIC	Dinnington St John's (Town Ward)	1131	Monksbridge Community Centre, Monksbridge Road	Double (polling place shared with DIB)	None	No
DD	DID	Dinnington St John's (Town Ward)	2660	Dinnington Resource Centre, Laughton Road	Double	None	No
DE (88%)	DIE	Dinnington St John's (Town Ward)	1911	St Joseph's RC Church Hall, Swinston Hill Road	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	Previous DE polling district split – 88% remaining in this ward and 12% to Anston & Woodsetts ward	Yes – previously Dinnington St Joseph's Catholic School
DF	DIF	Gildingwells (parish meeting)	65	Woodsetts Village Hall, Gildingwells Road	Double (polling place is also used for ANE – Anston & Woodsetts Ward)	None	No

DG	DIG	Letwell	70	Letwell Village Hall, Barker Hades Road	Single	None	No
DH	DIH	Firbeck	195	Firbeck Village Hall, New Road	Single	None	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The Dinnington Ward is largely unchanged, with the removal of the Park Avenue area of Dinnington St John's Parish to the Anston & Woodsetts Ward.

Dinnington St Joseph's Catholic Primary School would have been retained for the part of the former DE polling district which will remain in Dinnington Ward. However, Dinnington St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school.

Electoral Services officers have visited a number of premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the DIE polling district, including Middleton Hall, Salvation Army Hall, the Bridge New Life Church, Jade Youth and Community Centre and St Joseph's RC Church Hall. St Joseph's RC Church Hall, Swinston Hill Road is considered to be the most suitable venue, with a central location, good facilities for voters and polling staff, plenty of parking and disabled access.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

## 9 - Greasbrough Ward (Rotherham Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
UA	GRA	n/a	2393	Greasbrough Primary School, Munsborough Rise	Double (busy station keep as a double)	None	No
UB	GRB	n/a	1218	Rockingham Professional Development Centre, Roughwood Road	Single	None	No
UC	GRC	n/a	1028	Youth Centre, Wingfield Academy, Wingfield Road	Single	None	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Greasbrough Ward is based on the former Wingfield Ward, with the removal of the Kimberworth Park area to the Keppel Ward.

There is no reason to change the current polling places for this ward.



## 10 - Hellaby & Maltby West Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
EC	HEA	Hellaby	481	Centenary Hall, Bateman Road	Single	None	No
ED	HEB	Maltby (West Ward)	2691	Hilltop School, Larch Road	Double	None	Yes – previously Addison Day Centre
IA	HEC	Maltby (West Ward)	909	Maltby Linx Youth Centre, Lilly Hall Road	Single	None	No
IB	HED	Maltby (West Ward)	433	The Grange Warden Centre, St Bartholomew's Close	Double (polling place shared with HEE)		No
ID (2%)		Maltby (West Ward)	19 (total for HED - 452)			Previous ID polling district split – 2% to this ward, and 98% to Maltby East Ward	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at the Wesley Centre.
IH	HEE	Hooton Levitt (parish meeting)	70	The Grange Warden Centre, St Bartholomew's Close	Double (polling place shared with HED)	None	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Hellaby & Maltby West Ward is made up part of Maltby parish, Hooton Levitt and Hellaby parishes which were previously contained in the two separate Hellaby and Maltby borough wards.

The Addison Day Centre is due to close within the next few years, and so alternative premises should be identified.

Electoral Services officers have visited a number of premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the HEB polling district, including Maltby Redwood Academy, Maltby Lilly Hall Academy, Redwood Community Centre and Hilltop School. Hilltop School, Larch Road is considered to be the most suitable venue, with a central location, good facilities for voters and polling staff, plenty of parking and disabled access. Unfortunately this would mean that the school is likely to close on polling day.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

The Maltby Linx Youth Centre is included in the Children and Young People's Services review of youth centres. However, the building could still be used as a polling place for HEC, as it will be asset transferred to Maltby Academy. Bevan Crescent Neighbourhood Centre has also been identified as a contingency polling place for HEC.

The polling district of HED is proposed to be made up of the former IB polling district, and a small part of the former ID polling district (Church Lane and Church Close). The voters from ID would have previously voted at the Wesley Centre, Blyth Road, and this would be retained for the voters remaining in the Maltby East Ward. The polling place for the current IB polling district is the Grange Warden Centre, and so it is proposed that this be the polling place for the enlarged HED polling district. The voters from the previous ID polling district transferring to Hellaby & Maltby West would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place.

# **11- Hooper Ward** (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
GA	HOA	Brampton Bierlow	2774	Brampton Bierlow Parish Hall, Knollbeck Lane	Double	None	No
GB	HOB	Wentworth (Wentworth Ward)	93	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street	Tripartite (polling place shared with HOE and HOH)	None	No
GC	HOC	n/a	2027	West Melton Primary School, Stokewell Road	Single	None	No
GD	HOD	n/a	975	Christchurch Hall, Christchurch Road	Single	None	No
GE	HOE	Wentworth (Wentworth Ward)	267	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street	Tripartite (polling place shared with HOB and HOH)	None	No
GF	HOF	Wentworth (Harley Ward)	394	Harley Church, Harley Road	Single	None	No
GG	HOG	Wentworth (Harley Ward)	51	Trinity Community Centre, Sough Hall Avenue	Triple (also used as double polling station KEA in	None	No

					Keppel ward)		
GH	HOH	Wentworth (Wentworth Ward)	61	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street	Tripartite (polling place shared with HOB and HOE)	None	No
SG (90%)	HOI	n/a	757	Wath upon Dearne RUFC Clubhouse, Moor Road	Double (proposed that polling place be shared with WHF in Wath Ward)	Previous SG polling district split – 90% to this ward, and 10% to Wath Ward	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The Hoover Ward is based on the previous ward of the same name, with the removal of the Manor Farm polling district to the Rawmarsh West Ward, and the addition of most of the Manvers polling district from the Wath Ward.

There is no reason to change the current polling places for this ward.

## 12 - Keppel Ward (Rotherham Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
HA	KEA	n/a	1875	Trinity Community Centre, Slough Hall Avenue	Double (polling place also used for HOG in Hooper ward)	None	No
HB	KEB	n/a	109	Scholes Cricket Pavilion, Scholes Village	Single	None	No
HC	KEC	n/a	822	Roughwood Primary School, Roughwood Road	Single	None	No
HD	KED	n/a	1030	Chislett Centre, Kimberworth Park Road	Single	None	No
HE (15%)	KEE	n/a	232	St John's Church, St John's Green	Double	Previous HE polling district split – 15% to this ward, and 85% to Rotherham West Ward	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at St Bede's Catholic Primary School
MH		n/a	644			No – but separate polling district no longer required	No
UD		n/a	1971 (total for KEE 2847)			No – but separate polling district no longer required	No
HF	KEF	n/a	1219	ArtWorks Community Centre, Brook Hill	Single	None	Yes - previously Thorpe Hesley Primary School

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The Keppel Ward is based on the previous ward of the same name with the removal of most of the Toll Barr polling district to the Rotherham West Ward, and the addition of the eastern part of Kimberworth Park from the former Wingfield and Rotherham West wards.

The polling district of KEE is proposed to be made up of the former MH polling district, the former UD polling district and part of the former HE polling district, around Eilam Road.

The former HE polling district will be divided between Keppel Ward and Rotherham West Ward, as a result of the ward boundary changes. The voters from HE would have previously voted at St Bede's Catholic Primary School. Although the school could have been suitable for voters from the HE part which is transferring to Rotherham West, the proposed polling place for the voters remaining in Keppel is St John's Church, which is already used as a polling place for Keppel. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place, or cross the main Wortley Road.

St John's Church was previously a shared polling place for both the former MH polling district and the UD polling district. However, previously MH was a smaller polling district (for Rotherham West ward) and UD was a larger polling district (for Wingfield ward). Now that both areas are in Keppel ward, a single enlarged polling district can be created. A double station will still be required, but the register can be split more equally between the two stations.

Thorpe Hesley Primary School has been used as a polling place for the former HF polling district since 2016, but previously the polling place was the OAP Centre on Brook Hill. The building on Brook Hill is now being run by ArtWorks and is currently undergoing refurbishment, and will be available as a polling place from early 2019. It is proposed that ArtWorks Community Centre, Brook Hill be designated the polling place for KEF.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

### 13 - Kilnhurst & Swinton East Ward (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
NB	KIA	n/a	341	Kilnhurst Community Resource Centre, Victoria Street	Single	None	No
PC (37%)	KIB	n/a	436	The Brookfield Centre, Lime Grove	Single	Previous PC polling district split – 37% to this ward, and 63% to Swinton Rockingham	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Swinton Civic Hall.
PE		n/a	1237 (total for KIB - 1673)				No
PD	KIC	n/a	1100	St Thomas CE Primary School, Meadow View Road	Single	None	No
PF	KID	n/a	1491	Piccadilly Methodist Church, Wentworth Road	Single	Slight adjustment of boundary, with Swinton Common being moved to Swinton Rockingham Ward	No

#### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Kilnhurst & Swinton East Ward is formed of the east Swinton area which was previously in Wath Ward, and the rest of Kilnhurst which was previously in Silverwood Ward.

The former PC polling district will be divided between Kilnhurst & Swinton East Ward, and Swinton Rockingham Ward, due to the ward boundary changes. The voters from PC would have previously voted at Swinton Civic Hall. While it is proposed that Swinton Civic Hall is retained for the voters transferring to Swinton Rockingham Ward, it would be more appropriate for the voters transferring to this ward to vote in a Kilnhurst & Swinton East polling place.

A new potential polling place for this area has been identified, the Liberty Church, Charles Street. However, as this part of the PC polling district quite small, and an existing suitable polling place is nearby, it is proposed that this area is merged with PE to create an enlarged polling district of KIB, with the Brookfield Centre as the polling place. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place.



#### 14 - Maltby East Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
IC	MAA	Maltby (East Ward)	1351	Maltby Manor Academy, Davy Drive	Single	None	No
ID (98%)	MAB	Maltby (East Ward)	940	The Wesley Centre, Blyth Road	Single	Previous ID polling district split – 98% to this ward, and 2% to Hellaby and Maltby West Ward	No
IE	MAC	Maltby (East Ward)	862	Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road	Single	None	No
IF	MAD	Maltby (East Ward)	999	Maltby St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Muglet Lane	Single	None	No
IG	MAE	Maltby (East Ward)	733	Ascension Close Warden Centre, Ascension Close	Single	None	No
II	MAF	Maltby (East Ward)	525	Charles Foster Community Centre, Woodland Gardens	Single	None	No

#### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Maltby East Ward is formed of most of the former Maltby Ward, east of the Braithwell Road.

Maltby Manor Academy has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school. No alternatives within the polling district have been identified to date, but suggestions for alternatives are welcome.

A new potential polling place has been identified for the ward, the Full Life Church, High Street. However, this is situated in the former ID polling district, and it is not as convenient and suitable for voters as Maltby Manor Academy, and is therefore not being proposed as an alternative.

# **15 - Rawmarsh East Ward** (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
JD (47%)	RAEA	n/a	207	Rawmarsh St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Green Lane	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	Previous JD polling district split – 47% to this ward, and 53% to Rawmarsh West Ward	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Rawmarsh Methodist Church
JF		n/a	1132			No – but separate polling district no longer required	No
NC		n/a	279 (total for RAEA – 1618)			No – but separate polling district no longer required	No
JG	RAEB	n/a	829	Rawmarsh Rycroft Infants School, South Street	Single	None	No
JH	RAEC	n/a	945	Marshall Close Community Centre, Marshall Close	Single	None	No
NA	RAED	n/a	2086	Rawmarsh Sandhill Primary School, Kilnhurst Road	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Rawmarsh East Ward is formed of the eastern part of the former Rawmarsh Ward with the addition of the western part of the former Silverwood ward.

The polling district of RAEA is proposed to be made up of the former JF polling district, the former NC polling district and part of the former JD polling district, to the east of the High Street. The polling place for the current JF and NC polling districts is Rawmarsh St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

The former JD polling district will be divided between Rawmarsh East Ward and Rawmarsh West Ward, as a result of the ward boundary changes. The voters from JD would have previously voted at Rawmarsh Methodist Church. Although the Methodist Church can be retained for voters from the JD part of Rawmarsh West, it would be more appropriate for the voters transferring to this ward to vote in a Rawmarsh East polling place.

The part of the JD polling district falling in Rawmarsh East is quite small and no suitable available polling place has been identified within its boundaries. Therefore, it is proposed that this part of the JD polling district be merged with JF/NC to create an enlarged polling district of RAEA, with the Rawmarsh St Joseph's Catholic Primary School as the polling place. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place.

Rawmarsh St Joseph's School was previously a shared polling place for both the former NC polling district and the JF polling district. However, previously NC was a smaller polling district (for Silverwood ward) and JF was a larger polling district (for Rawmarsh ward). Now that both areas are in Rawmarsh East ward, a single enlarged polling district can be created.

# **16 - Rawmarsh West Ward** (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
GI	RAWA	n/a	1127	Manor Farm Community Centre, Harding Avenue	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	No – but separate polling districts no longer required	No
JA		n/a	657 (Total for RAWA – 1784)				No
JB	RAWB	n/a	1991	Monkwood Primary Academy, Monkwood Road	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	None	No
JC	RAWC	n/a	893 (819 as amended – see Table 2 below)	Salvation Army Hall, Quarry Street	Single	See Table 2 below	No
JD (53%)	RAWD	n/a	233 (353 as amended – see Table 2 & 3 below)	Rawmarsh Methodist Church, High Street	Single	Previous JD polling district split – 53% to this ward, and 47% to Rawmarsh East Ward	No
JE	RAWE	n/a	606 (560 as amended – see Table 3 below)	Rawmarsh Ashwood Primary School, Ashwood Road	Single	See Table 3 below	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Rawmarsh West Ward is formed of the western part of the former Rawmarsh Ward with the addition of the Manor Farm area which was previously in the Hooper Ward.

Manor Farm Community Centre was previously a shared polling place for both the former JA polling district and the GI polling district. However, previously JA was a smaller polling district (for Rawmarsh ward) and GI was a larger polling district (for Hooper ward). Now that both areas will be in Rawmarsh West ward, a single enlarged polling district can be created.

It is proposed that Rawmarsh Methodist Church be retained as the polling place for the western part of the former JD polling district which will fall in Rawmarsh West Ward. However, this would now become quite a small polling district.

To make it more viable, we propose to amend the boundary between RAWC and RAWD and reassign some of the electors from Salvation Army Hall to Rawmarsh Methodist Church. This would be a more convenient polling station for the electors shown in Table 2.

We also propose to amend the boundary between RAWD and RAWE and reassign some of the electors from Rawmarsh Ashwood Primary School to Rawmarsh Methodist Church. This would be a more convenient polling station for the electors shown in Table 3.

The net electorate for RAWD would increase to approximately 353.

Rawmarsh Ashwood Primary School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues. No alternatives within the polling district have been identified to date, but Electoral Services will continue to work with the school, for example by providing fencing, to enable the school to remain open on polling day.

<b>Table 2 – Properties to be transferred from RAWC to RAWD</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Blyth Avenue	39	69	61
Dale Road (no. 16 to 28 only)	7	18	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>74</b>

<b>Table 3 – Properties to be transferred from RAWC to RAWD</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Church Avenue	4	16	11
Church Croft	7	16	9
Church Street	23	44	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>46</b>

### **17 - Rother Vale Ward** (Rother Valley Constituency; Rotherham Constituency)

<b>Previous Polling District</b>	<b>New Polling District</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Electorate (excluding postal voters)</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>Polling station</b>	<b>Changes due to boundary review</b>	<b>New polling place</b>
CF	RVA	Catcliffe	1151	Catcliffe Memorial Hall, Old School Lane	Single	None	No
CG	RVB	Waverley	252	AMP Technology Centre, Brunel Way	Double (polling place shared with RVD)	None	No
KA	RVC	Treeton	1851	Treeton Village Community Hub, Pit Lane	Single	None	Yes – previously Treeton Youth Centre
KG	RVD	Waverley	739	AMP Technology Centre, Brunel Way	Double (polling place shared with RVB)	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Rother Vale Ward is based on the Catcliffe, Waverley and Treeton areas which were previously in Brinsworth and Catcliffe Ward and the former Rother Vale Ward.

Waverley is a new parish coming into effect from 1 April 2019 covering the new housing development spanning the area previously covered by part of Catcliffe and Orgreave parishes. However, the RVB and RVD polling districts cannot be merged into one district, because of the



current and proposed parliamentary constituency boundary (RVB is in the Rotherham constituency, and RVD is in the Rother Valley constituency).

Treeton Youth Centre is included in the Children & Young People's Service's review of youth centres, and it is no longer considered to be the most suitable building for a polling place.

Electoral Services officers have visited a number of premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the RVC polling district, including Treeton Parish Council reading rooms, Treeton Baptist Church, St Helen's Church, and Treeton Village Community Hub. The Treeton Village Community Hub, Pit Lane is considered to be the most suitable venue, with good facilities for voters and polling staff, plenty of parking and disabled access. This would also mean that the use of Treeton CE Primary School as a polling place could be avoided.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

# **18 - Rotherham East Ward (Rotherham Constituency)**

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
LA	ROEA	n/a	672	Eastwood Village Community Centre (Zone 2) Erskine Road	Single	None	No
LB	ROEB	n/a	401	The Unity Centre, St Leonards Road	Single	None	No
LC	ROEC	n/a	1409	St James Vestry (St Francis Room), Cambridge Street	Single	None	No
LD	ROED	n/a	1151	Rotherham Baptist Church Hall, Badsley Moor Lane	Single (previously a double station but could be reduced to a single)	None	Yes – previously Badsley Moor Primary School
LE		n/a	689 (total for ROED 1840)				Yes – previously Badsley Moor Primary School
LF	ROEE	n/a	631	Mowbray Gardens Community Centre, Mowbray Road	Single	None	No
LG	ROEF	n/a	493	Springwell Gardens Community Centre, Eastwood View	Single	None	No

LH	ROEG	n/a	1008	The Place Young Peoples Centre (next to Coleridge Primary School)	Single	None	No
LI	ROEH	n/a	256	Bakersfield Warden Centre, Longfellow Drive	Single	None	No
QI	ROEI	n/a	757	St Mary's Catholic Church (parish room), Herringthorpe Valley Road	Single	None	Yes – previously Herringthorpe Young People's Centre
QJ (60%)	ROEJ	n/a	667	Herringthorpe Infants School, Chatterton Drive	Single	Previous QJ polling district split – 60% to this ward, and 40% to Boston Castle	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Rotherham East Ward is largely based on the previous Rotherham East Ward with the addition of parts of Herringthorpe which was previously in the Valley Ward.

Badsley Moor Primary School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school. The school was previously used as a polling place for LD and LE polling districts, and it is proposed that the LD and LE polling districts be merged to create the ROED polling district.

Electoral Services officers have visited a few premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the ROED polling district, including the Lanes Community Centre and Rotherham Baptist Church Hall, Badsley Moor Lane. The Baptist Church Hall is considered to be the most suitable venue, as it is located close to the previous polling place, and has adequate facilities for voters and polling staff, on street parking and disabled access.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

Herringthorpe Young People's Centre is included in the Children & Young People's Service's review of youth centres, and it is no longer considered to be the most suitable building for a polling place.

Electoral Services officers have visited the area to seek alternative premises. The parish room at St Mary's Catholic Church, Herringthorpe Valley Road is considered to be a suitable venue, with good facilities for voters and polling staff, plenty of parking and disabled access. The building can be accessed from Herringthorpe Valley Road, or from Goldsmith Road. This would also mean that the use of St Mary's RC Junior & Infant School as a polling place could be avoided.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

It is proposed that Herringthorpe Infants School be retained as the polling place part of the former QJ polling district remaining in Rotherham West Ward.

# **19 - Rotherham West Ward (Rotherham Constituency)**

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
HE (85%)	ROWA	n/a	1312	St Thomas Community Hall, High Street	Single	Previous HE polling district split – 85% to this ward, and 15% to Keppel	Yes – previously St Bede’s Catholic Primary School
MA	ROWB	n/a	853	Blackburn Primary School, Baring Road	Single	None	No
MB	ROWC	n/a	920	Meadow View Primary School, Meadowhall Road	Single	None	No
MC	ROWD	n/a	948	Kelford School, Oakdale Road	Single	None	No
MD	ROWE	n/a	771	Ferham Primary School, Ferham Road	Single	None	No
ME	ROWF	n/a	788	Henley Community Centre, Oates Close	Single	None	No
MF	ROWG	n/a	381	Thornhill Primary School, Clough Bank	Single	None	No

MG	ROWH	n/a	518	Masbrough & Thornhill Community Centre, College Road	Single	None	No
MI	ROWI	n/a	1176	Kimberworth Community Primary School, Kimberworth Road	Single	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Rotherham West Ward is largely based on the previous Rotherham West Ward with the addition of part of the Toll Barr district which was previously in the Keppel Ward and the removal of the Warren Hill district to the new Keppel Ward.

St Bede's Catholic Primary School would have been the polling place for the part of the former HE polling district transferring to Rotherham West Ward. However, the school has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school.

Electoral Services officers have visited some premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the ROWA polling district, including the Salvation Army Hall and St Thomas Community Hall, High Street. St Thomas Community Hall is considered to be the most suitable venue, with a central location, readily available, good facilities for voters and polling staff, and disabled access. Although the building does not have its own car park, arrangements can be made for voters to park at the Salvation Army car park opposite. This would also avoid the need to use Winterhill School or Abbey School.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

## 20 - Sitwell Ward (Rother Valley and Rotherham Constituencies)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
OA	SIA	n/a	1025	Herringthorpe United Reformed Church, Wickersley Road	Single	None	No
OB	SIB	n/a	789	St Cuthberts Church Hall, Bent Lathes Avenue	Single	None	No
OC	SIC	n/a	997	Broom Methodist Church, Broom Lane	Single	None	No
OD	SID	n/a	1048	Newman Additional Resource (next to Newman School) East Bawtry Road	Single	None	No
OE	SIE	Whiston	915	Whiston J&I School, Saville Road	Single	None	No
OF	SIF	Whiston	1057	Whiston Worry Goose J&I School, Hall Close Avenue	Single	None	No
OG	SIG	Whiston	760	Whiston Parish Hall, Well Lane	Single	None	No

QH	SIH	n/a	389	St Bernards Catholic High School, Herringthorpe Valley Road	Single	None	No
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### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Sitwell is largely based on the previous Sitwell Ward with the addition of the St Bernard's district from the former Valley Ward.

Whiston J&I School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school. The school does have a room available in their new extension which could be used while keeping the rest of the school open. However, the room is considered too small to accommodate the number of voters for the polling district. No other alternatives have been identified to date, but suggestions for alternatives are welcome.

Another option has been considered, to merge the former OE and OG polling districts, and use Whiston Parish Hall for an enlarged polling district, with an electorate of 1675. Although the Parish Hall could accommodate this number of voters, parking at the venue is not ideal and there are concerns that congestion could be an issue. It would also mean that voters would be walking past their previous, suitable polling place to get to a different one.

Therefore, no changes to the current provision of polling places are proposed.



## 21 – Swinton Rockingham Ward (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
PA	SWA	n/a	626	Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School, Broadway	Double (polling place to be shared with SWD)	No – but separate polling district no longer required	No
SE (South of Church Street)		n/a	756 (as amended – see Table 4)			Previous SE polling district split – 98% to this ward, and 2% to Wath Ward See Table 4 below	No
PF (no electors)		n/a	0 (total for SWA – 1382)			Slight adjustment of boundary, majority of district in Kilnhurst & Swinton East Ward	
PB	SWB	n/a	1448	Swinton Queen Primary School, Queen Street	Single	None	No
PC (63%)	SWC	n/a	743	Swinton Civic Hall, Station Street	Single	Previous PC polling district split – 63% to this ward, and 37% to Kilnhurst & Swinton East	No
SE (North of Church Street)		n/a	401 (as amended - see Table 5) Total for SWC - 1144			See Table 5 below	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School
SD (52%)	SWD	n/a	930	Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School, Broadway	Double (polling place to be shared with SWA)	Previous SD polling district split – 52% to this ward, and 48% to Wath Ward	Existing polling place, but these voters previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Swinton Rockingham Ward is formed of the western part of the former Swinton Ward, along with parts of Rookery, Racecourse and Golden Smithies areas which were previously in Wath Ward.

Electoral Services officers have visited the area to try identify further polling places to relieve some of the pressure from the current polling places. St Margaret's Church, Church Street has been visited; however it has no separate hall, and has steps at the entrance with disabled access being via a temporary ramp. Park View function suite has also been assessed. The venue is accessible; however it is very close to the existing polling place of Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School.

Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School was previously a shared polling place for both the former PA polling district and the SE polling district. However, previously PA was a smaller polling district (for Swinton ward) and SE was a larger polling district (for Wath ward). Both areas will be in Swinton Rockingham ward, so a single enlarged polling district could be created. However, it is proposed that the Swinton Rockingham part of the former SE polling district be divided, with only the properties south of Church Street being included in the new SWA polling district (See Table 4). This would balance out the electorate between the available polling places. It is proposed that Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School be designated the polling place for the new SWA polling district.

The former SD polling district will be divided between Swinton Rockingham and Wath wards, as a result of the ward boundary changes. The voters from SD would have previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School. Although the High School could be retained for the voters from the SD part of Wath, it would be more appropriate for the voters transferring to this ward to vote in a Swinton Rockingham polling place.

No suitable polling place has been identified in the part of the SD polling district falling in Swinton Rockingham. Therefore, it is proposed that Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School be designated the polling place for this area. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on the way to the new assigned polling place. The School would become a double station as it was previously, with a net electorate of 2,312.

It is proposed that Swinton Civic Hall be retained as the polling place for the part of the former PC polling district remaining in Swinton Rockingham Ward. However, this would be smaller polling district than previously. Therefore it is proposed that the properties north of Church Street from the former SE polling district are included in the new SWC polling district (See Table 5). This would balance out the electorate between the available polling places. It is proposed that Swinton Civic Hall be designated the polling place for the new SWC polling district.

<b>Table 4 – Properties from former SE to be included in SWA</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Brameld Road	45	55	39
Broadway	13	25	20
Broadway Close	6	12	8
Central Avenue	72	132	114
Church Street (odds)	30	54	33
Church View	21	34	30
Fitzwilliam Street	2	3	3
Griffin Road	22	43	36
Highfield Road	39	73	51
Park Close	16	27	25
Park Road	50	94	81
Rockingham Road	48	77	58
Rookery Road	97	170	126
Toll Bar Road	78	134	114
Woodlands Crescent	16	30	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>756</b>

<b>Table 5 – Properties from former SE to be included in SWD</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Birch Court	2	1	1
Church Street (evens)	30	47	33
Far Golden Smithies	80	178	118
Golden Smithies Lane (part)	20	35	26
Low Golden Smithies	63	159	132
Paddock Croft	9	21	16
St Georges Avenue	18	33	23
St Margaret's Drive	11	17	16
The Stables	9	21	16
Yearling Chase	16	33	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>401</b>

## **22 - Thurcroft & Wickersley South Ward** (Rother Valley Constituency)

<b>Previous Polling District</b>	<b>New Polling District</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Electorate (excluding postal voters)</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>	<b>Polling station</b>	<b>Changes due to boundary review</b>	<b>New polling place</b>
EA	THA	Wickersley (South Ward)	2044	The Church Barn, Church Lane	Double (busy station keep as a double)	None	No
KF	THB	Thurcroft (North Ward)	3534	Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour Road	Double	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Thurcroft and Wickersley South Ward is formed from the northern part of Thurcroft parish and the southern part of Wickersley parish.

There is no reason to change the polling districts or places for this ward.

### 23 - Wales Ward (Rother Valley Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
RA	WAA	Harthill-with-Woodall	877	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill	Double (polling place also used for ANG in Anston & Woodsetts Ward)	None	No
RD	WAB	Wales (Wales Ward)	1058	Wales-Kiveton Methodist Church, School Road	Single	None	Yes – previously Wales Primary School
RE	WAC	Wales (Kiveton Park Ward)	1305	Old Colliery Offices (training room), Colliery Road	Single	None	Yes – previously Kiveton Park Youth & Community Centre
RF	WAD	Wales (Wales Ward)	1522	Kiveton Park & Wales Village Hall, Walesmoor Avenue	Single	None	No
RG	WAE	Harthill-with-Woodall	219	Peregrine Way Community Centre, Peregrine Way	Single	None	No
RH	WAF	Wales (Kiveton Park Ward)	454	Viking Way Community Centre, Viking Way	Single	None	No

### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Wales Ward is largely based on the previous Wales Ward with the removal of Thorpe Salvin (to Anston & Woodsetts) and Todwick (to Aston & Todwick).

Wales Primary School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school.

Electoral Services officers have visited some premises in the area to assess their suitability as a polling place, including Wales Jubilee Sports & Social Club and Wales-Kiveton Methodist Church. Wales-Kiveton Methodist Church is considered to be the more suitable venue, with good facilities for voters and polling staff, and disabled access. The Church only has a small car park, but this is considered as sufficient as the current provision for parking.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place

Kiveton Park Youth & Community Centre is included in the Children & Young People's Service's review of youth centres, and it is subject to a further Corporate Property review.

Electoral Services officers have visited a few premises to assess their suitability as a polling place for the WAC polling district, including Kiveton Park Infant School and the Old Colliery Offices, Colliery Road. The Old Colliery Offices (Training Room) is considered to be the most suitable venue, with good facilities for voters and polling staff, plenty of parking and disabled access.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

## 24 – Wath Ward (Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
SA	WHA	n/a	1009	Wath Community Library, Montgomery Square	Single	None	No
SB	WHB	n/a	698	The Base Community Hub, Fir Close	Single	None	Yes – previously Oaks Day Centre, Oak Road
SD (East of Sandygate)		n/a	302 (as amended – see Table 6)  Total for WHB 1000			Previous SD polling district split – 48% to this ward, and 52% to Swinton Rockingham Ward See Table 6 below	These voters previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School
SC	WHC	n/a	1298	St Joseph's Catholic Church Hall, Carr Road	Single	None	Yes – previously Wath Victoria Children's Centre, Sandymount Road
SE (2%)		n/a	16			Previous SE polling district split – 2% to this ward, and 98% to Swinton Rockingham Ward	These voters previously voted at Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School



SF	WHD	n/a	1327	Wath Central Primary School, Fitzwilliam Street	Single	None	No
SD (West of Sandygate)		n/a	629 (as amended – see Table 7)  Total for WHE 1956			Previous SD polling district split – 48% to this ward, and 52% to Swinton Rockingham Ward  See Table 7 below	These voters previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School
SG (10%)	WHE	n/a	84	Wath upon Dearne RUFC Clubhouse, Moor Road	Double (proposed that polling place be shared with HOI in Hooper Ward)	Previous SG polling district split – 10% to this ward, and 90% to Hooper Ward	No

### Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals

The new Wath Ward is based on the existing Wath Ward with the removal of the housing north of Manvers Way to the Hooper Ward, and parts of Rookery, Racecourse and Golden Smithies areas to the Swinton Rockingham Ward.

The Wath Community Library was used as a polling place for the first time in 2018, as the Trinity Methodist Church is no longer available. For future elections, the Returning Officer will seek to use a space on the ground floor of the library, rather than the meeting room on the first floor.

The former SD polling district will be divided between Swinton Rockingham Ward and Wath Ward, as a result of the ward boundary changes. The voters from SD would have previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School. It is proposed that the Wath part of the former SD polling district be divided, and that the properties east of Sandygate be included in the new WHB polling district (See Table 6). This would balance out the electorate between the available polling places. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on their way to the new assigned polling place. This would also avoid the use of Saint Pius High School as a polling place, although it would be a suitable contingency.

The Oaks Day Centre is due to close within the next few years, and so alternative premises should be identified for the WHB polling district. Electoral Services officers have visited the area to try assess alternatives. Fir Close Meeting Centre was used as a polling place until 2014, and, having recently been developed into the Base Community Hub, it is still considered to be suitable, so it is proposed that this be designated the polling place for WHB.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

The polling district of WHC is proposed to be made up of the former SC polling district, and a small part of the former SE polling district (Far Field Lane and houses at north of Golden Smithies Lane). The voters from SE would have previously voted at Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School, and this would be retained as a polling place for the Swinton Rockingham ward. It would be more appropriate for the voters transferring to this ward to vote in a polling place for the Wath ward.

Wath Victoria Children's Centre is included in the Children and Young People's Services review of children's centres. It is possible that the building could still be used as a polling place for WHC, and it may be asset transferred to Wath Victoria Primary School. Even so, alternatives have been sought and considered.

Electoral Services officers have visited some premises to assess their suitability as a polling place, including the Dunholme Social Club and St Joseph's Catholic Church Hall. St Joseph's Catholic Church Hall, Carr Road is considered to be the more suitable available venue for the WHC polling district, with good facilities for voters and polling staff, disabled access, and a reasonably sized car park. This would also avoid the need to use Wath Victoria Primary School.

We would welcome comments on this proposed new polling place.

The former SD polling district will be divided between Swinton Rockingham Ward and Wath Ward, as a result of the ward boundary changes. The voters from SD would have previously voted at Saint Pius X Catholic High School. It is proposed that the Wath part of the former SD polling district be divided, and that the properties west of Sandygate be included in the new WHD polling district (See Table 7). This would balance out the electorate between the available polling places. The voters affected would not have to pass their previous polling place on their way to the new assigned polling place

Wath Central Primary School has asked the Returning Officer to consider alternative venues to avoid closing the school. Electoral Services officers have visited the area to try to identify alternatives for the WHD polling district, including Wath Youth & Community Centre and Wath upon Dearne Leisure Centre. It has not been confirmed that the Leisure Centre can accommodate being designated as a polling place, and Wath Central Primary School remains the most suitable venue.

Therefore it is proposed that Wath Central Primary School be retained as the polling place for WHD.

The polling place for the former SG polling district was previously the Wath upon Dearne RUFC Clubhouse, and this would be retained for the larger proportion of the district which will fall in the new Hoover Ward. Although it is not ideal to share polling places across wards, in this case it may be the best option. There is new housing around the RUFC clubhouse, and it would not be appropriate to allocate these voters to a different polling place. Therefore it is proposed that the RUFC clubhouse be designated the polling place for the WHE district in Wath as well as for the HOI district in Hoover Ward.

<b>Table 6 - Properties from former SD to be included in WHB</b>			
<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Acorn Place	5	5	5
Broom Close	26	69	55
Chestnut Avenue	27	53	27
Elm Way	19	41	37
Holly Grove	32	61	45
Oak Close	18	15	13
Oak Road	29	57	44
Sandygate (no. 105 to 141 only)	19	33	22
Willow Road	34	70	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>302</b>

**Table 7 – Properties from former SD to be included in WHD**

<b>Roads</b>	<b>No of properties</b>	<b>No of electors</b>	<b>No of electors excluding postal voters (approximately)</b>
Boswell Road	33	62	39
Buckleigh Road	75	146	114
Campsall Field Road	15	27	21
Coverleigh Road	37	86	63
Crowley Drive	32	64	54
Dawson Lane	1	2	0
Gipsy Green Lane	15	23	16
Mount Pleasant Road	32	65	54
Quarry Hill Road	88	173	125
Sandygate (no. 90 to 140 only)	29	48	44
Sandygate Crescent	14	34	22
Varney Road	5	7	5
Wath Wood	3	7	6
Wath Wood Bottom	1	2	2
Wath Wood Road (no. 2 to 18 only)	9	18	13
Woodland Grove	8	17	15
Woodland Road	26	48	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>629</b>

**25 - Wickersley North Ward** (Rotherham Constituency; Wentworth & Dearne / Hoyland Constituency)

Previous Polling District	New Polling District	Parish	Electorate (excluding postal voters)	Polling Place	Polling station	Changes due to boundary review	New polling place
NF	WYA	Dalton (East Ward)	714	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane	Triple (shared with WYB and WYE)	None	No
QB	WYB	Dalton (East Ward)	375	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane	Triple (shared with WYA and WYE)	None	No
QD	WYC	Dalton (South Ward)	592	Listerdale Primary School, Beech Avenue	Single	None	No
TA	WYD	Dalton (East Ward)	1124	Flanderwell Early Excellence Centre, Flanderwell Primary School, Greenfield Court	Single	None	No
TB	WYE	Dalton (East Ward)	1131	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane	Triple (shared with WYA and WYB)	None	No
TC (78%)	WYF	Bramley (West Ward)	968	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street	Triple (Polling place is also used for BRB and BRC in Bramley & Ravenfield Ward)	Previous TC polling district split – 78% to this ward, and 22% to Bramley & Ravenfield	No

TD	WYG	Wickersley (North Ward)	2381	Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, Northfield Lane	Double	None	No
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### **Issues, Options and Reasons for Returning Officer's Proposals**

The new Wickersley North Ward is largely based on the previous Wickersley Ward with the addition of parts of Sunnyside and Brecks from the former Silverwood and Valley wards, and the removal of south Wickersley.

There is no reason to change the polling places for this ward.

### Consultation Response Form – Review of polling districts and polling places 2019

All representations or comments in connection with the review must be submitted in writing, eg by letter or email. This form is not compulsory but it has been designed to help capture the information required for consideration during the review.

Information shown in the grey boxes will be redacted, (blanked out) prior to publication.

Individual – Details	
Name:	
Address:	
Voter No: (if known)	
Contact Tel No: (optional)	

Organisation - Details	
Name of organisation:	
Address:	
Contact Name:	
Contact Tel No: (optional)	

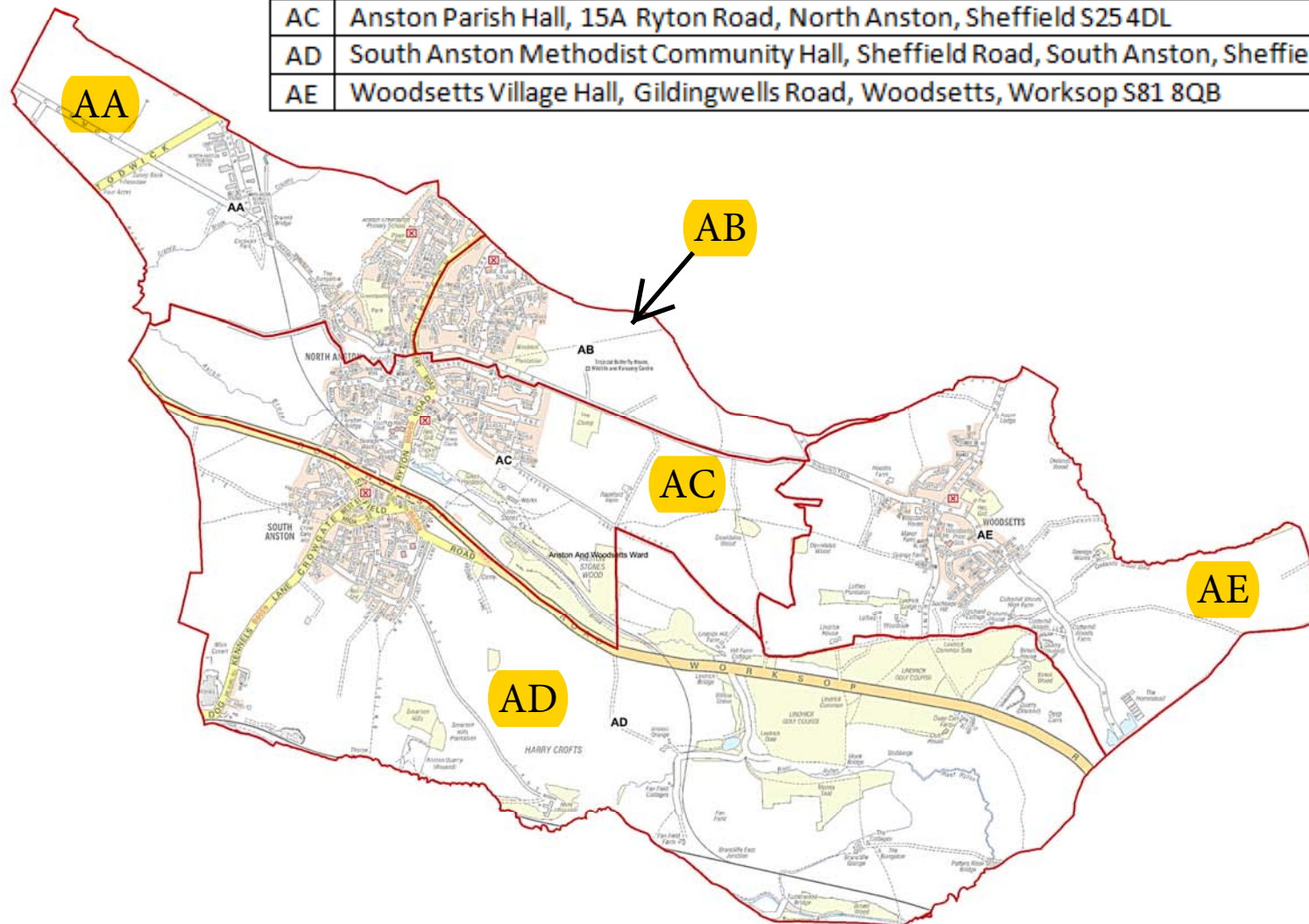
Comments on the proposed scheme of polling district and polling places as outlined in the consultation paper	
Polling district:	
Proposed polling place:	
Do you have any comments to make about the polling district?	

Do you have any other suggestions for the polling district?
Do you have any comments about the proposed polling place? (issues with accessibility etc?)
Is there an alternative that the council should consider?
Why is the alternative a better option?

Please return this form to: Electoral Services, Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham, S60 1AE  
or email to: [electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@rotherham.gov.uk)  
by 26 April 2019



AA	Anston Greenlands Primary School, Edinburgh Drive, North Anston, Sheffield S25 4HD
AB	Anston Park Junior School, Park Avenue, North Anston, Sheffield S25 2QZ
AC	Anston Parish Hall, 15A Ryton Road, North Anston, Sheffield S25 4DL
AD	South Anston Methodist Community Hall, Sheffield Road, South Anston, Sheffield S25 5DW
AE	Woodsetts Village Hall, Gildingwells Road, Woodsetts, Worksop S81 8QB



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08/11/2018

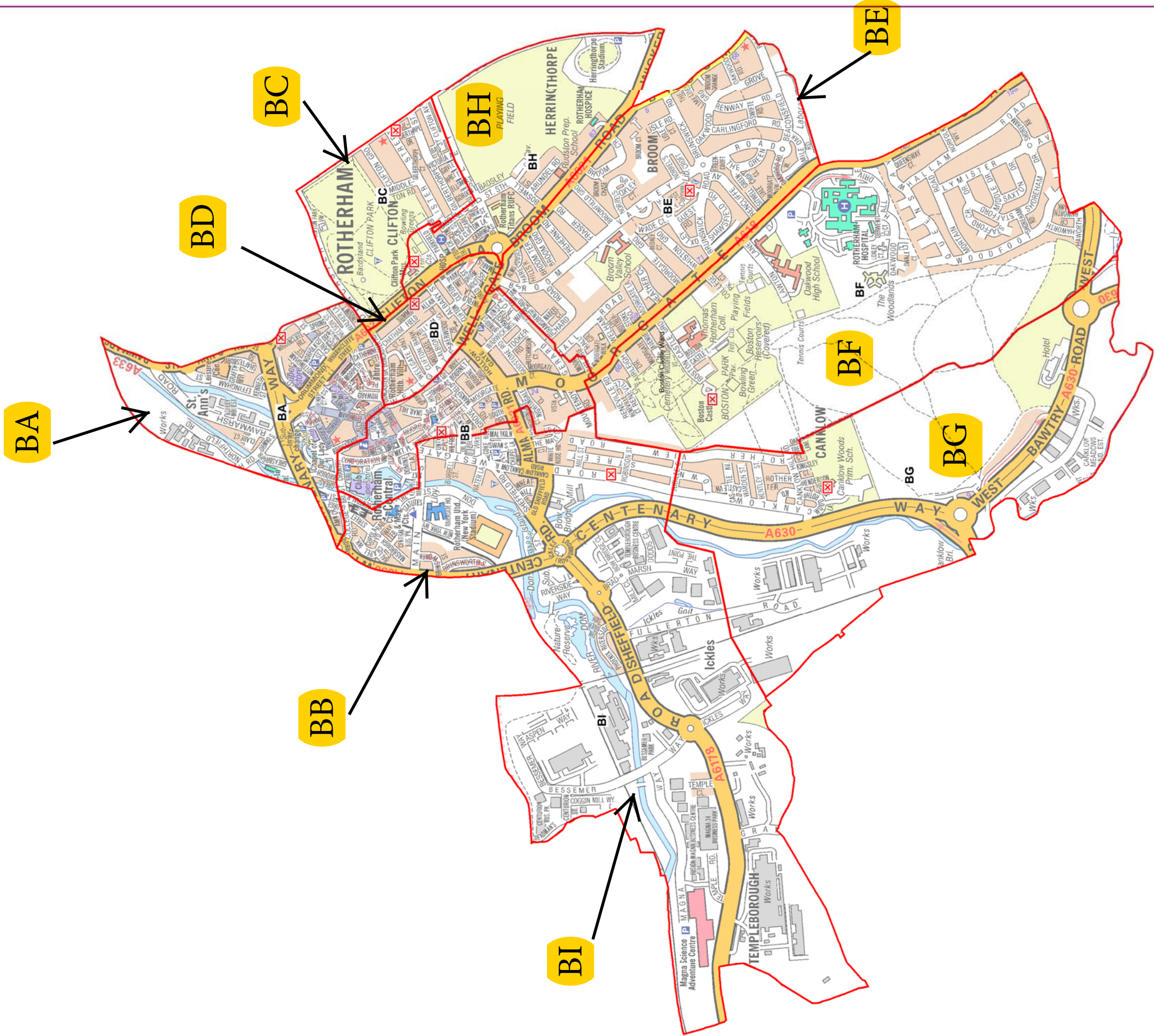


#### Anston And Woodsetts Ward

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 Rotherham  
 S60 1AE

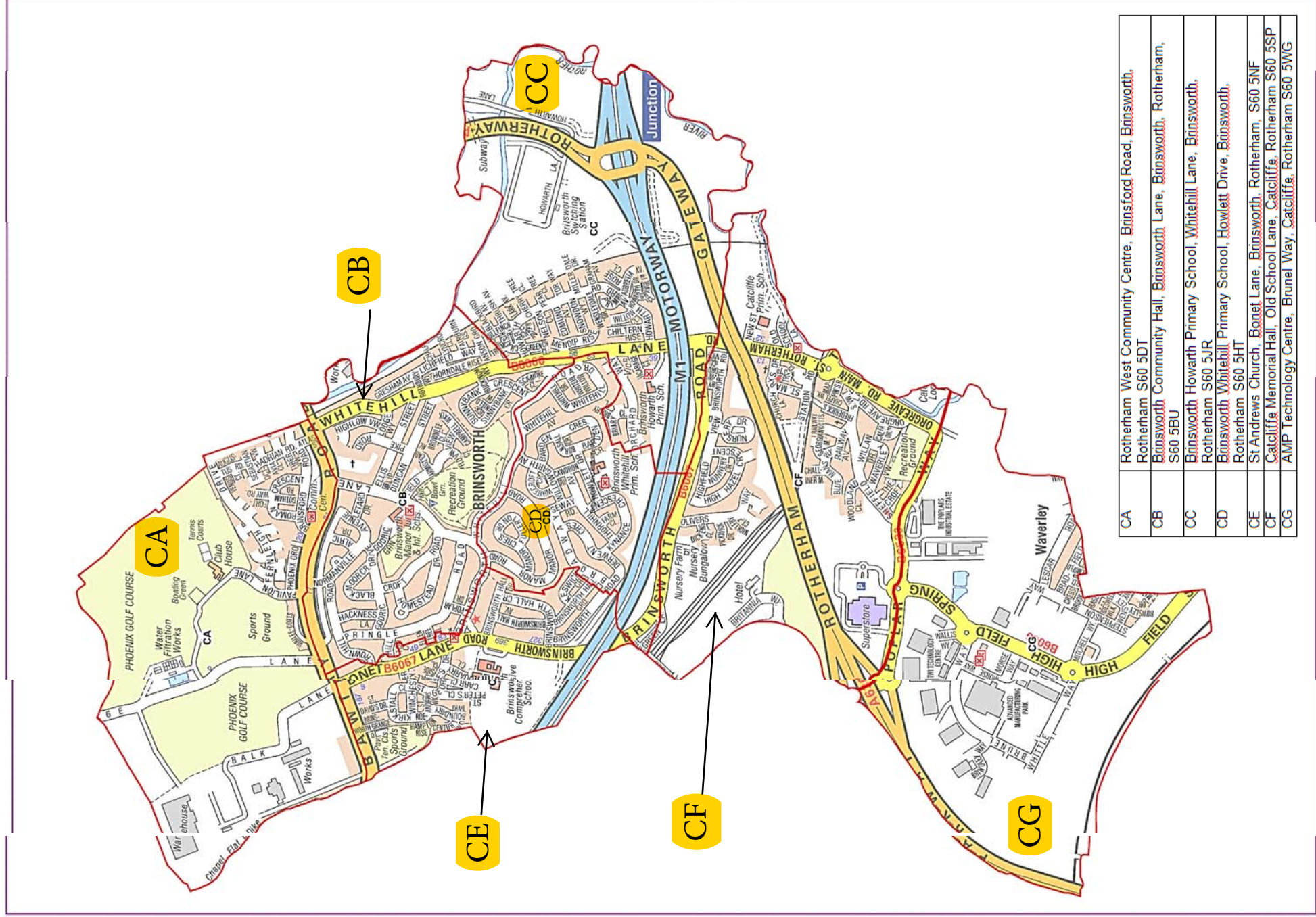




BA	Myplace Rotherham, St Ann's Road, Rotherham S65 1PH
BB	Talbot Lane Methodist Church, Moorgate Street, Rotherham S60 2EY
BC	United Methodist Church Clifton, Lister Street, Rotherham S65 2AX
BD	Beeverleigh Community Centre, Clifton Lane, Rotherham S65 2AD
BE	Broom Valley Club Room, Guest Place, Rotherham S60 2SE
BF	Boston Castle, Boston Castle Grove, Rotherham S60 2BA
BG	Canklow Woods Primary School, Wood Lane, Rotherham S60 2XJ
BH	Garden Building, Clifton Park, Clifton Lane, Rotherham S65 2AA
BI	The Hub, 103 Canklow Road, Rotherham S60 2JF

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CA	Rotherham West Community Centre, Brimsford Road, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5DT
CB	Brinsworth Community Hall, Brinsworth Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham, S60 5BU
CC	Brinsworth Howarth Primary School, Whitehill Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5JR
CD	Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School, Howlett Drive, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5HT
CE	St Andrews Church, Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham, S60 5NF
CF	Catcliffe Memorial Hall, Old School Lane, Catcliffe, Rotherham S60 5SP
CG	AMP Technology Centre, Brunel Way, Catcliffe, Rotherham S60 5WG

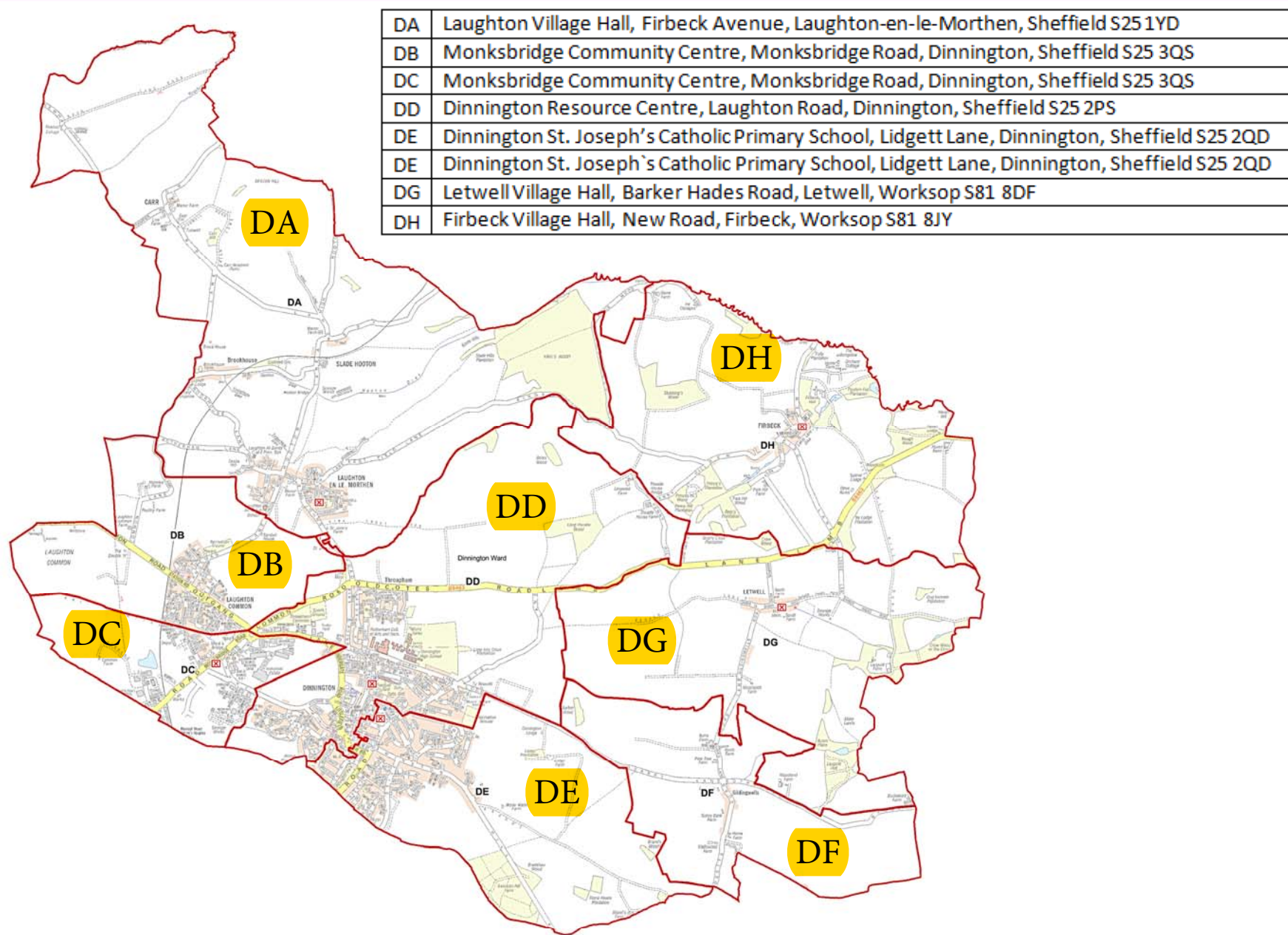


06/11/2018



## Brinsworth & Catcliffe Ward

(Current)



# Dinnington Ward

(Current)

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Corporate ICT  
Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE



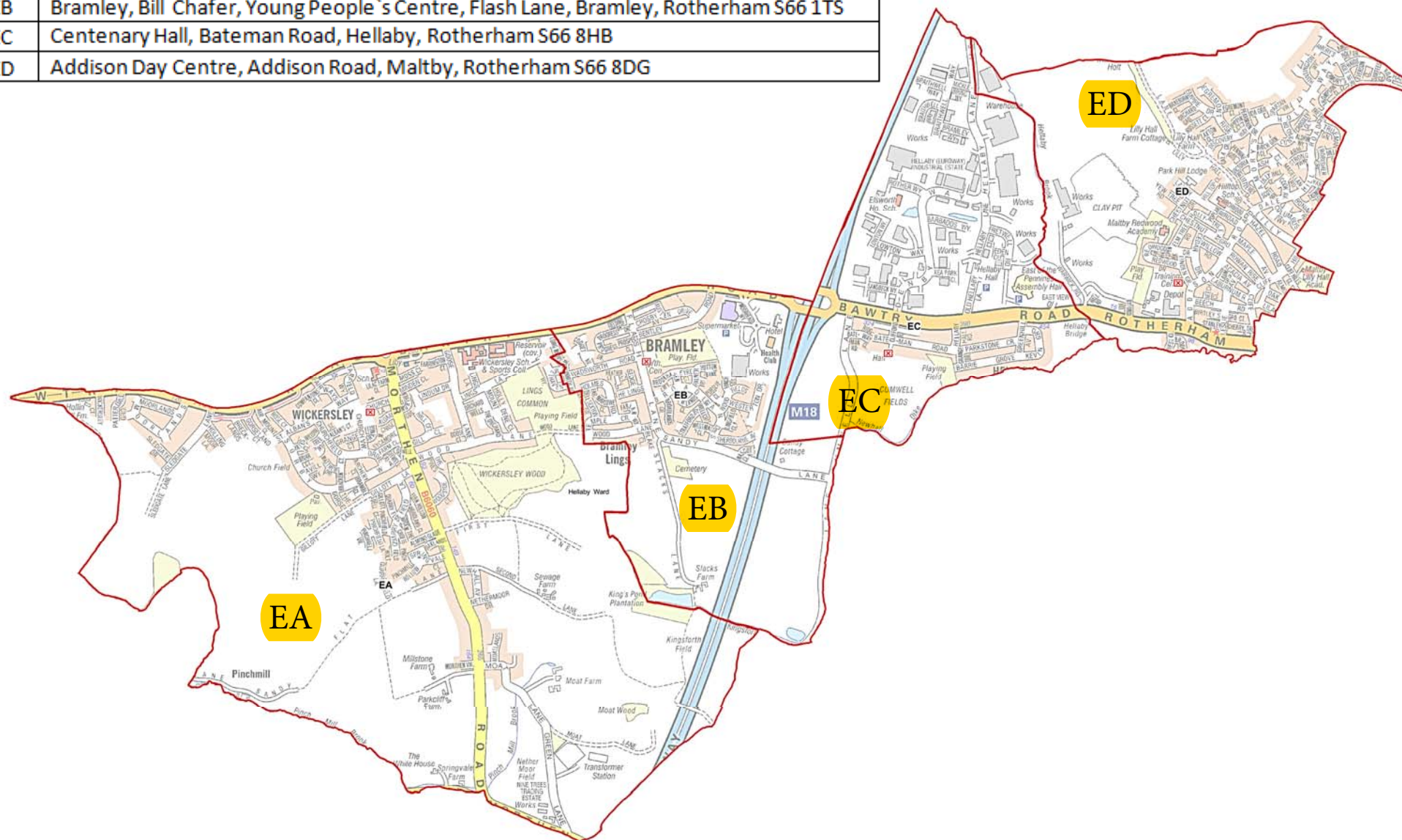
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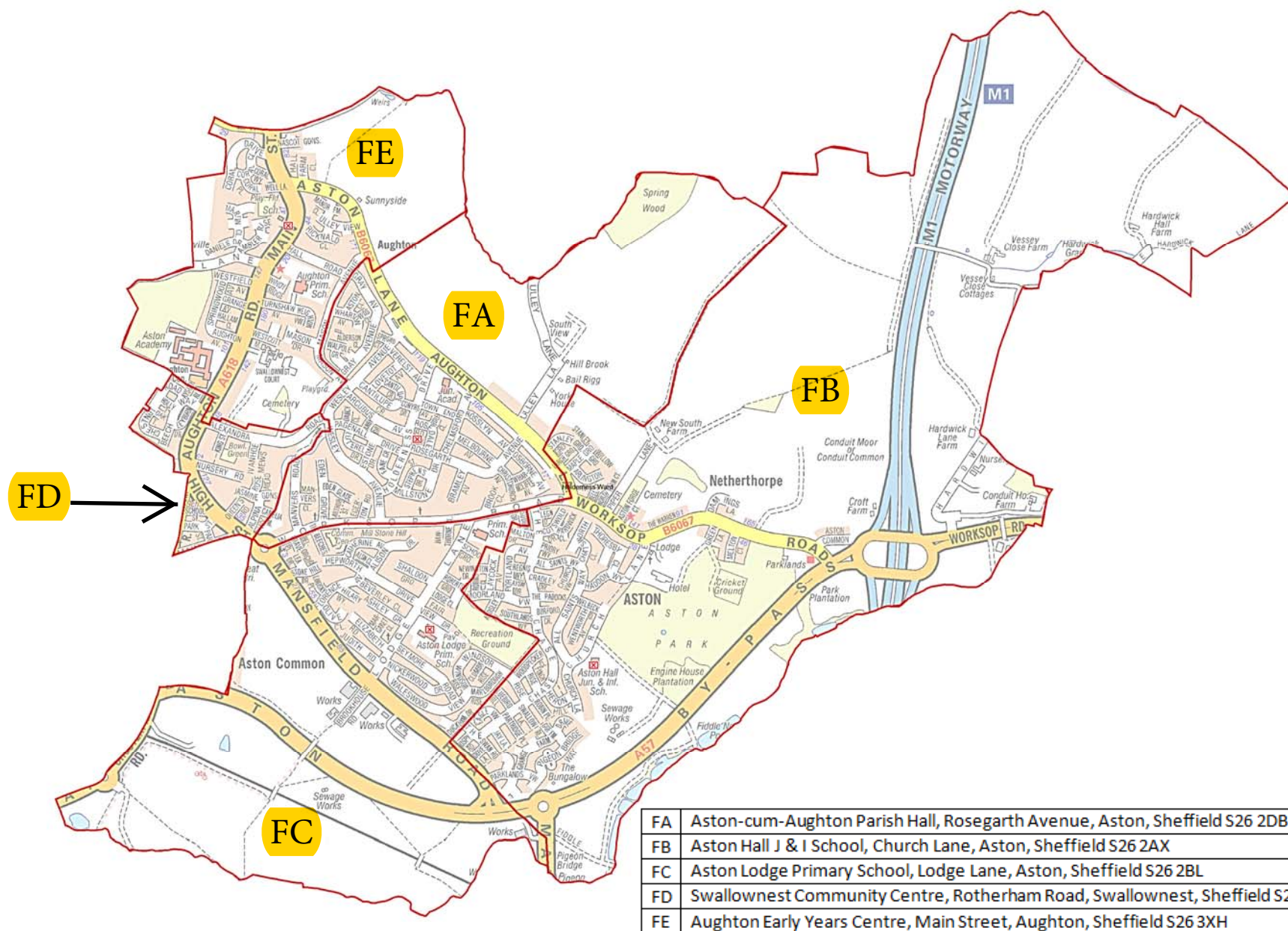
EA	The Church Barn, Church Lane, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 1ES
EB	Bramley, Bill Chafer, Young People's Centre, Flash Lane, Bramley, Rotherham S66 1TS
EC	Centenary Hall, Bateman Road, Hellaby, Rotherham S66 8HB
ED	Addison Day Centre, Addison Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8DG



**Hellaby Ward**

(Current)

gis@rotherham.gov.uk (01709) 823364  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Corporate ICT  
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Main Street  
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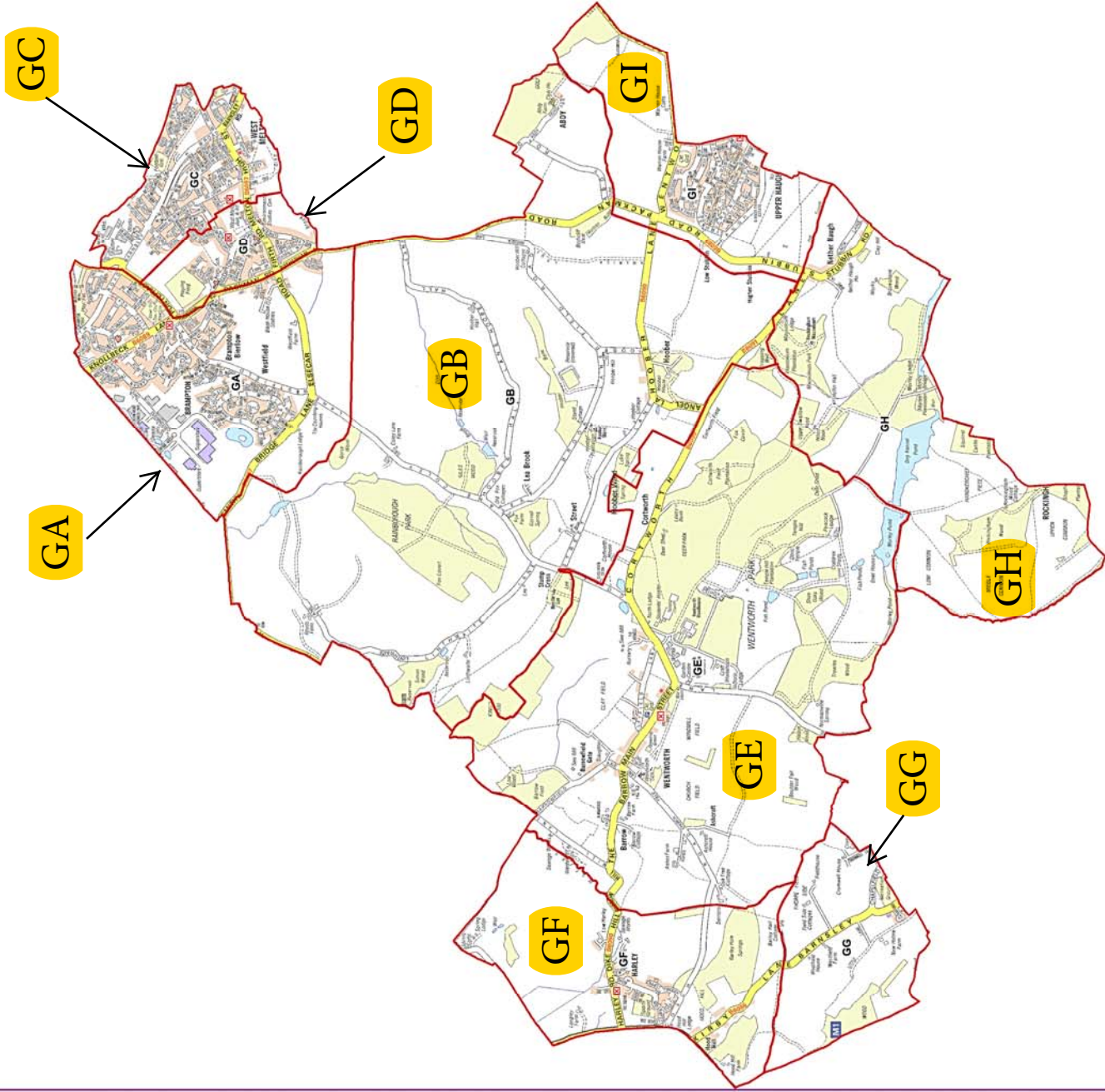


**Holderness Ward**

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Main Street  
Rotherham  
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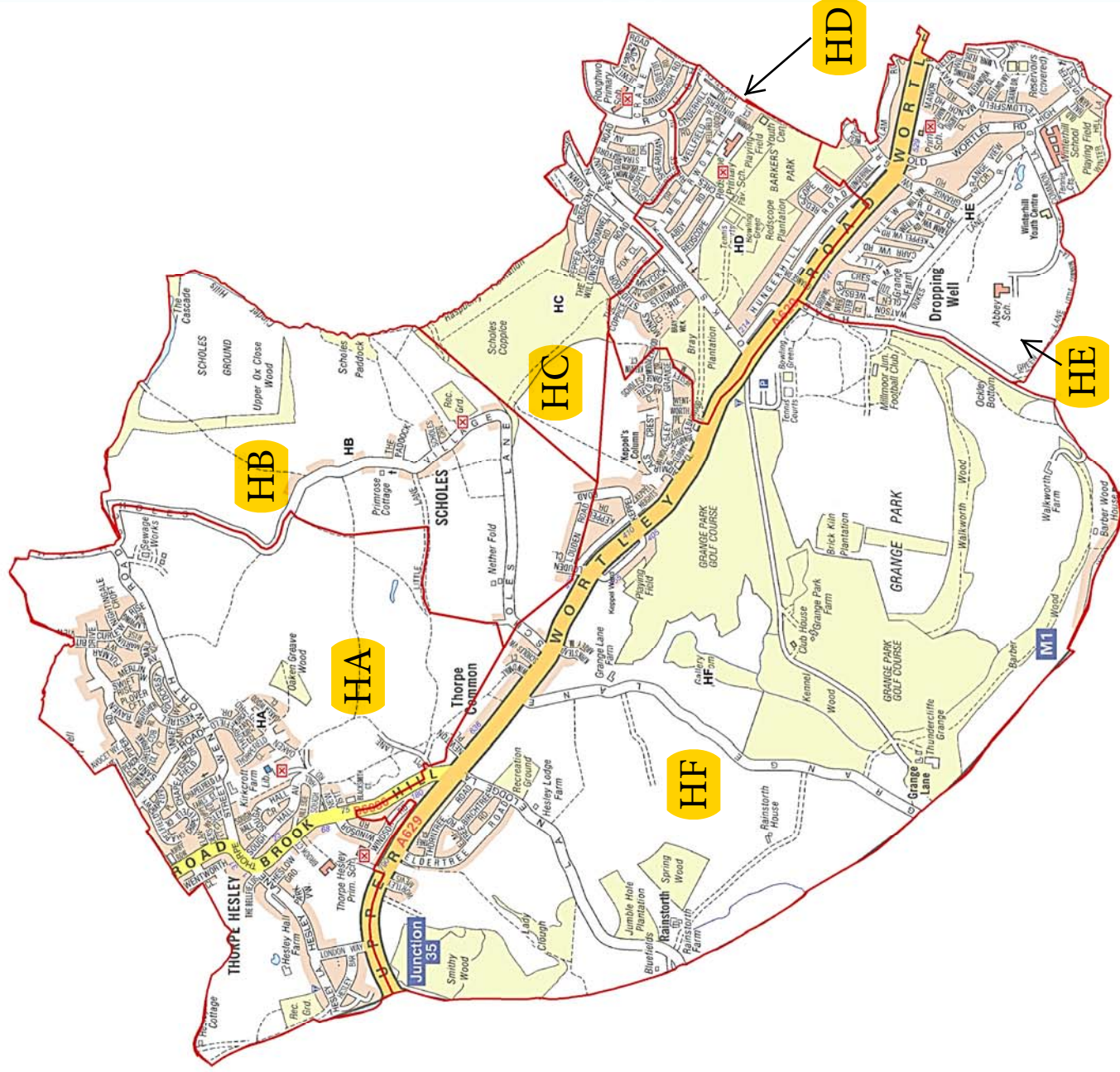




GA	Brampton Bierlow Parish Hall, Knollbeck Lane, Brampton Bierlow Barnsley S73 0TX
GB	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
GC	West Melton Primary School, Stokewell Road, West Melton, Rotherham S63 6NF
GD	Christchurch Hall, Christchurch Road, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 6NW
GE	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
GF	Harley Church, Harley Road, Harley, Rotherham S62 7UD
GG	Trinity Community Centre, Sough Hall Avenue, Thorpe Hesley, Rotherham S65 2QJ
GH	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
GI	Manor Farm Community Centre, Harding Avenue, Upper Haugh, Rotherham S62 7ED

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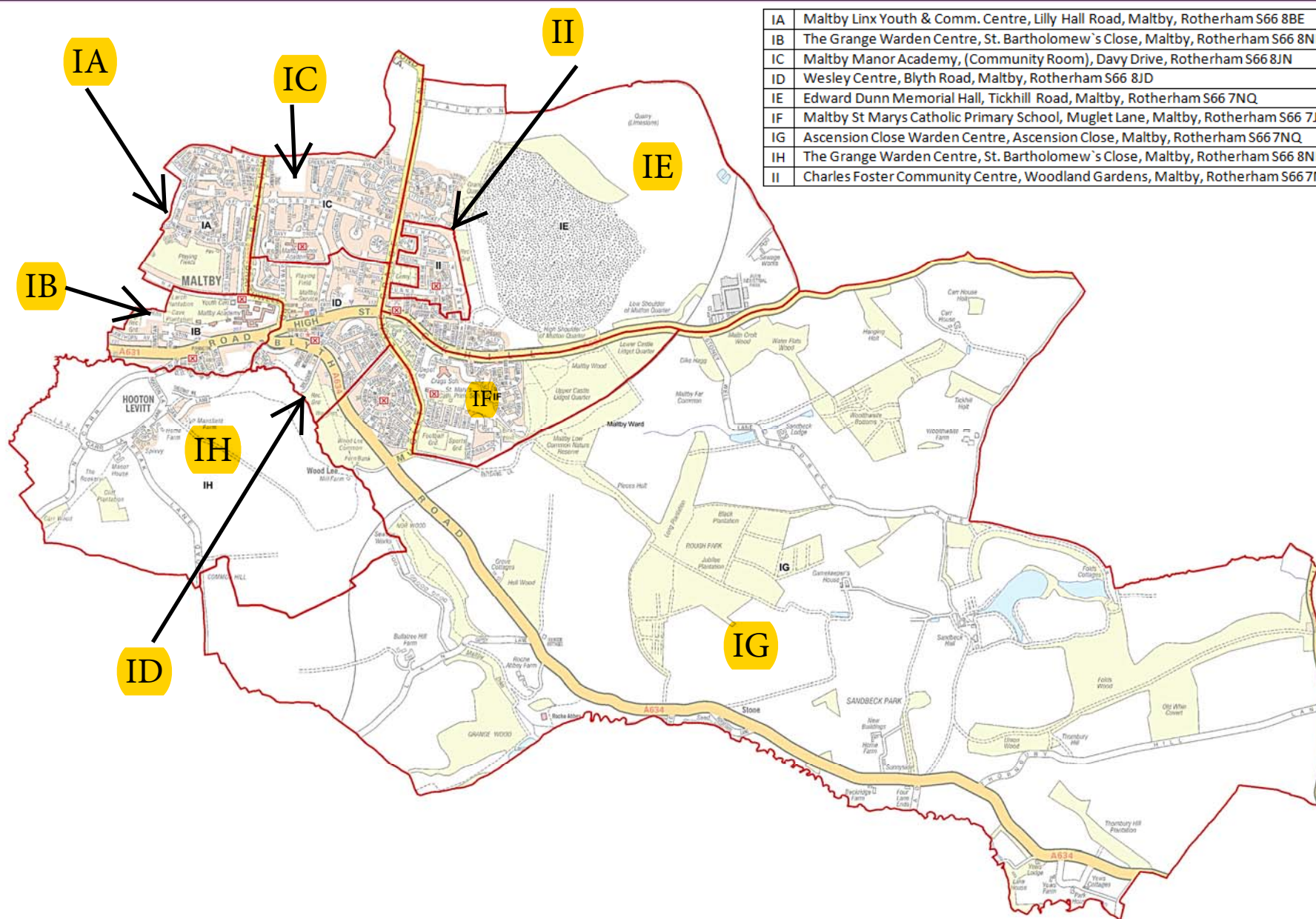




HA	Trinity Community Centre, Sough Hall Avenue, Thorpe Hesley, Rotherham S65 2QJ
HB	Scholes Cricket Pavilion, Scholes Village, Rotherham S61 2RQ
HC	Roughwood Primary School, Roughwood Road, Rotherham S61 3HL
HD	Chislett Centre, Kimberworth Park Road, Rotherham S61 3JT
HE	St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Wortley Road, Rotherham S61 1PD
HF	Thorpe Hesley Primary School, Upper Wortley Road, Rotherham, S61 2PL



IA	Maltby Linx Youth & Comm. Centre, Lilly Hall Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8BE
IB	The Grange Warden Centre, St. Bartholomew's Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8NH
IC	Maltby Manor Academy, (Community Room), Davy Drive, Rotherham S66 8JN
ID	Wesley Centre, Blyth Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8JD
IE	Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NQ
IF	Maltby St Marys Catholic Primary School, Muglet Lane, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7JU
IG	Ascension Close Warden Centre, Ascension Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NQ
IH	The Grange Warden Centre, St. Bartholomew's Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8NH
II	Charles Foster Community Centre, Woodland Gardens, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NW



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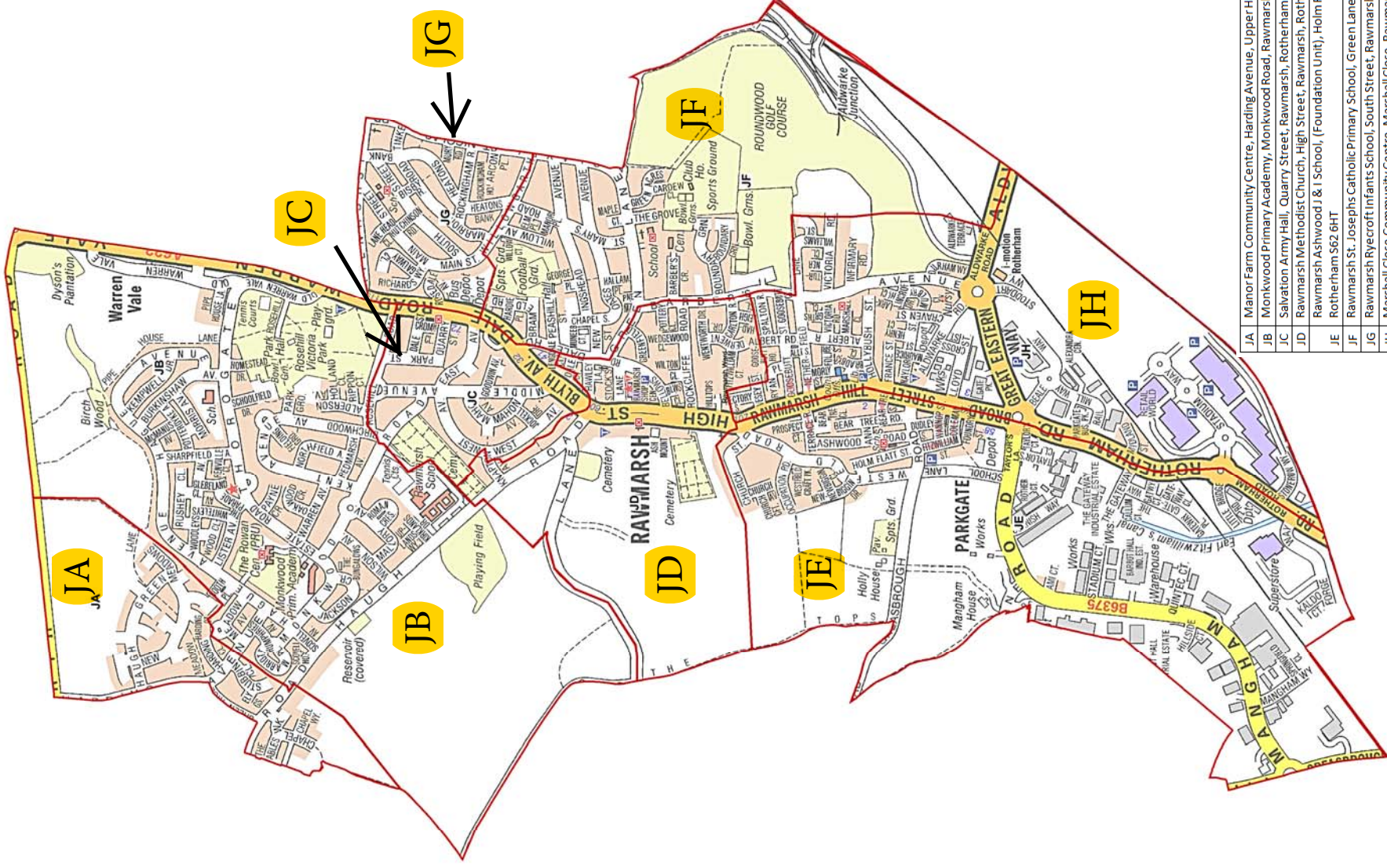


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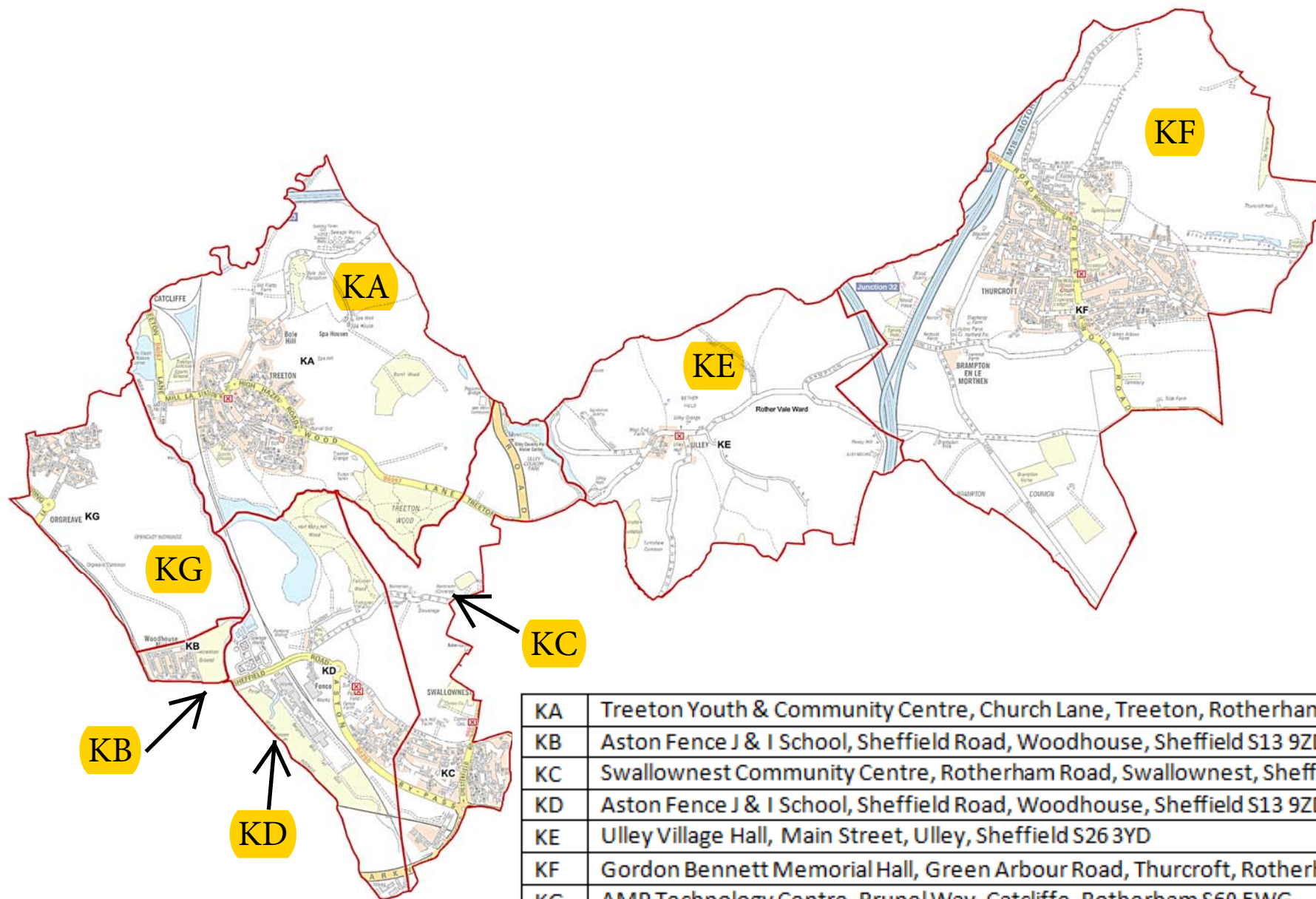
**Maltby Ward**  
 (Current)

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 Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
 Corporate ICT  
 Riverside House  
 Main Street  
 Rotherham  
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JA	Manor Farm Community Centre, Harding Avenue, Upper Haugh, Rotherham S62 7ED
JB	Monkwood Primary Academy, Monkwood Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 7JD
JC	Salvation Army Hall, Quarry Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 7DB
JD	Rawmarsh Methodist Church, High Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6LN
JE	Rawmarsh Ashwood 1 & 1 School, (Foundation Unit), Holm Flatt Street, Parkgate, Rotherham S62 6HT
JF	Rawmarsh St. Josephs Catholic Primary School, Green Lane, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6JY
JG	Rawmarsh Rycroft Infants School, South Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5QW
JH	Marshall Close Community Centre, Marshall Close, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6DB





KA	Treeton Youth & Community Centre, Church Lane, Treeton, Rotherham S60 5PZ
KB	Aston Fence J & I School, Sheffield Road, Woodhouse, Sheffield S13 9ZD
KC	Swallownest Community Centre, Rotherham Road, Swallownest, Sheffield S26 4UR
KD	Aston Fence J & I School, Sheffield Road, Woodhouse, Sheffield S13 9ZD
KE	Ulley Village Hall, Main Street, Ulley, Sheffield S26 3YD
KF	Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham S66 9DD
KG	AMP Technology Centre, Brunel Way, Catcliffe, Rotherham S60 5WG

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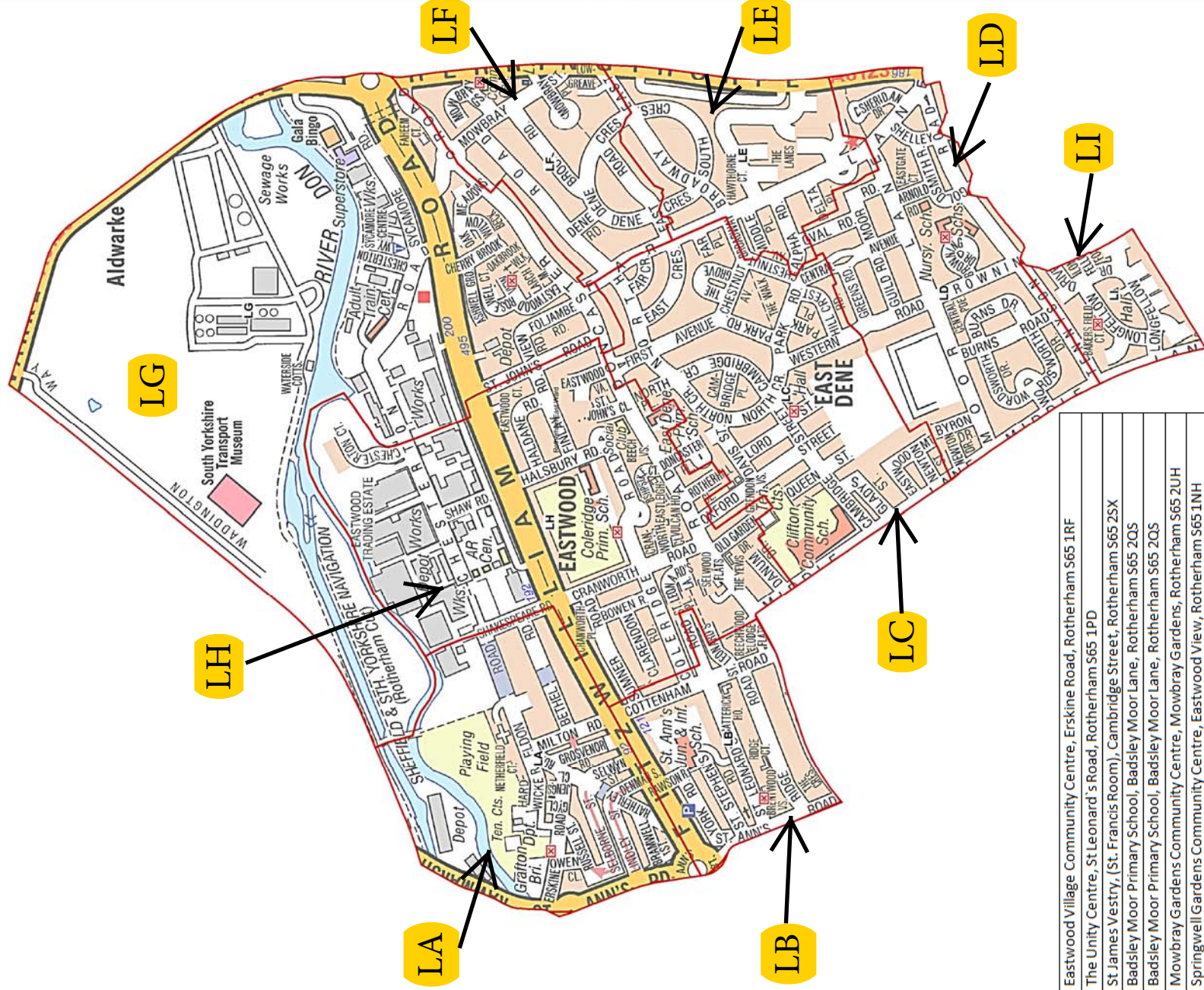


08/11/2018



**Rother Vale Ward**  
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 Main Street  
 Rotherham  
 S60 1AE



LA	Eastwood Village Community Centre, Erskine Road, Rotherham S65 1RF
LB	The Unity Centre, St Leonard's Road, Rotherham S65 1PD
LC	St James Vestry, (St. Francis Room), Cambridge Street, Rotherham S65 2SX
LD	Badsley Moor Primary School, Badsley Moor Lane, Rotherham S65 2OS
LE	Badsley Moor Primary School, Badsley Moor Lane, Rotherham S65 2OS
LF	Mowbray Gardens Community Centre, Mowbray Gardens, Rotherham S65 2UH
LG	Springwell Gardens Community Centre, Eastwood View, Rotherham S65 1NH
LH	The Place Young People's Centre, (next to Coleridge Primary School), Coleridge Road, Rotherham S65 1LW
U	Bakersfield Warden Centre, Longfellow Drive, Rotherham S65 2LH

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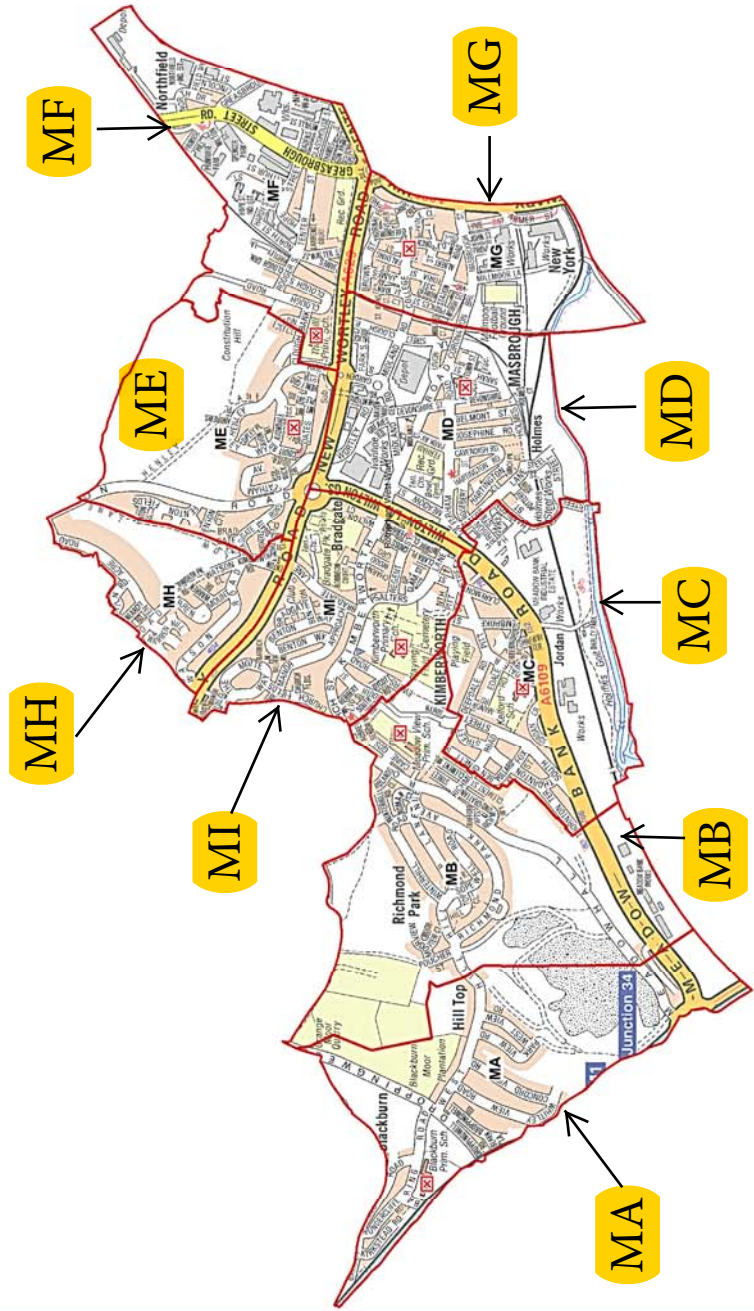


## Rotherham East Ward

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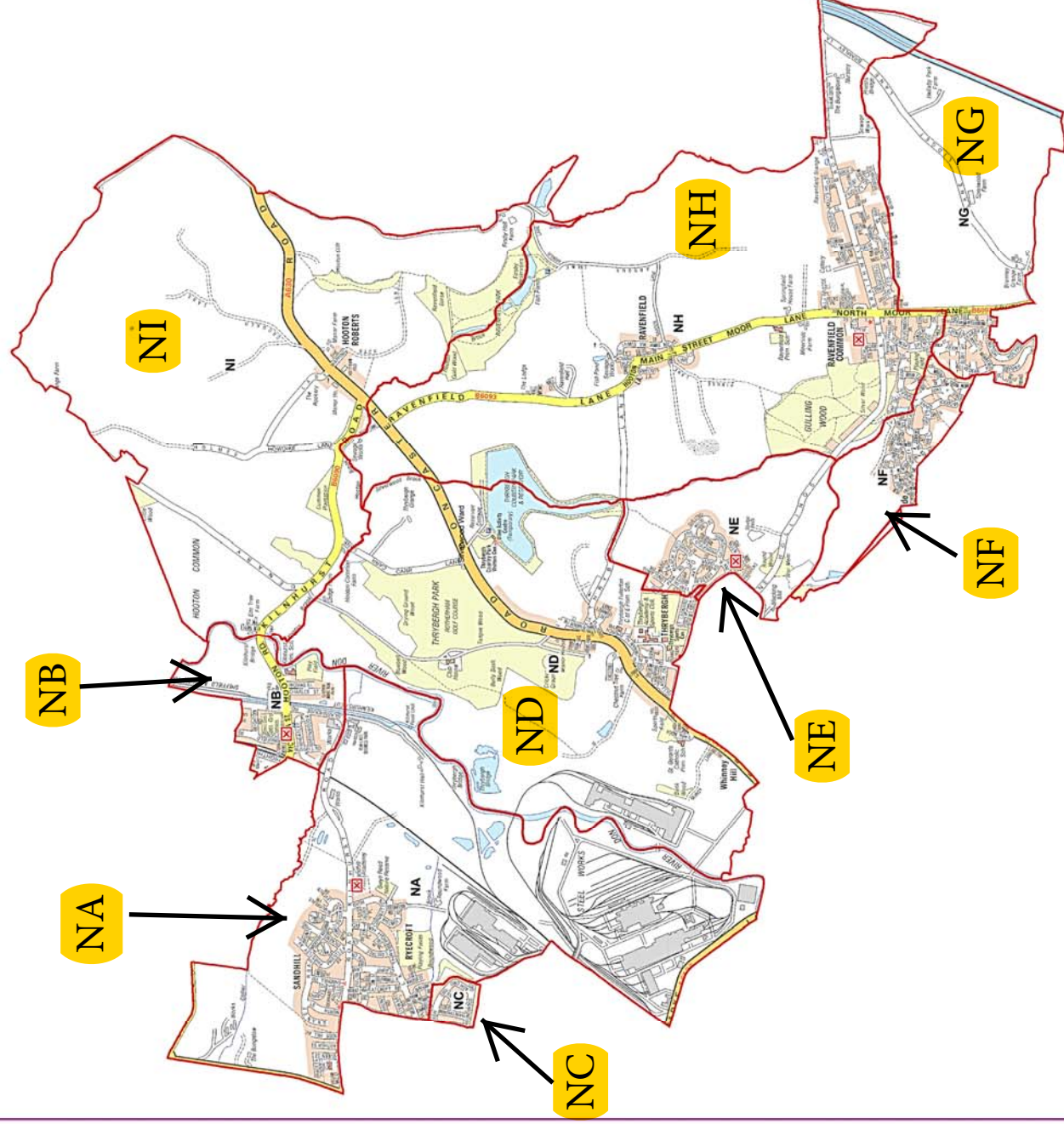




MA	Blackburn Primary School, Baring Road, Blackburn, Rotherham S61 2BU
MB	Meadow View Primary School, (Community Room), Meadowhall Road, Rotherham S61 2JD
MC	Kelford School, Oakdale Road, Rotherham S61 2NU
MD	Ferham Primary School, Ferham Road, Rotherham S61 1AP
ME	Henley Community Centre, Oates Close, Rotherham S61 1TP
MF	Thornhill Primary School, Clough Bank, Rotherham S61 1TD
MG	Masbrough & Thornhill Community Centre, College Road, Rotherham S60 1JE
MH	St John's Church, St John's Green, Kimberworth Park, Rotherham S61 3JL
MI	Kimberworth Community Children's Centre, Kimberworth Road, Rotherham S61 1HE

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NA	Sandhill Primary Academy, Kilnhurst Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5LH
NB	Kilnhurst Comm. Resource Centre, Victoria Street, Kilnhurst, Mexborough S64 5SQ
NC	Rawmarsh St. Josephs Catholic Primary School, Green Lane, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6JY
ND	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4EE
NE	Staple Green Community Centre, Staple Green, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4DA
NF	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
NG	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SA
NH	Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, Rotherham S65 4PT
NI	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4BP

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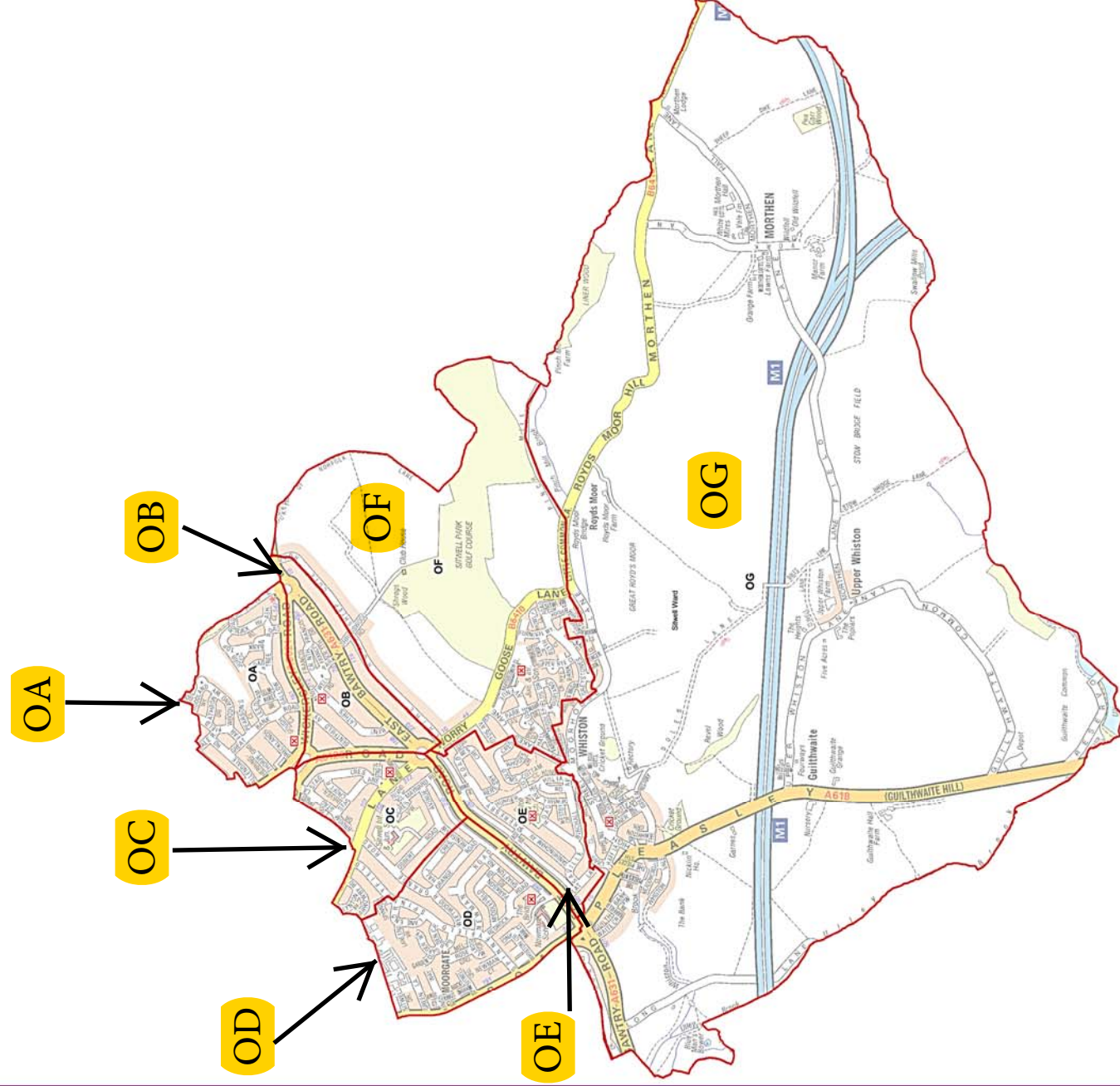
**Silverwood Ward**  
 (Current)

06/11/2018

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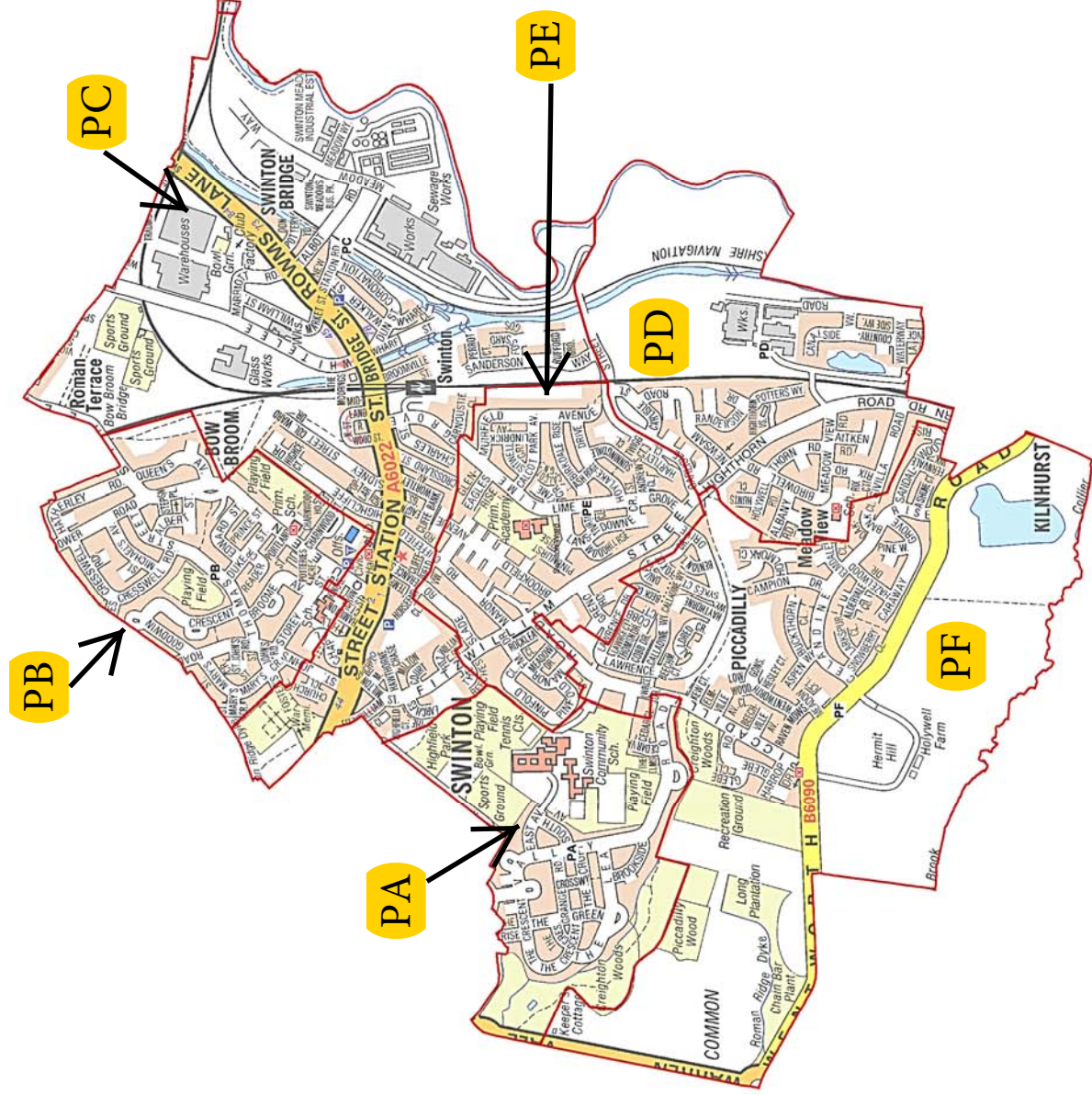




OA	Herringthorpe United Reformed Church, Wickersley Road, Rotherham S60 4JN
OB	St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Bent Lathes Avenue, Rotherham S60 4BN
OC	Broom Methodist Church, Broom Lane, Rotherham S60 3NW
OD	Newman Additional Resource (next to Newman School) East Bawtry Road, Rotherham S60 3LX
OE	Whiston J & I School, Saville Road, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4DX
OF	Whiston Worry Goose J & I School, Hall Close Avenue, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4AG
OG	Whiston Parish Hall, Well Lane, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4HX

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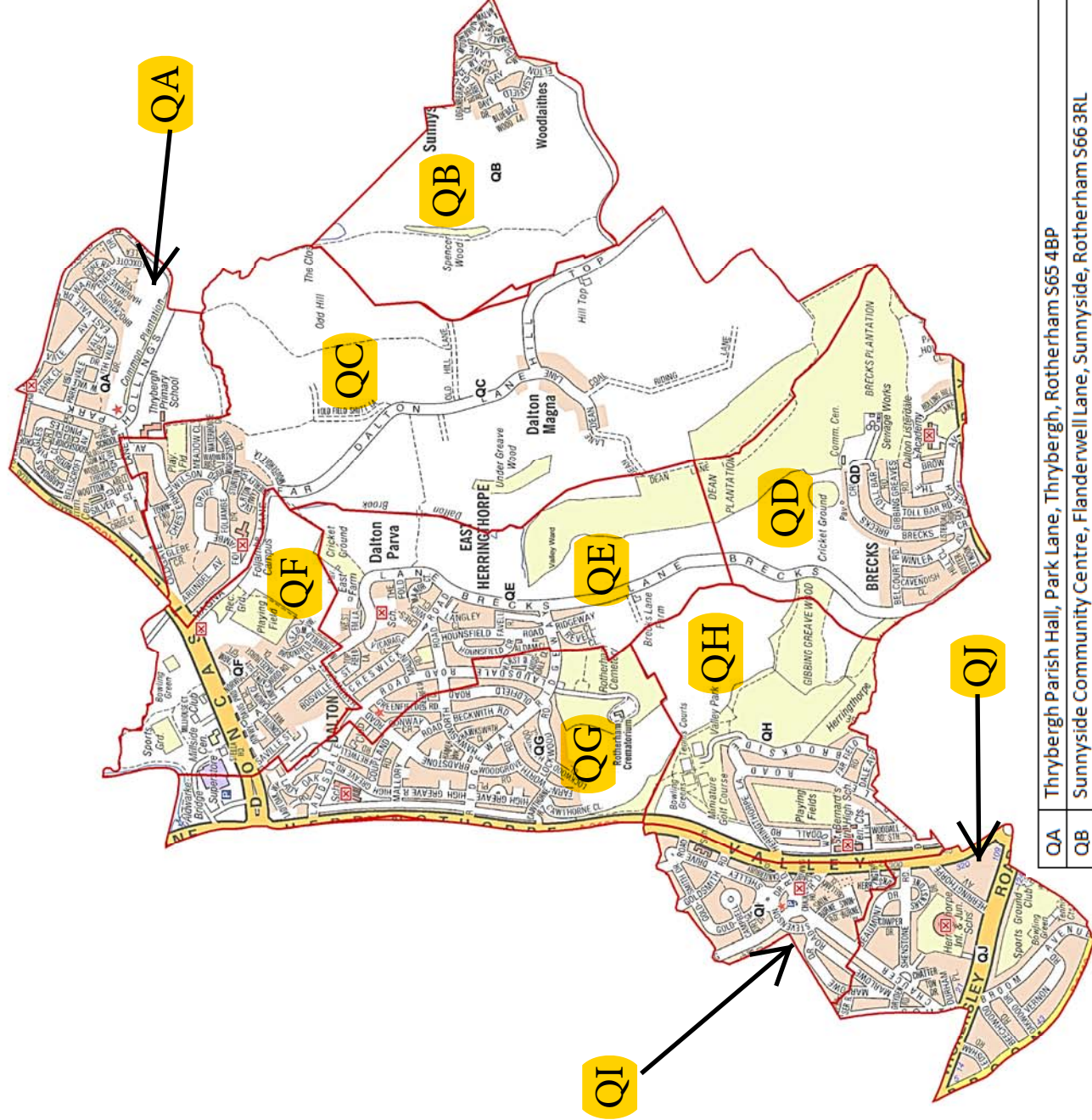


PA	Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School, Broadway, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8HF
PB	Swinton Queen Primary School, Queen Street, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8NE
PC	Swinton Civic Hall, Station Street, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8PZ
PD	St Thomas Primary School, Meadow View Road, Kiln Hurst, Mexborough S64 5UA
PE	The Brookfield Centre, Lime Grove, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8TG
PF	Piccadilly Methodist Church, Wentworth Road, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8JZ

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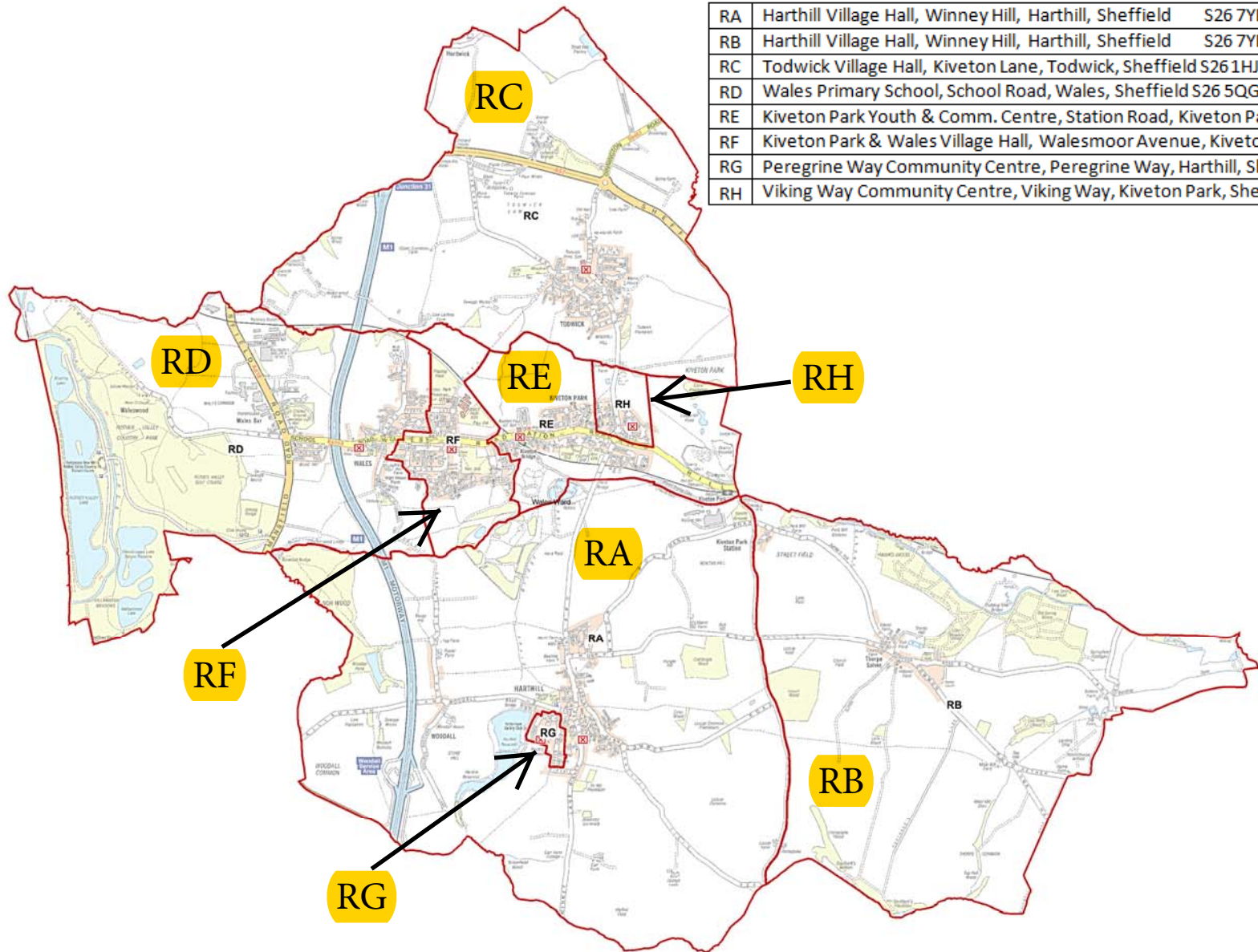






QA	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4BP
QB	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
QC	The Willow Tree Children's Centre, Foljambe Drive, Dalton, Rotherham S65 4HQ
QD	Listerdale Primary School, Beech Avenue, Brecks, Rotherham S65 3HN
QE	Trinity Croft C of E J School, (Parish Room), Dalton Lane, Dalton Parva, Rotherham S65 3QJ
QF	Dalton Parish Hall, Doncaster Road, Dalton, Rotherham S65 3EW
QG	High Greave Junior School, (Sports Hall), High Greave Road, Rotherham S65 3LZ
QH	St Bernards Catholic High School, Herringthorpe Valley Road, Rotherham S65 3BE
QI	Herringthorpe Young People's Centre, Chaucer Road, Rotherham S65 2LG
QJ	Herringthorpe Infants School, Chatterton Drive, Rotherham S65 2JW

RA	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill, Harthill, Sheffield	S26 7YL
RB	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill, Harthill, Sheffield	S26 7YL
RC	Todwick Village Hall, Kiveton Lane, Todwick, Sheffield	S26 1HJ
RD	Wales Primary School, School Road, Wales, Sheffield	S26 5QG
RE	Kiveton Park Youth & Comm. Centre, Station Road, Kiveton Park, Sheffield	S26 6QQ
RF	Kiveton Park & Wales Village Hall, Walesmoor Avenue, Kiveton Park	Sheffield S26 5RG
RG	Peregrine Way Community Centre, Peregrine Way, Harthill, Sheffield	S26 7UP
RH	Viking Way Community Centre, Viking Way, Kiveton Park, Sheffield	S26 6RX



**Wales Ward**  
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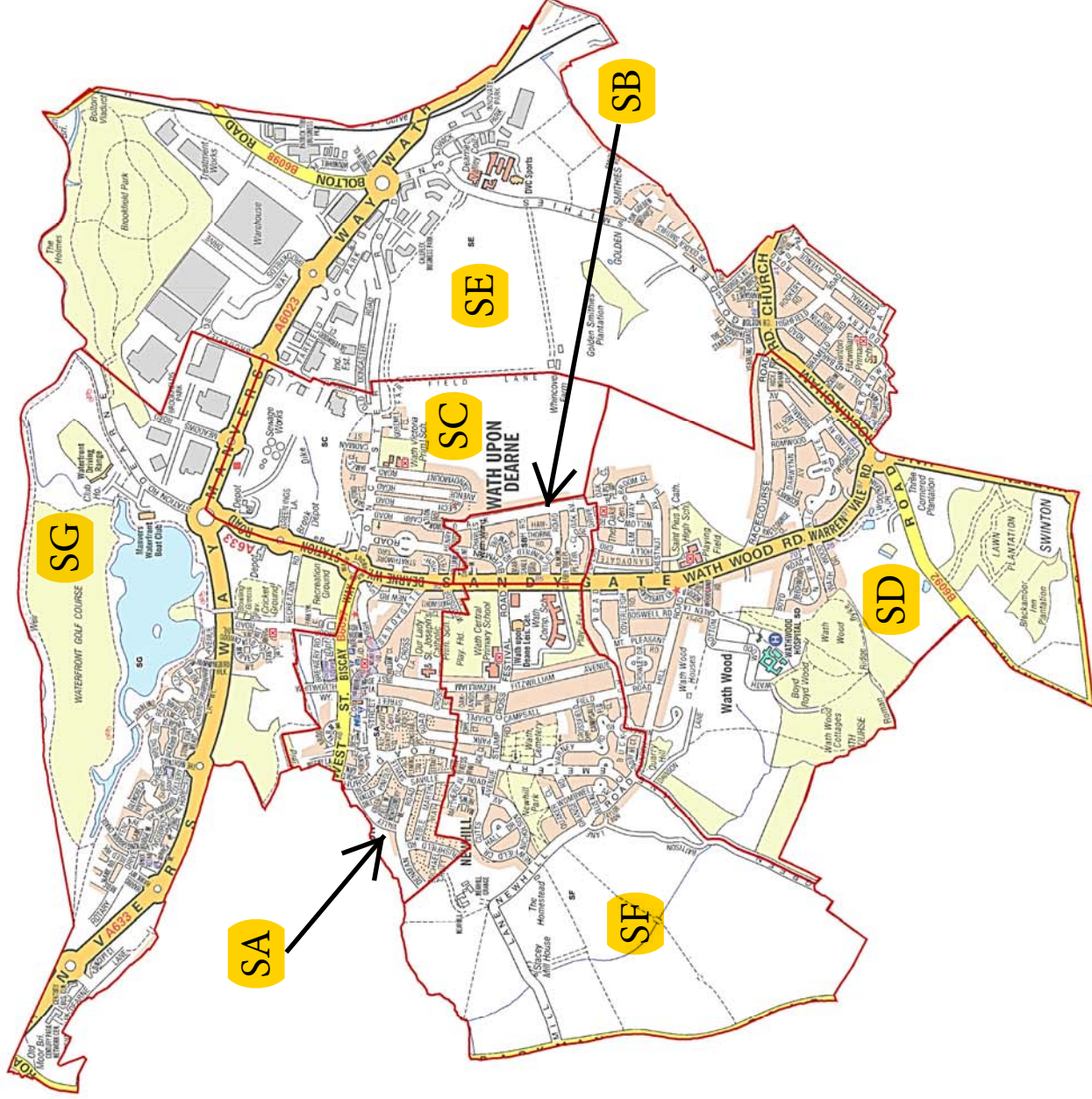
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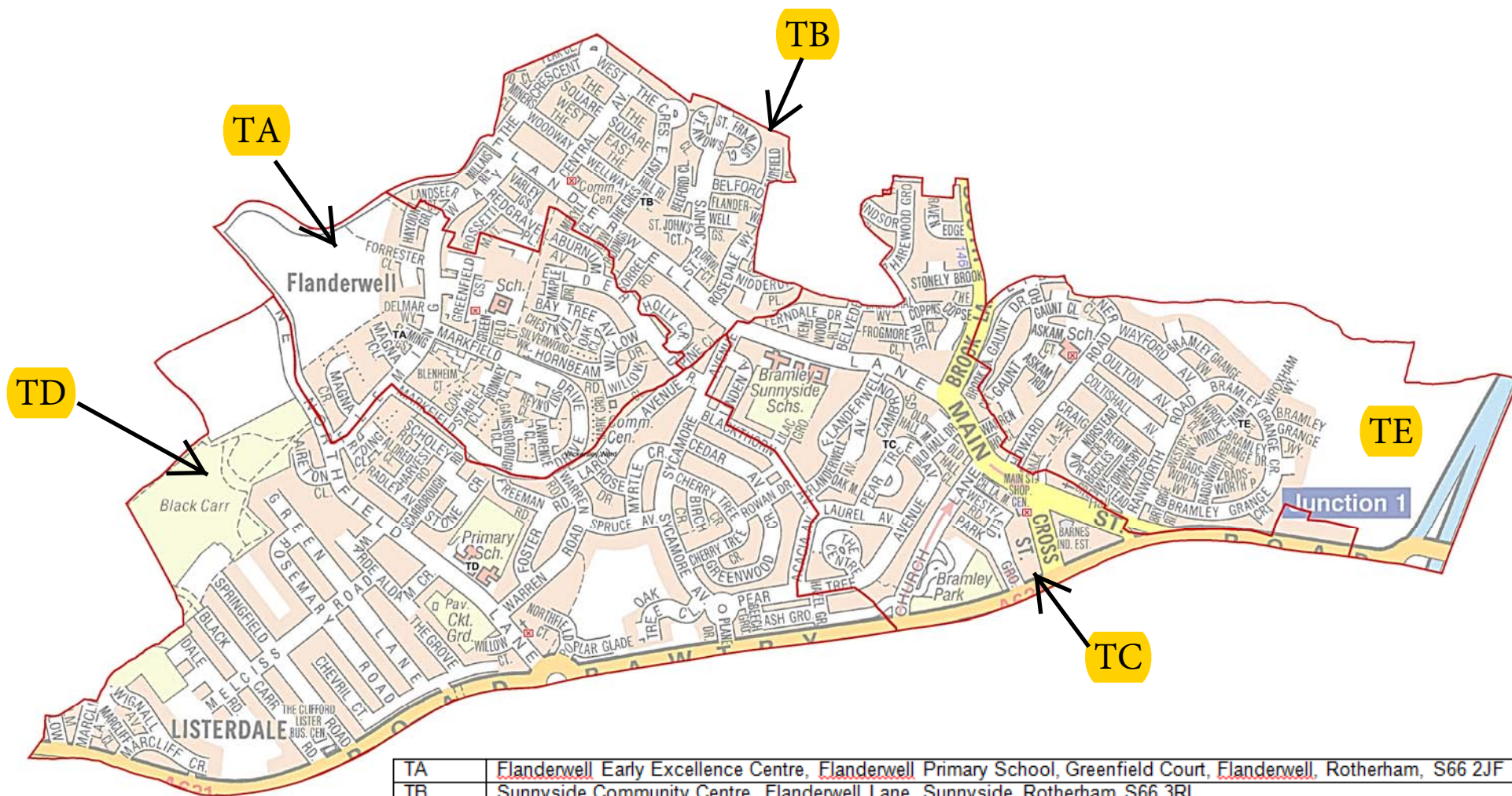
SA	Wath Community Library, Montgomery Square, <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7RZ
SB	Oaks Day Centre, Oak Road, <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7BB
SC	<u>Wath</u> Victoria Children's Centre, <u>Sandymount Road</u> , <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7AB
SD	Satin Pius X Catholic High School (Sports Hall), <u>Wath Wood Road</u> , <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7PQ
SE	Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School, Broadway, Swinton, Mexborough, S64 8HF
SF	<u>Wath Central Primary School</u> , Fitzwilliam Street, <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7HG
SG	<u>Wath upon Deame RUFC Clubhouse</u> , Moor Road, <u>Wath upon Deame</u> , Rotherham S63 7RT



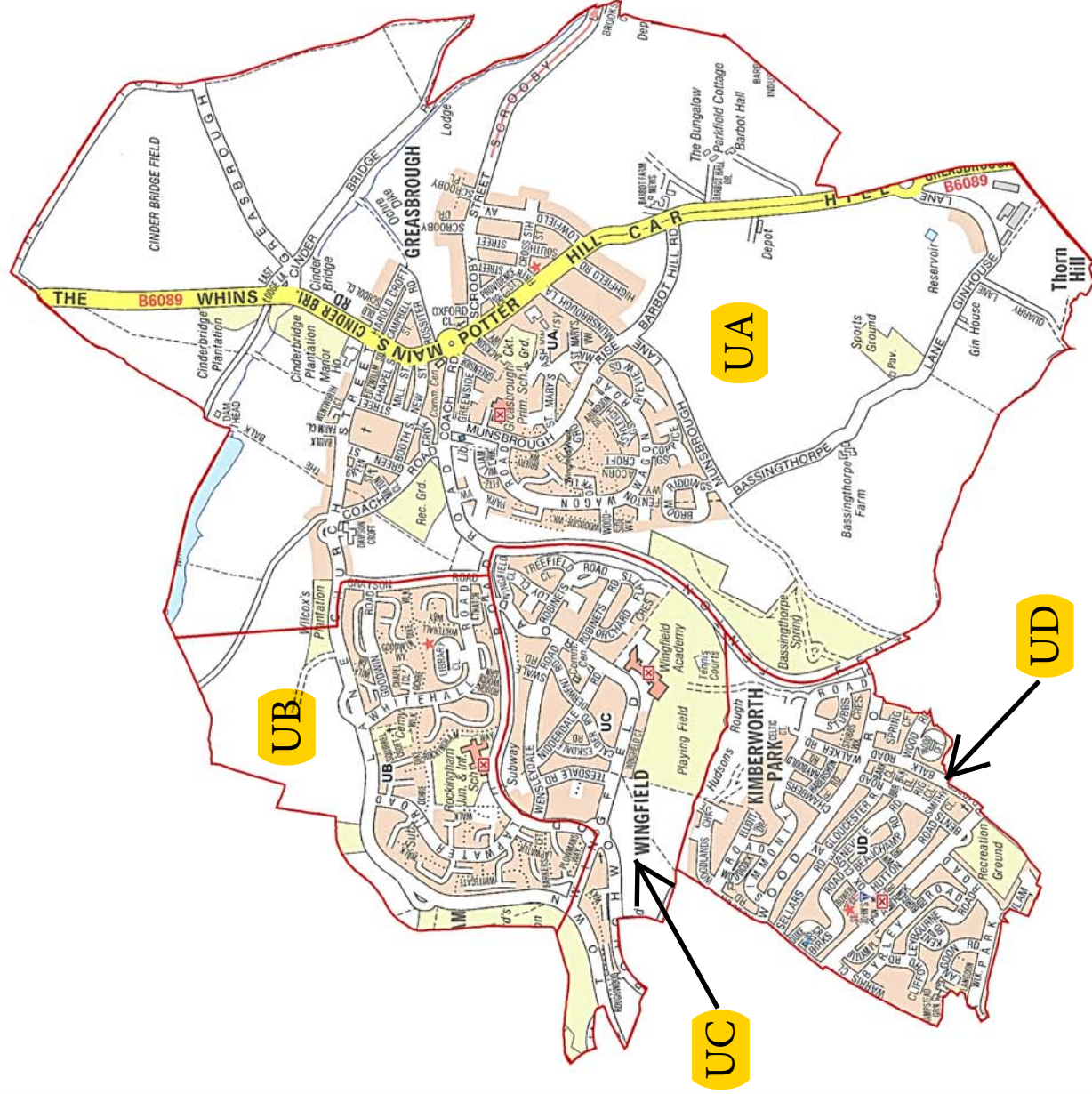
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TA	<u>Flanderswell</u> Early Excellence Centre, <u>Flanderswell</u> Primary School, Greenfield Court, <u>Flanderswell</u> , Rotherham, S66 2JF
TB	Sunnyside Community Centre, <u>Flanderswell</u> Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
TC	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street, Bramley, Rotherham, S66 2SA
TD	Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, Northfield Lane, <u>Wickersley</u> , Rotherham S66 2HF
TE	The Grange Zone, Bramley Grange Primary School, Howard Road, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SY



UA	Greasbrough Primary School, Munsborough Rise, Greasbrough, Rotherham S61 4RB
UB	Rockingham Professional Development Centre, Roughwood Road, Rotherham S61 4HY
UC	Youth Centre, Wingfield Academy, Wingfield Road, Rotherham S61 4AU
UD	St John's Church, St John's Green, Kimberworth Park, Rotherham S61 3JL

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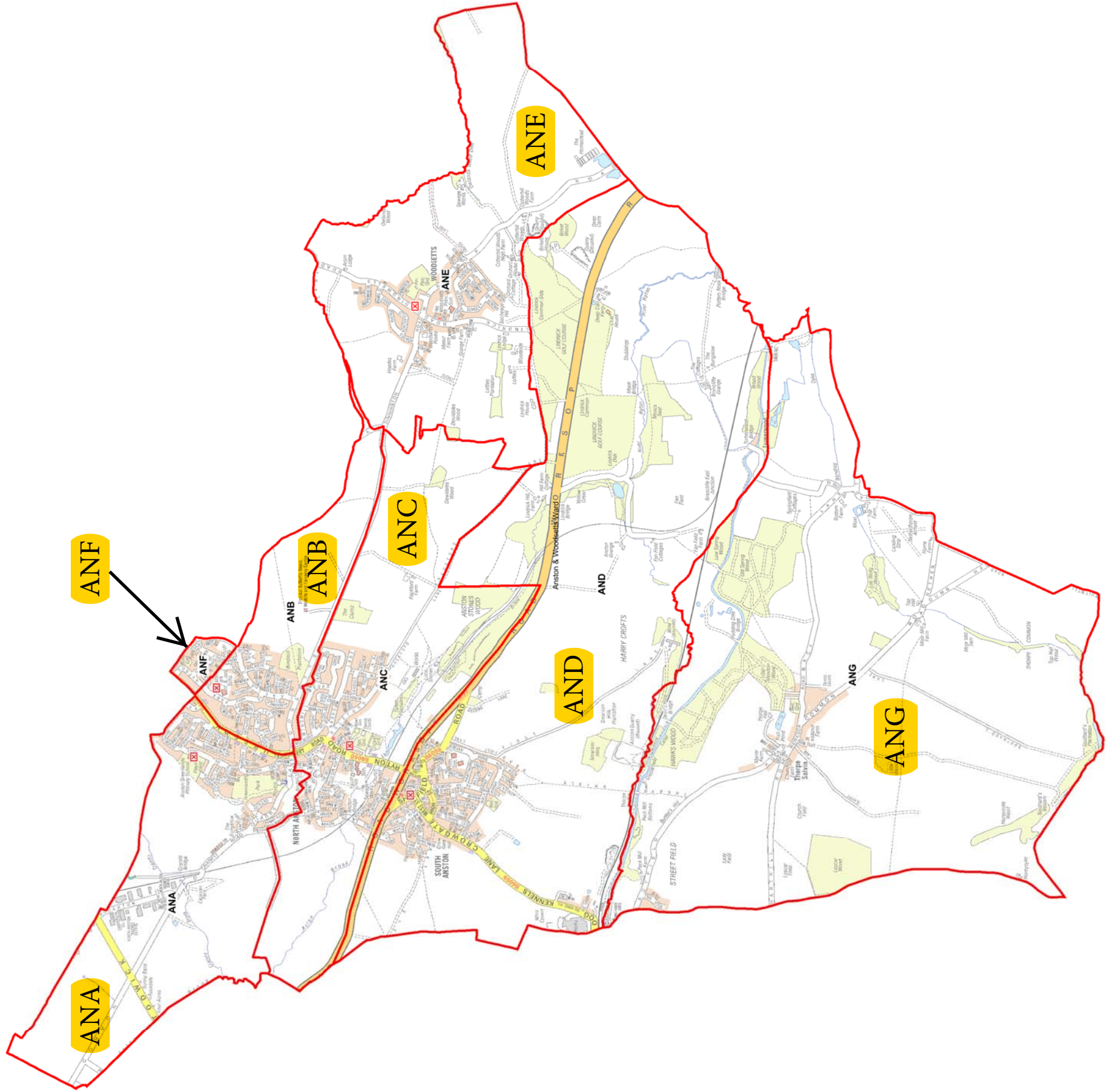
## Wingfield Ward

(Current)

06/11/2018

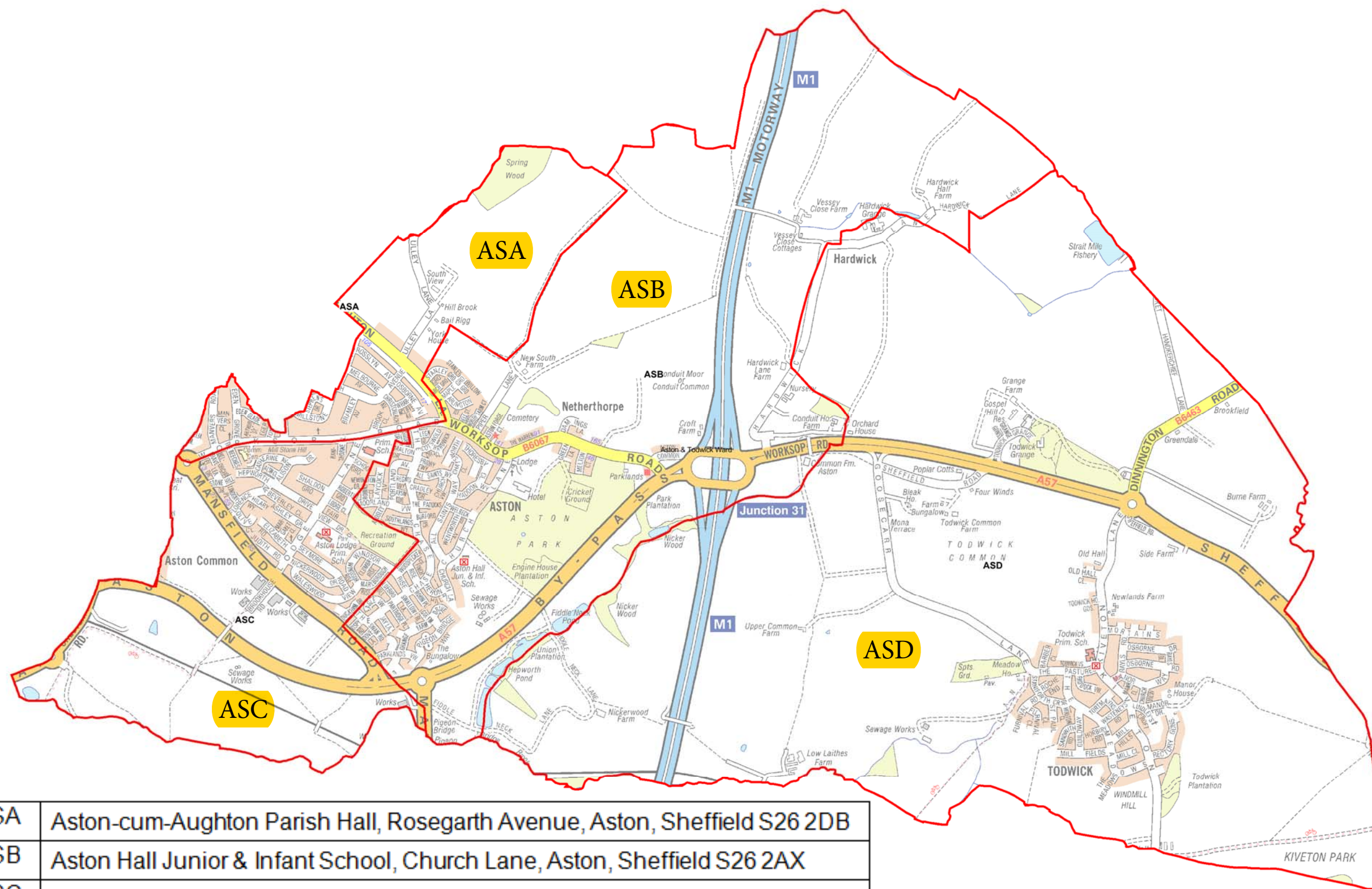


ANA	Anston Greenlands Primary School, Edinburgh Drive, North Anston, Sheffield S25 4HD
ANB	Anston Park Junior School, Park Avenue, North Anston, Sheffield S25 2QZ
ANC	Anston Parish Hall, 15A Ryton Road, North Anston, Sheffield S25 4DL
AND	South Anston Methodist Community Hall, Sheffield Road, South Anston, Sheffield S25 5DW
ANE	Woodsetts Village Hall, Gildingwells Road, Woodsetts, Worksop S81 8QB
ANF	Anston Park Junior School, Park Avenue, North Anston, Sheffield S25 2QZ
ANG	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill, Harthill, Sheffield S26 7YL



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ASA	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall, Rosegarth Avenue, Aston, Sheffield S26 2DB
ASB	Aston Hall Junior & Infant School, Church Lane, Aston, Sheffield S26 2AX
ASC	Aston Lodge Primary School, Lodge Lane, Aston, Sheffield S26 2BL
ASD	Todwick Village Hall, Kiveton Lane, Todwick, Sheffield S26 1HJ

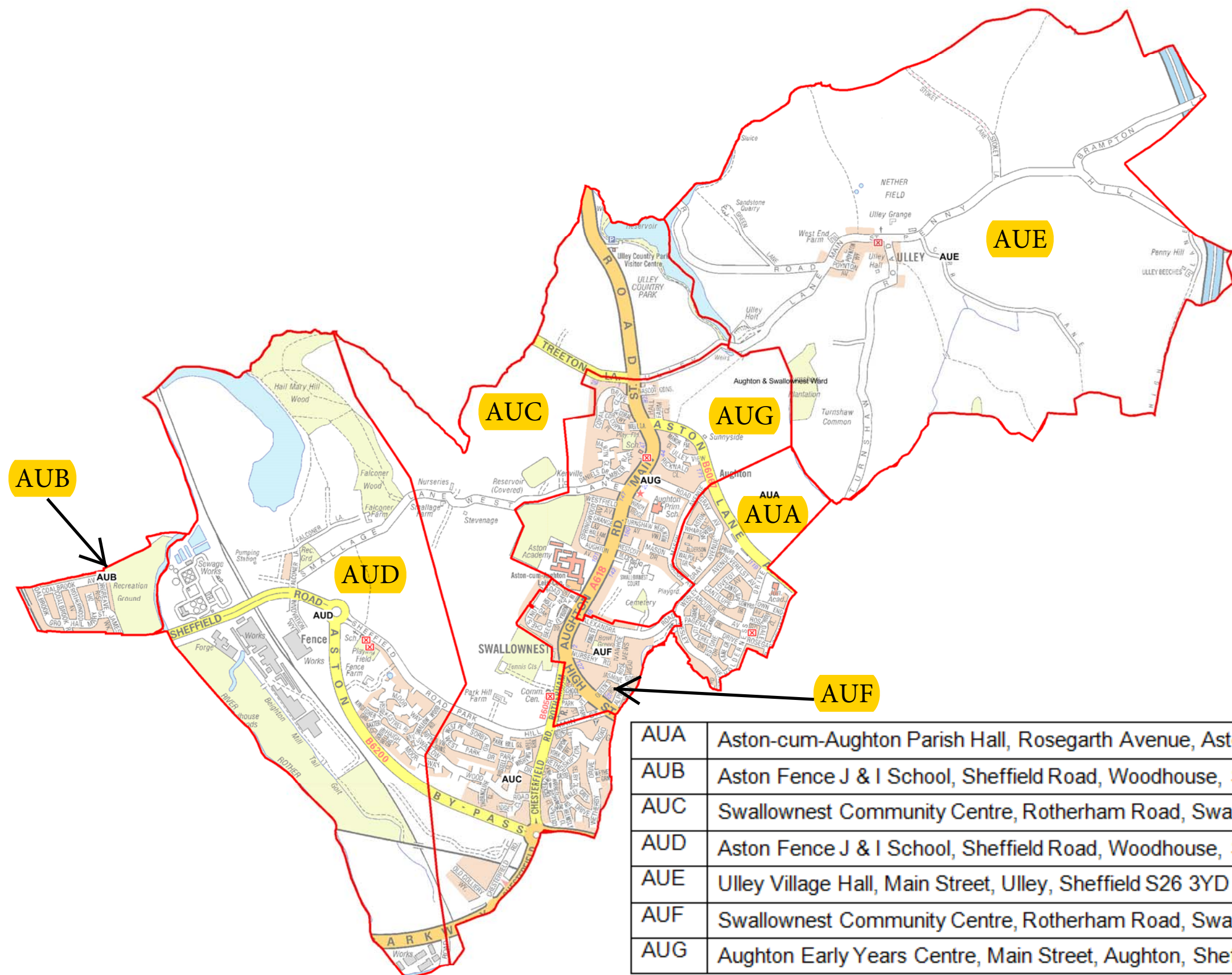
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 Main Street  
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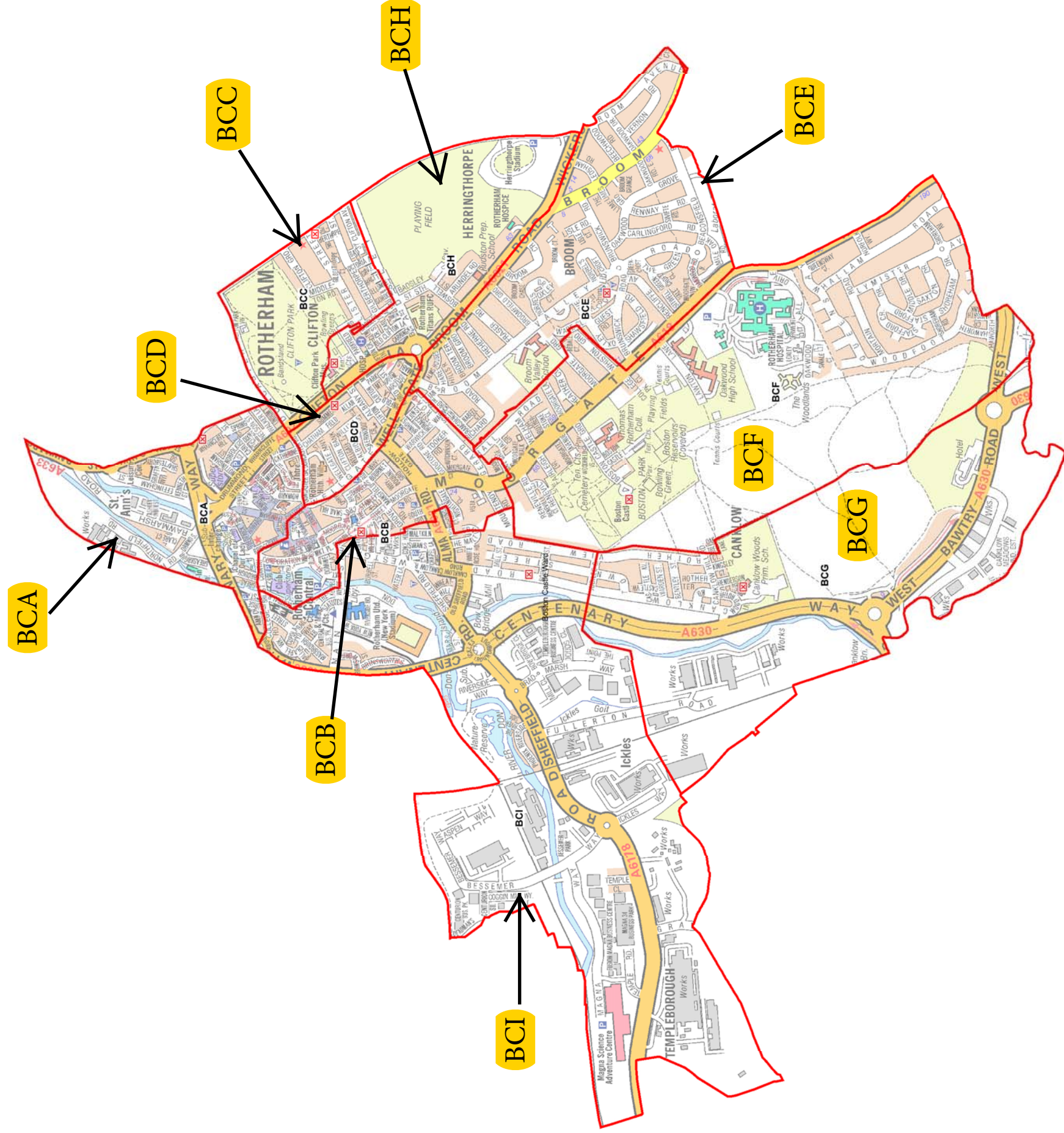


Rotherham  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council

**Aughton & Swallownest Ward**  
(New)

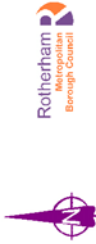
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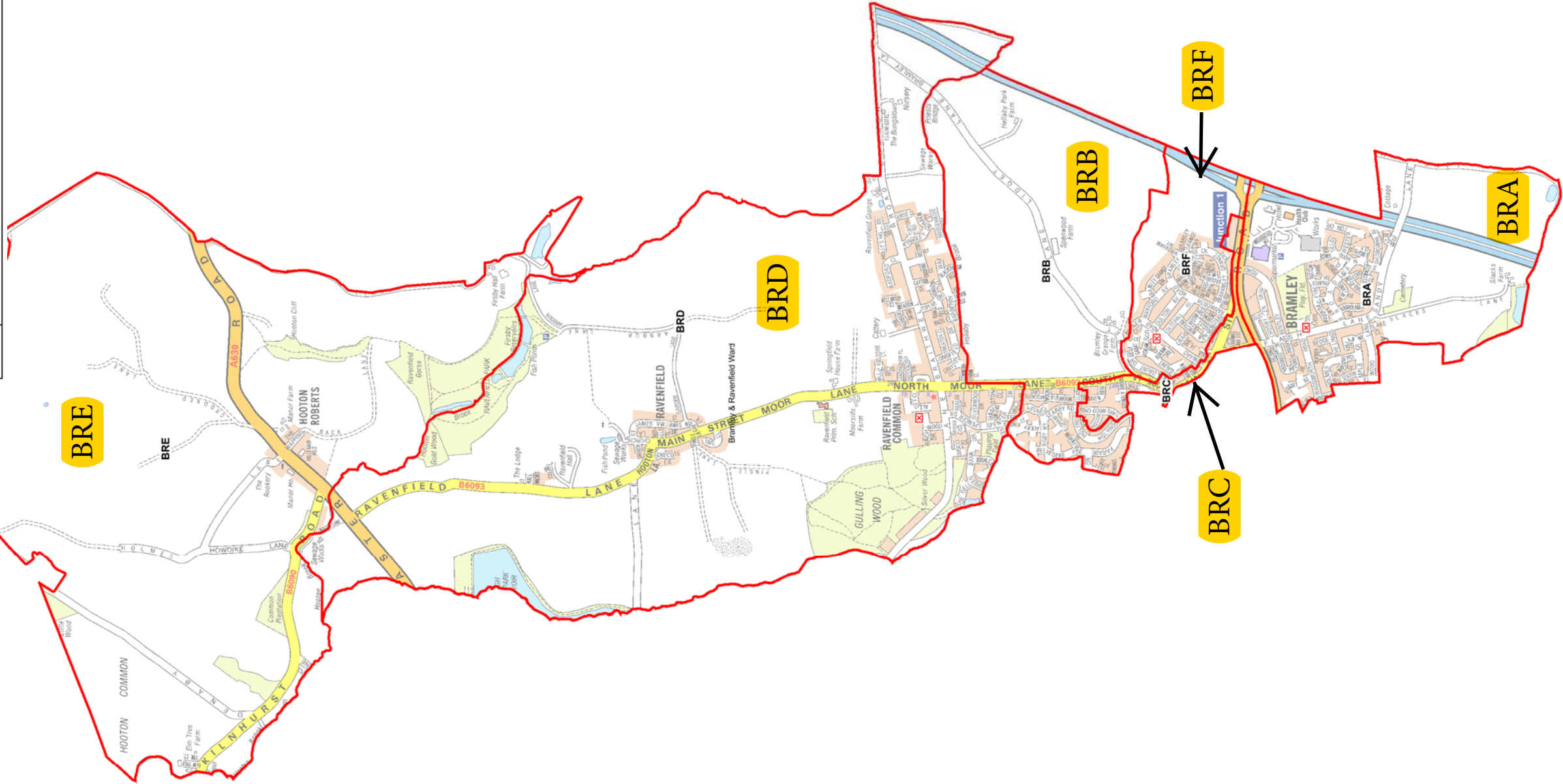


BCA	Myplace Rotherham, St Ann's Road, Rotherham S65 1PH
BCB	Talbot Lane Methodist Church, Moorgate Street, Rotherham S60 2EY
BCC	United Methodist Church Clifton, Lister Street, Rotherham S65 2AX
BCD	Beeverleigh Community Centre, Clifton Lane, Rotherham S65 2AD
BCE	Broom Valley Club Room, Guest Place, Rotherham S60 2SE
BCF	Boston Castle, Boston Castle Grove, Rotherham S60 2BA
BCG	Canklow Woods Primary School, Wood Lane, Rotherham S60 2XJ
BCH	Garden Building, Clifton Park, Clifton Lane, Rotherham S65 2AA
BCI	The Hub, 103 Canklow Road, Rotherham S60 2JF

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BRA	Bramley, Bill Chafer, Young People's Centre, Flash Lane, Bramley, Rotherham S66 1TS
BRB	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SA
BRC	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SA
BRD	Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, Rotherham S65 4PT
BRE	Thrybergh Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4BP
BRF	The Grange Zone, Bramley Grange Primary School, Howard Road, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SY



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BWA	Rotherham West Community Centre, Brinsford Road, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5DT
BWB	Brinsworth Community Hall, Brinsworth Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5BU
BWC	Brinsworth Howarth Primary School, Whitehill Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5JR
BWD	Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School, Howlett Drive, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5HT
BWE	St Andrews Church, Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham S60 5NF

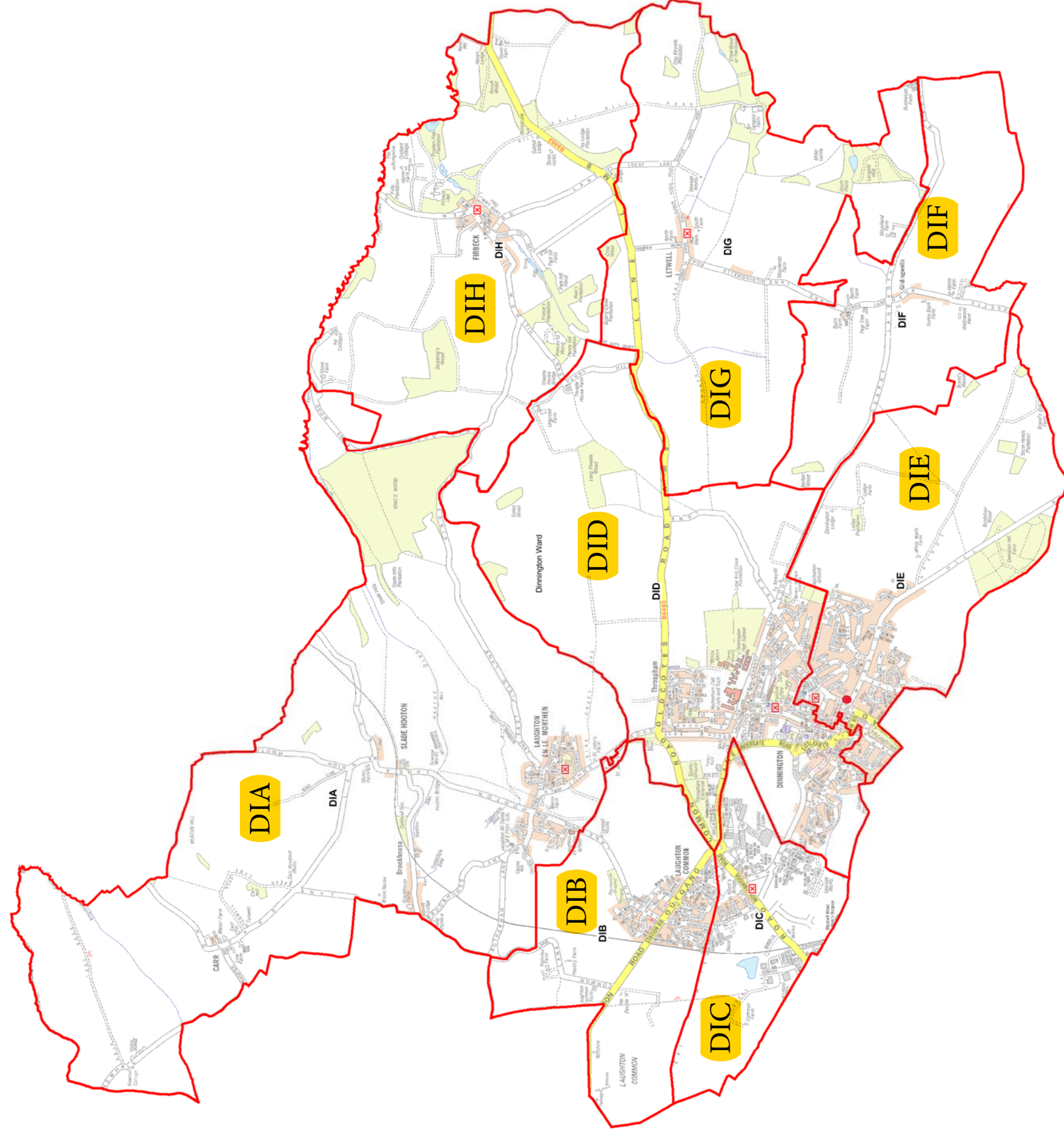
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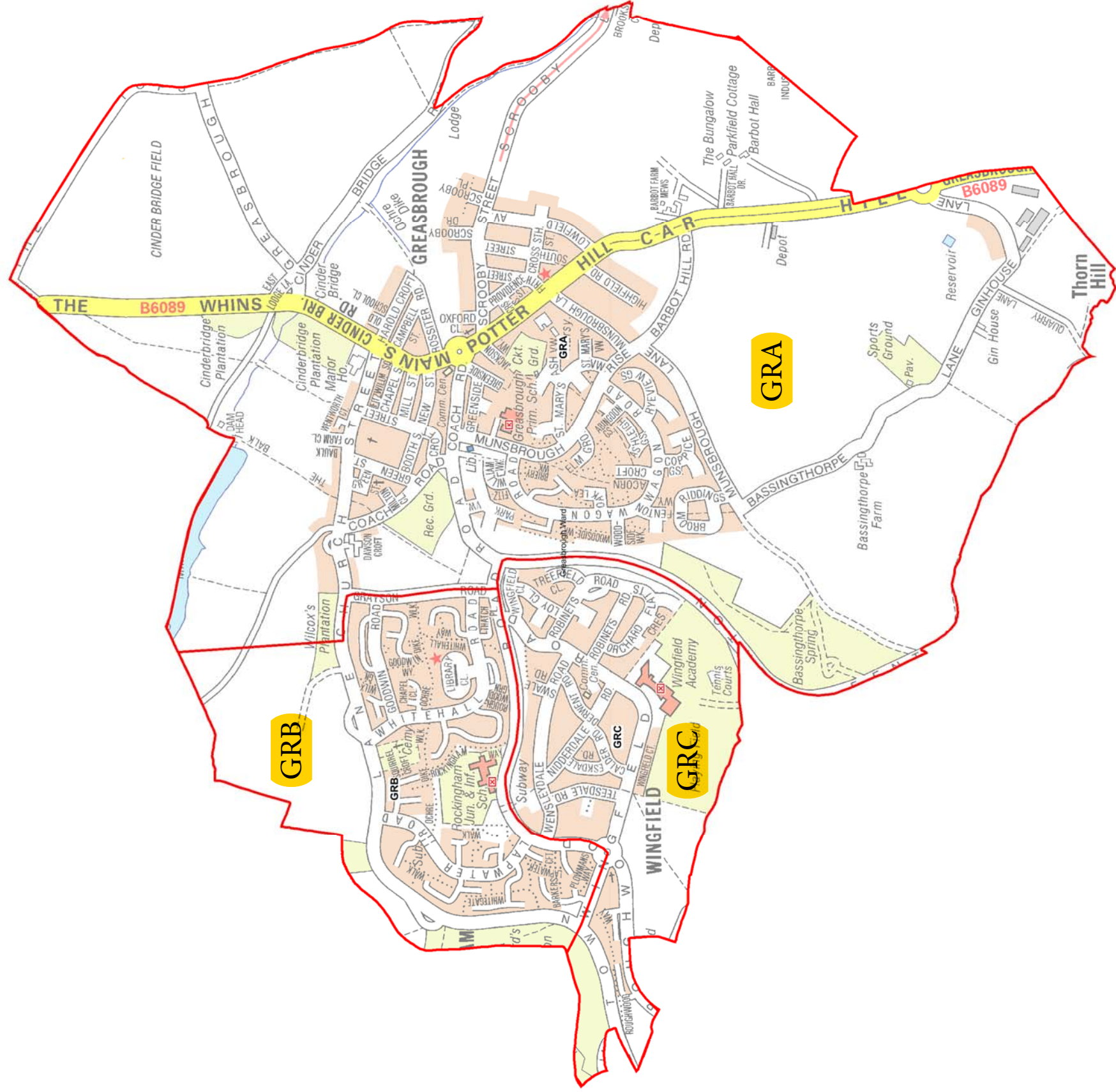


DIA	Laughton Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthen, Sheffield S25 1YD
DIB	Monksbridge Community Centre, Monksbridge Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 3QS
DIC	Monksbridge Community Centre, Monksbridge Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 3QS
DID	Dinnington Resource Centre, Laughton Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 2PS
DIE	St Josephs RC Church Hall, 1 Swinston Hill Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 2RX ●
DIF	Woodsetts Village Hall, Gildingwells Road, Woodsetts, Worksop S81 8QB
DIG	Letwell Village Hall, Barker Hades Road, Letwell, Worksop S81 8DF
DIH	Firbeck Village Hall, New Road, Firbeck, Worksop S81 8JY

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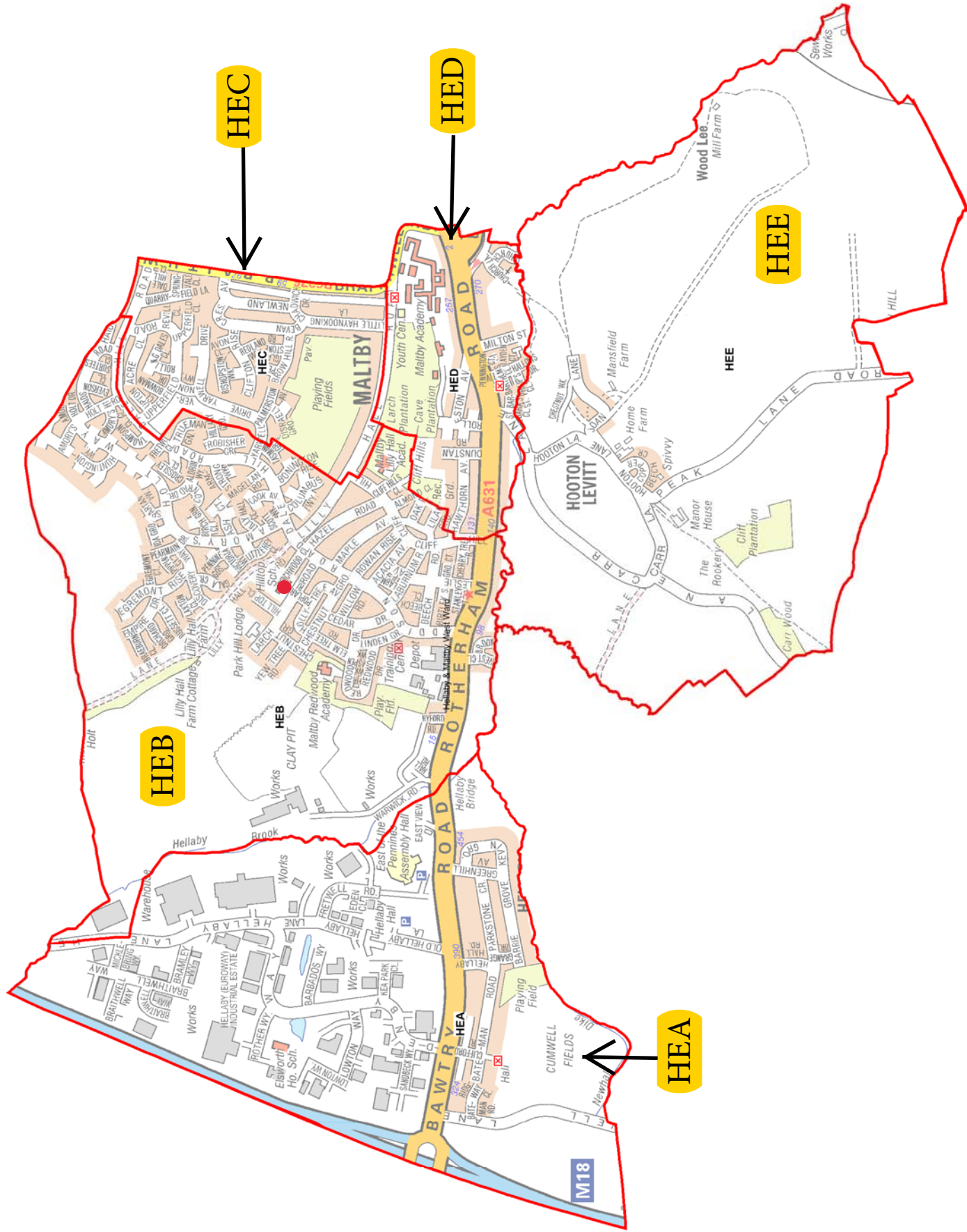




GRA	Greasbrough Primary School, Munsborough Rise, Greasbrough, Rotherham S61 4RB
GRB	Rockingham Professional Development Centre, Roughwood Road, Rotherham S61 4HY
GRC	Youth Centre, Wingfield Academy, Wingfield Road, Rotherham S61 4AU

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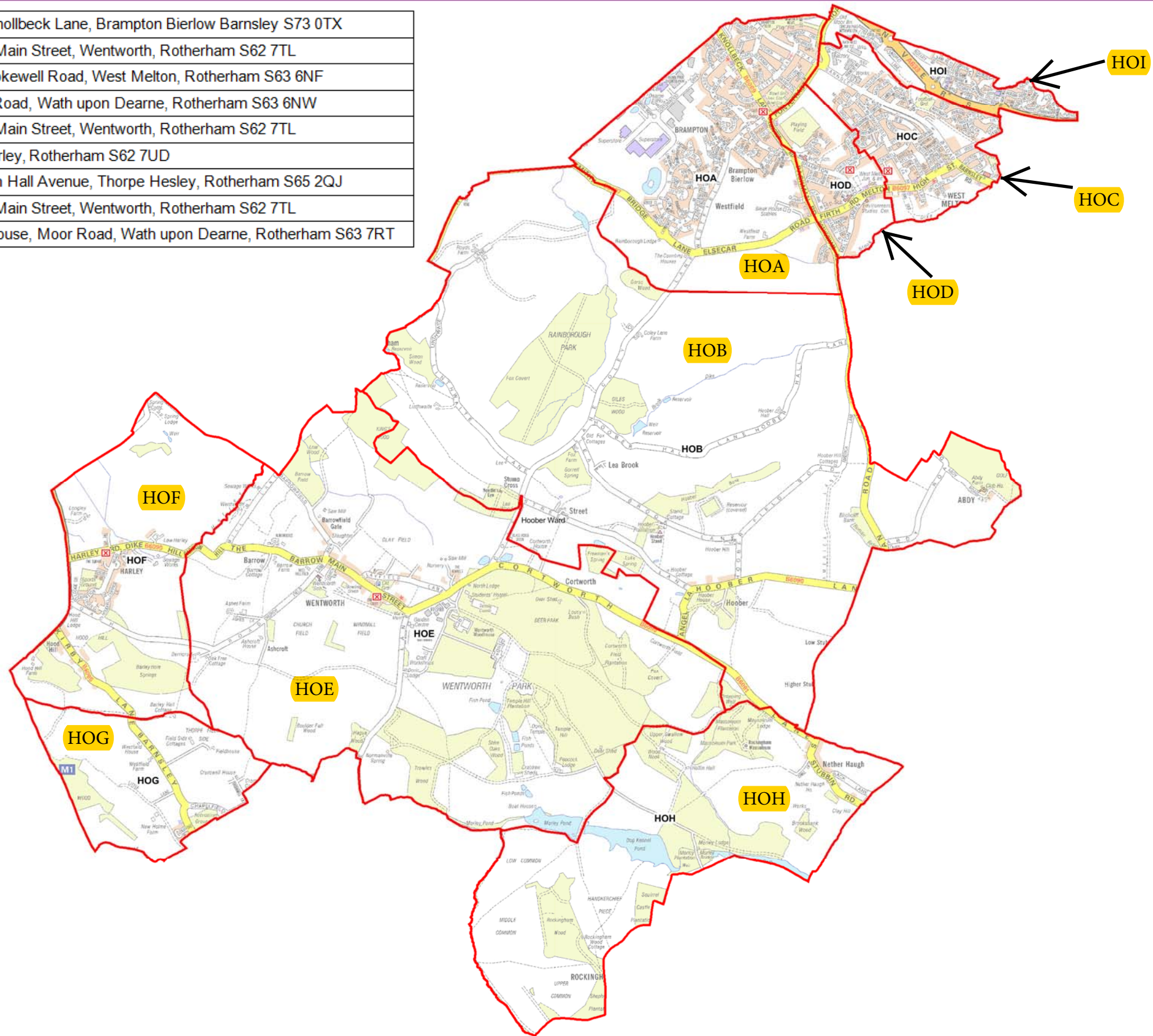
HEA	Centenary Hall, Bateman Road, Hellaby, Rotherham S66 8HB
HEB	Hilltop School, Larch Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8AZ
HEC	Maltby Linx Youth & Comm. Centre, Lilly Hall Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8BE
HED	The Grange Warden Centre, St. Bartholomew's Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8NH
HEE	The Grange Warden Centre, St. Bartholomew's Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8NH

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HOA	Brampton Bierlow Parish Hall, Knollbeck Lane, Brampton Bierlow Barnsley S73 0TX
HOB	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
HOC	West Melton Primary School, Stokewell Road, West Melton, Rotherham S63 6NF
HOD	Christchurch Hall, Christchurch Road, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 6NW
HOE	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
HOF	Harley Church, Harley Road, Harley, Rotherham S62 7UD
HOG	Trinity Community Centre, Sough Hall Avenue, Thorpe Hesley, Rotherham S65 2QJ
HOH	Wentworth Mechanics Institute, Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL
HOI	Wath upon Dearne RUFC Clubhouse, Moor Road, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 7RT

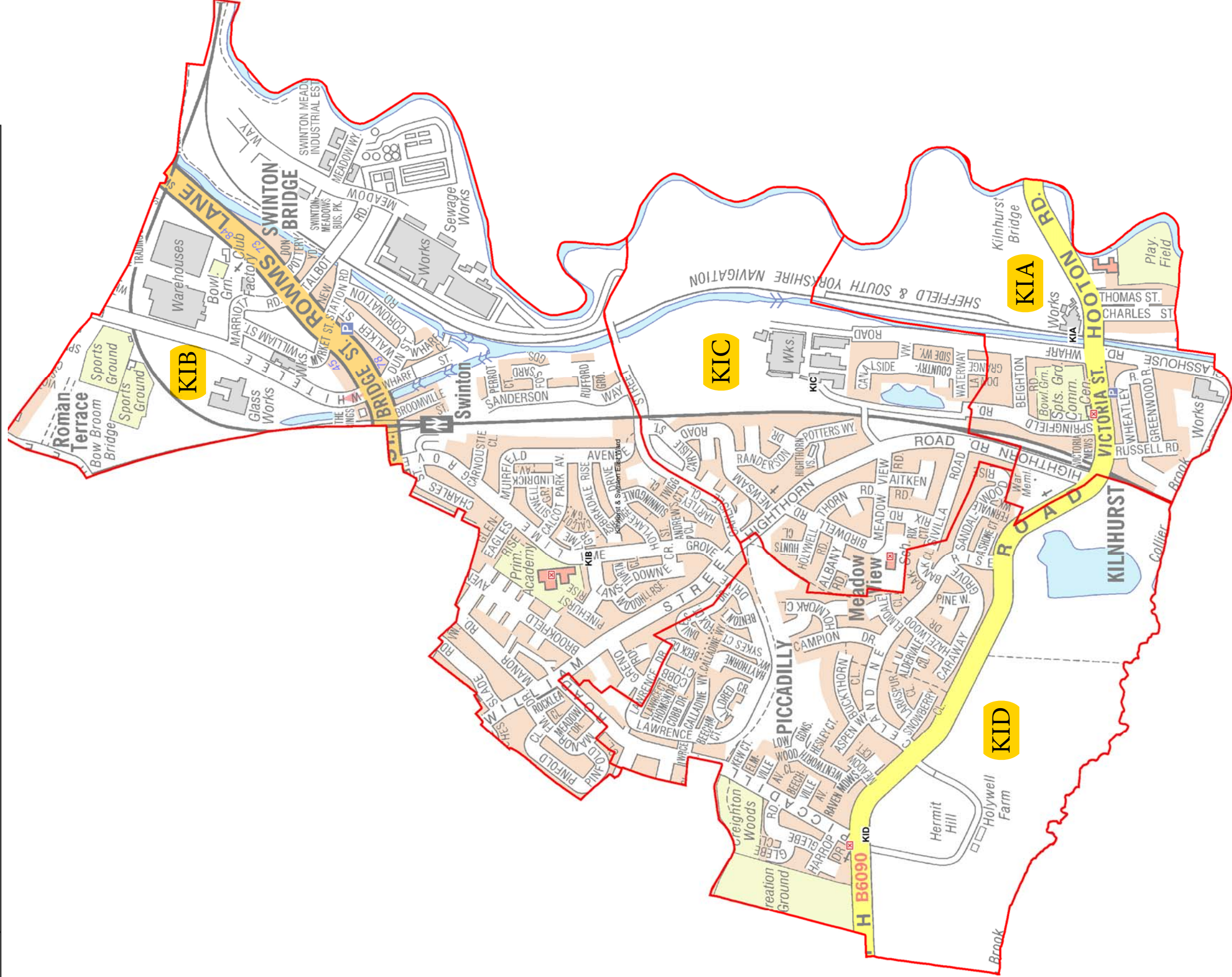








KIA	Kilnhurst Comm. Resource Centre, Victoria Street, Kilnhurst, Mexborough S64 5SQ
KIB	The Brookfield Centre, Lime Grove, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8TG
KIC	St Thomas Primary School, Meadow View Road, Kilnhurst, Mexborough S64 5UA
KID	Piccadilly Methodist Church, Wentworth Road, Swinton, Mexborough S64 8JZ

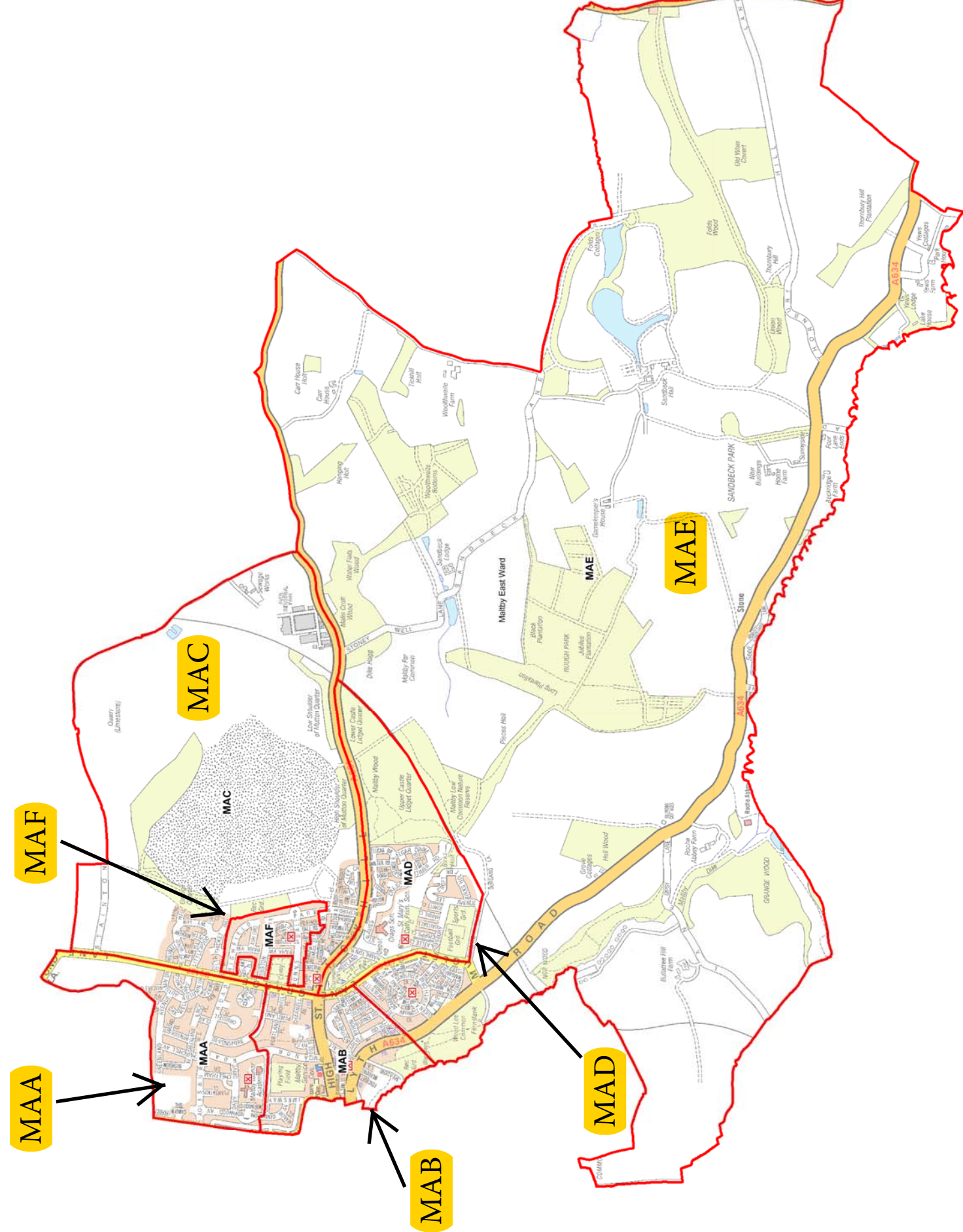


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MAA	Maltby Manor Academy, (Community Room), Davy Drive, Rotherham S66 8JN
MAB	Wesley Centre, Blyth Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 8JD
MAC	Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NQ
MAD	Maltby St Marys Catholic Primary School, Muglet Lane, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7JU
MAE	Ascension Close Warden Centre, Ascension Close, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NQ
MAF	Charles Foster Community Centre, Woodland Gardens, Maltby, Rotherham S66 7NW

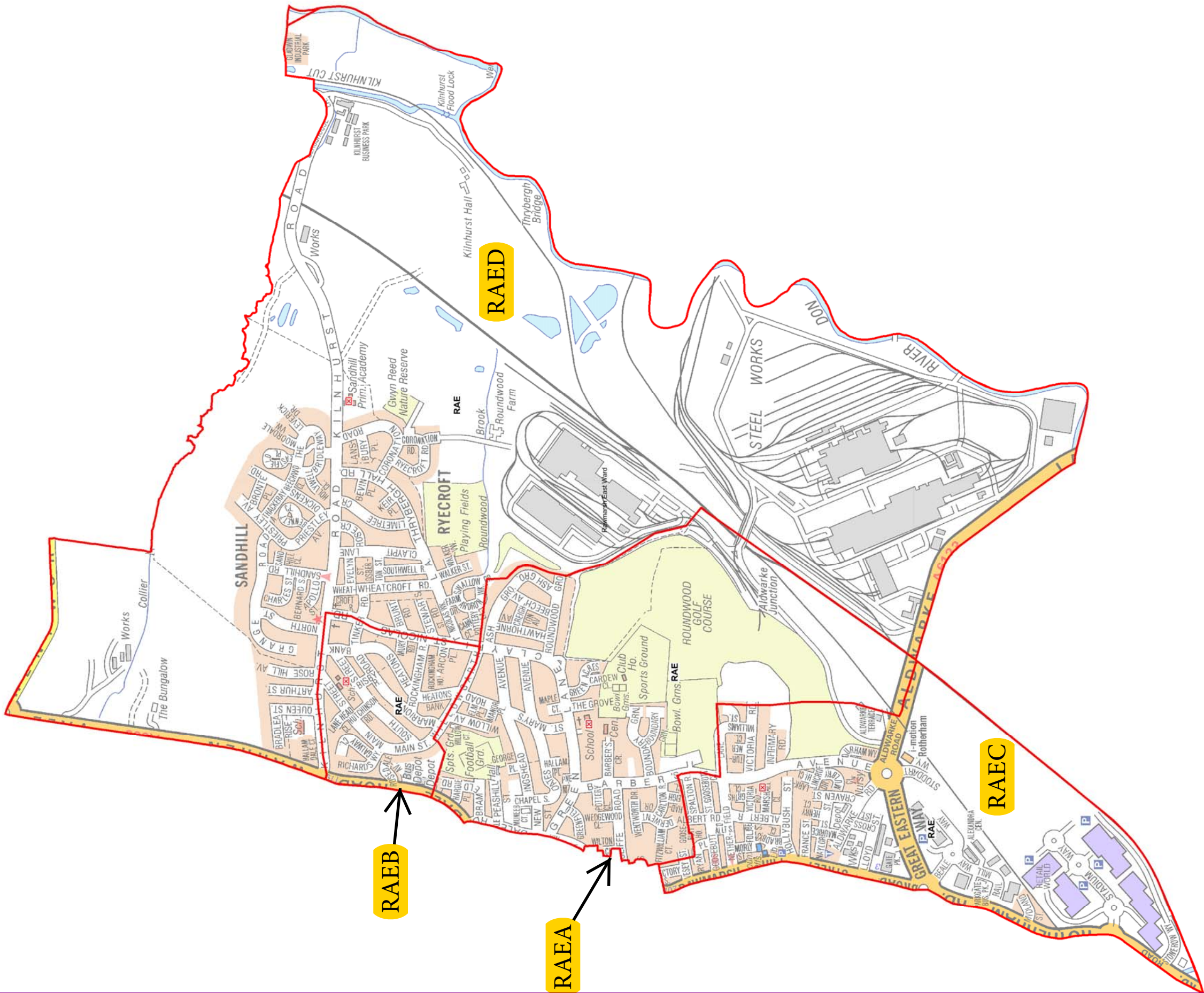


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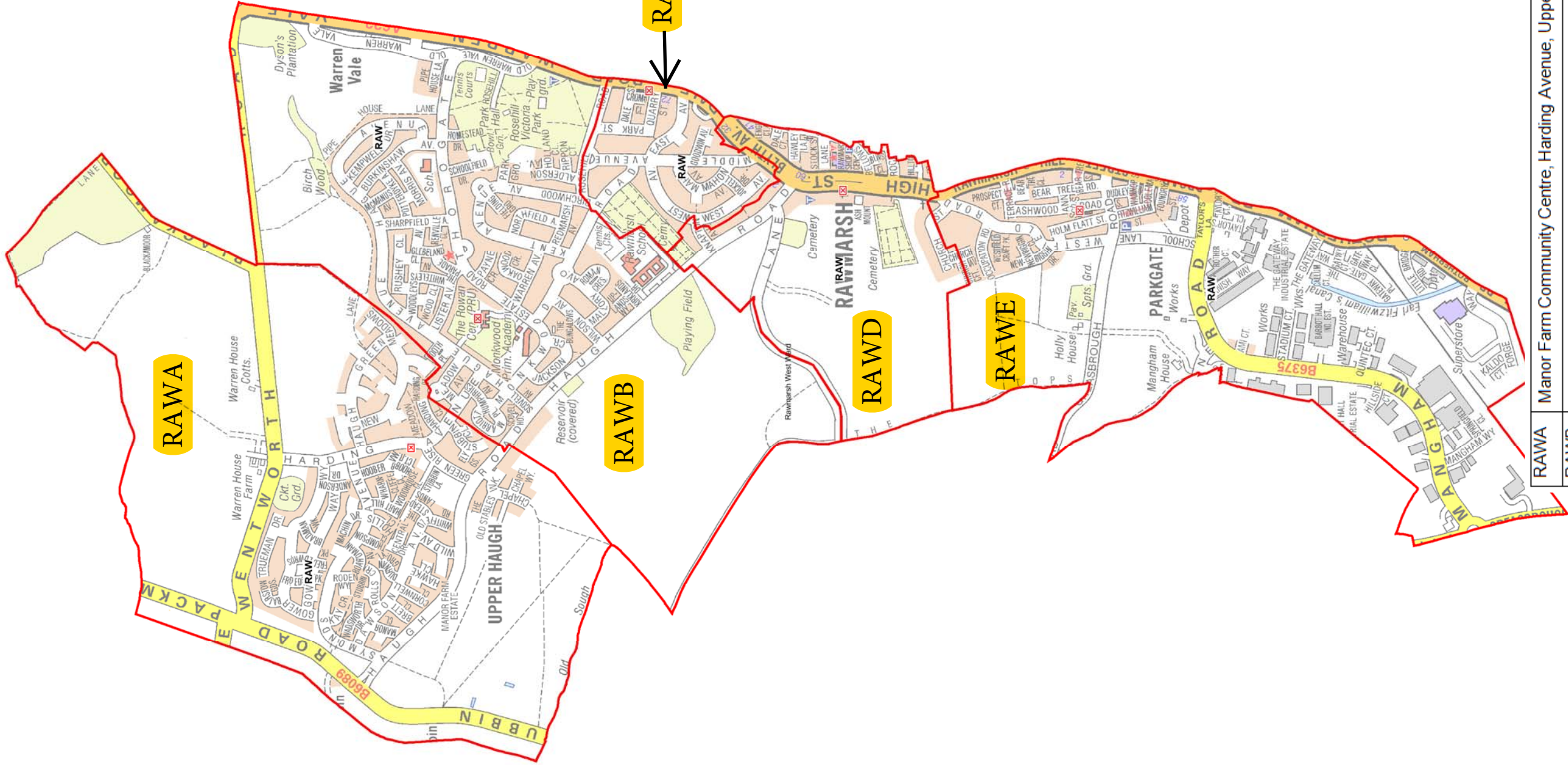
RAEA	Rawmarsh St. Josephs Catholic Primary School, Green Lane, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6JY
RAEB	Rawmarsh Ryecroft Infants School, South Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5QW
RAEC	Marshall Close Community Centre, Marshall Close, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6DB
RAED	Sandhill Primary Academy, Kilmhurst Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5LH



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RAWA	Manor Farm Community Centre, Harding Avenue, Upper Haugh, Rotherham S62 7ED
RAWB	Monkwood Primary Academy, Monkwood Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 7JD
RAWC	Salvation Army Hall, Quarry Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 7DB
RAWD	Rawmarsh Methodist Church, High Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 6LN
RAWE	Rawmarsh Ashwood J & I School, (Foundation Unit), Holm Flatt Street, Parkgate, Rotherham S62 6HT

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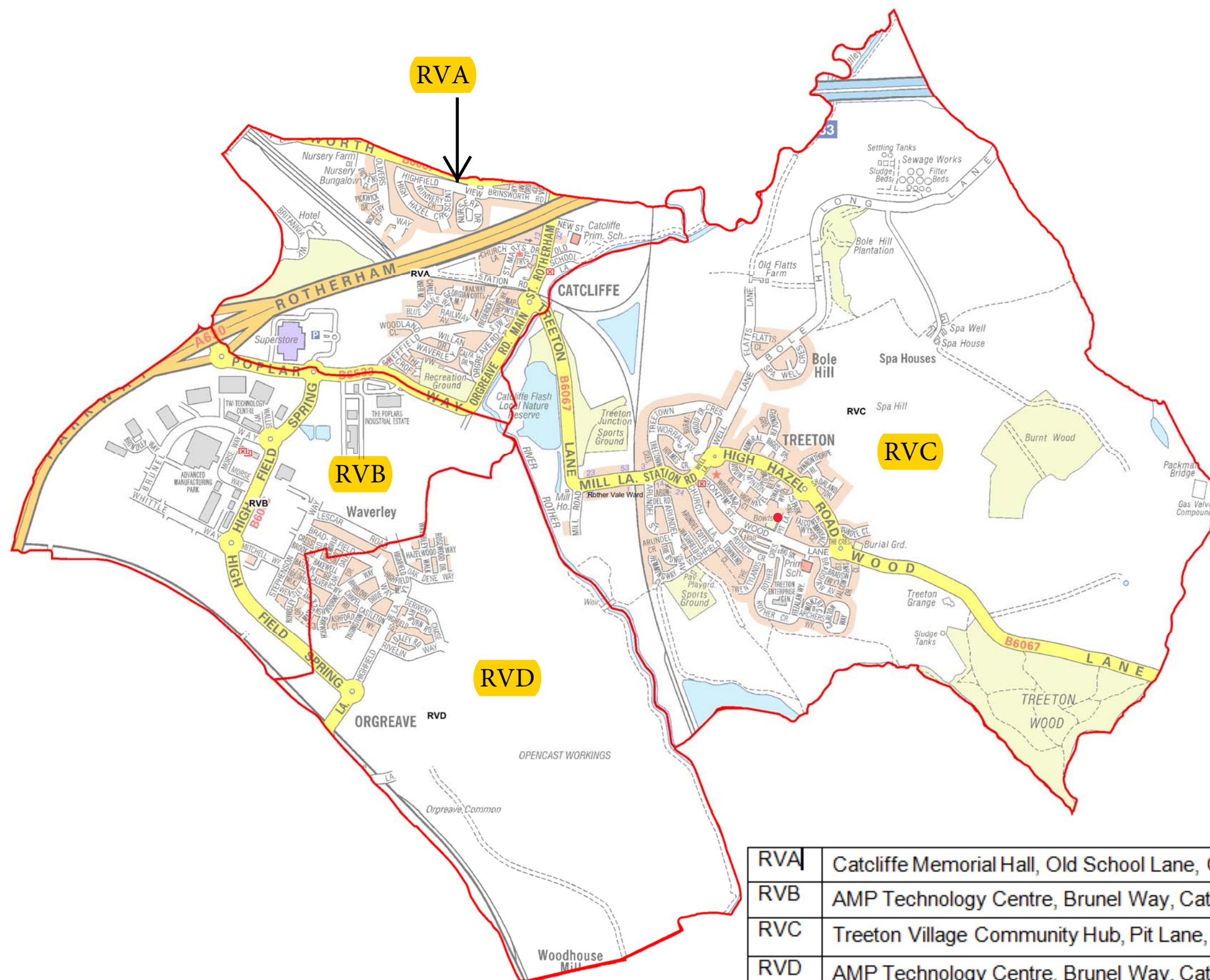
12/11/2018

Rawmarsh West Ward

(New)

gis@rotherham.gov.uk (01709) 823364  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Corporate ICT  
Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE





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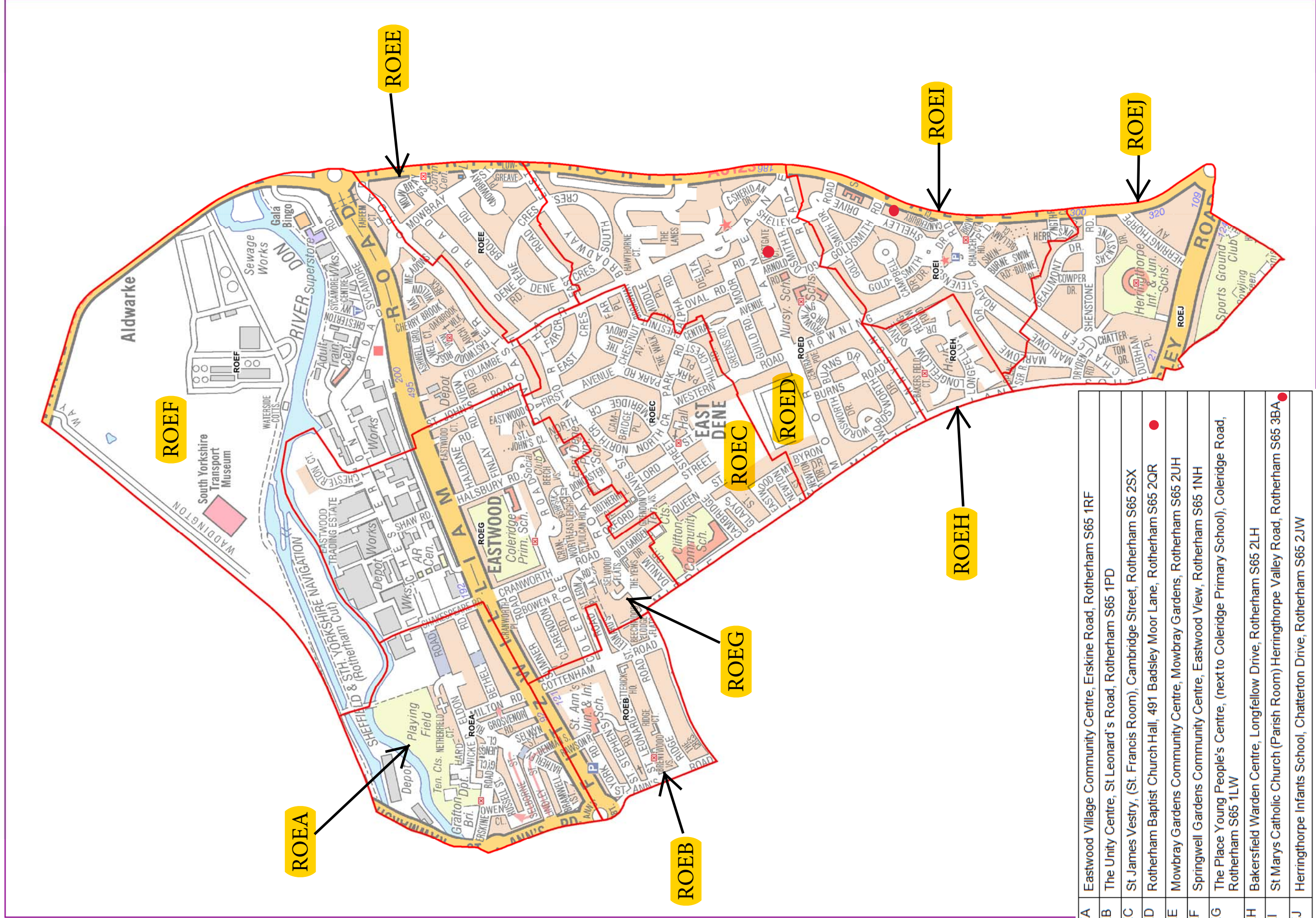


**Rother Vale Ward**  
 (New)

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 Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
 Corporate ICT  
 Riverside House  
 Main Street  
 Rotherham  
 S60 1AE

12/11/2018





ROEA	Eastwood Village Community Centre, Erskine Road, Rotherham S65 1RF
ROEB	The Unity Centre, St Leonard's Road, Rotherham S65 1PD
ROEC	St James Vestry, (St. Francis Room), Cambridge Street, Rotherham S65 2SX
ROED	Rotherham Baptist Church Hall, 491 Badsley Moor Lane, Rotherham S65 2QR
ROEE	Mowbray Gardens Community Centre, Mowbray Gardens, Rotherham S65 2UH
ROEF	Springwell Gardens Community Centre, Eastwood View, Rotherham S65 1NH
ROEG	The Place Young People's Centre, (next to Coleridge Primary School), Coleridge Road, Rotherham S65 1LW
ROEH	Bakersfield Warden Centre, Longfellow Drive, Rotherham S65 2LH
ROEI	St Marys Catholic Church (Parish Room) Herringthorpe Valley Road, Rotherham S65 3BA
ROEJ	Herringthorpe Infants School, Chatterton Drive, Rotherham S65 2JW

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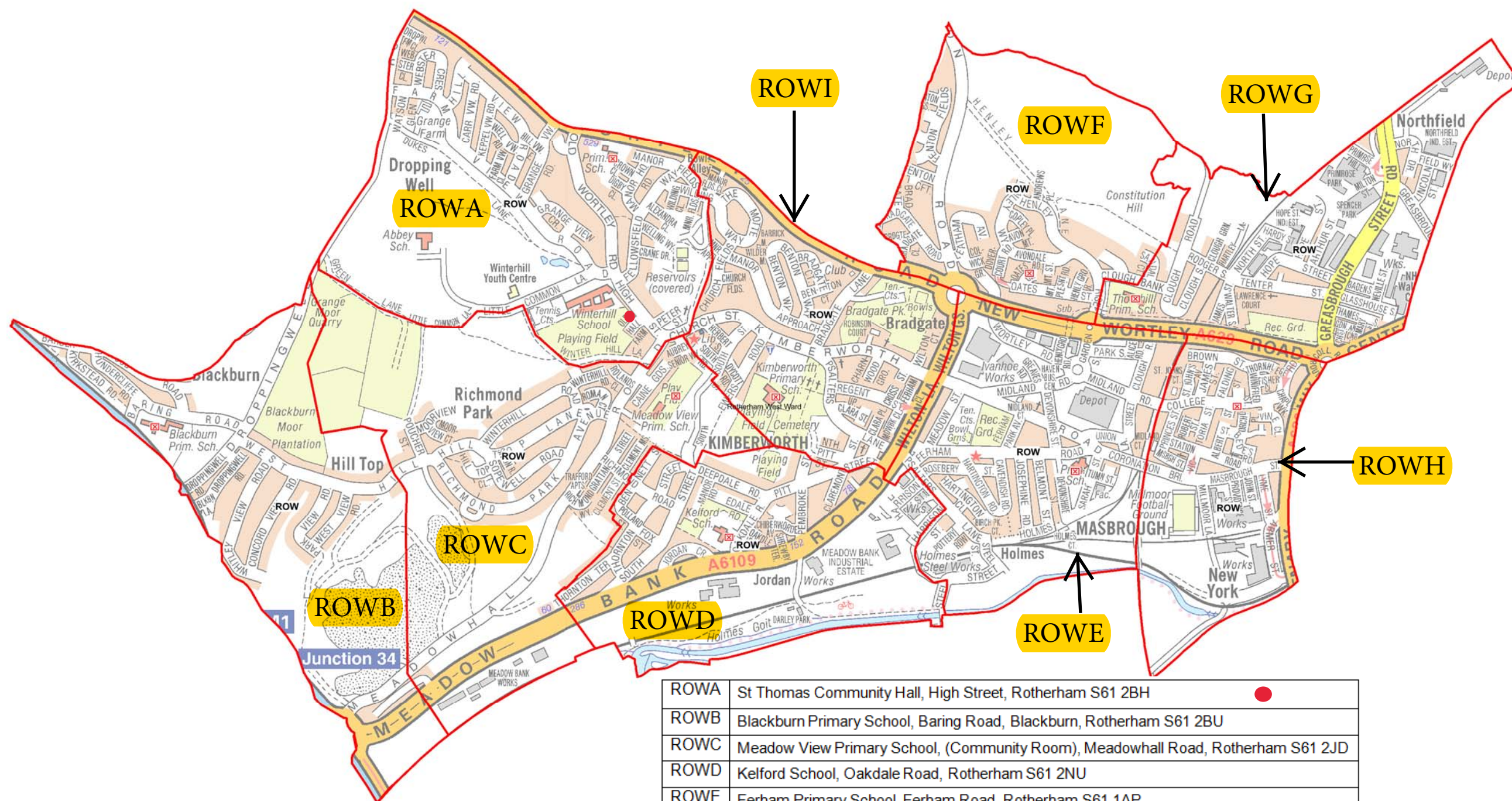


Rotherham East Ward

(New)

gis@rotherham.gov.uk (01709) 823364  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Corporate ICT  
Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE





ROWA	St Thomas Community Hall, High Street, Rotherham S61 2BH	●
ROWB	Blackburn Primary School, Baring Road, Blackburn, Rotherham S61 2BU	
ROWC	Meadow View Primary School, (Community Room), Meadowhall Road, Rotherham S61 2JD	
ROWD	Kelford School, Oakdale Road, Rotherham S61 2NU	
ROWE	Ferham Primary School, Ferham Road, Rotherham S61 1AP	
ROWF	Henley Community Centre, Oates Close, Rotherham S61 1TP	
ROWG	Thornhill Primary School, Clough Bank, Rotherham S61 1TD	
ROWH	Masbrough & Thornhill Community Centre, College Road, Rotherham S60 1JE	
ROWI	Kimberworth Community Children's Centre, Kimberworth Road, Rotherham S61 1HE	

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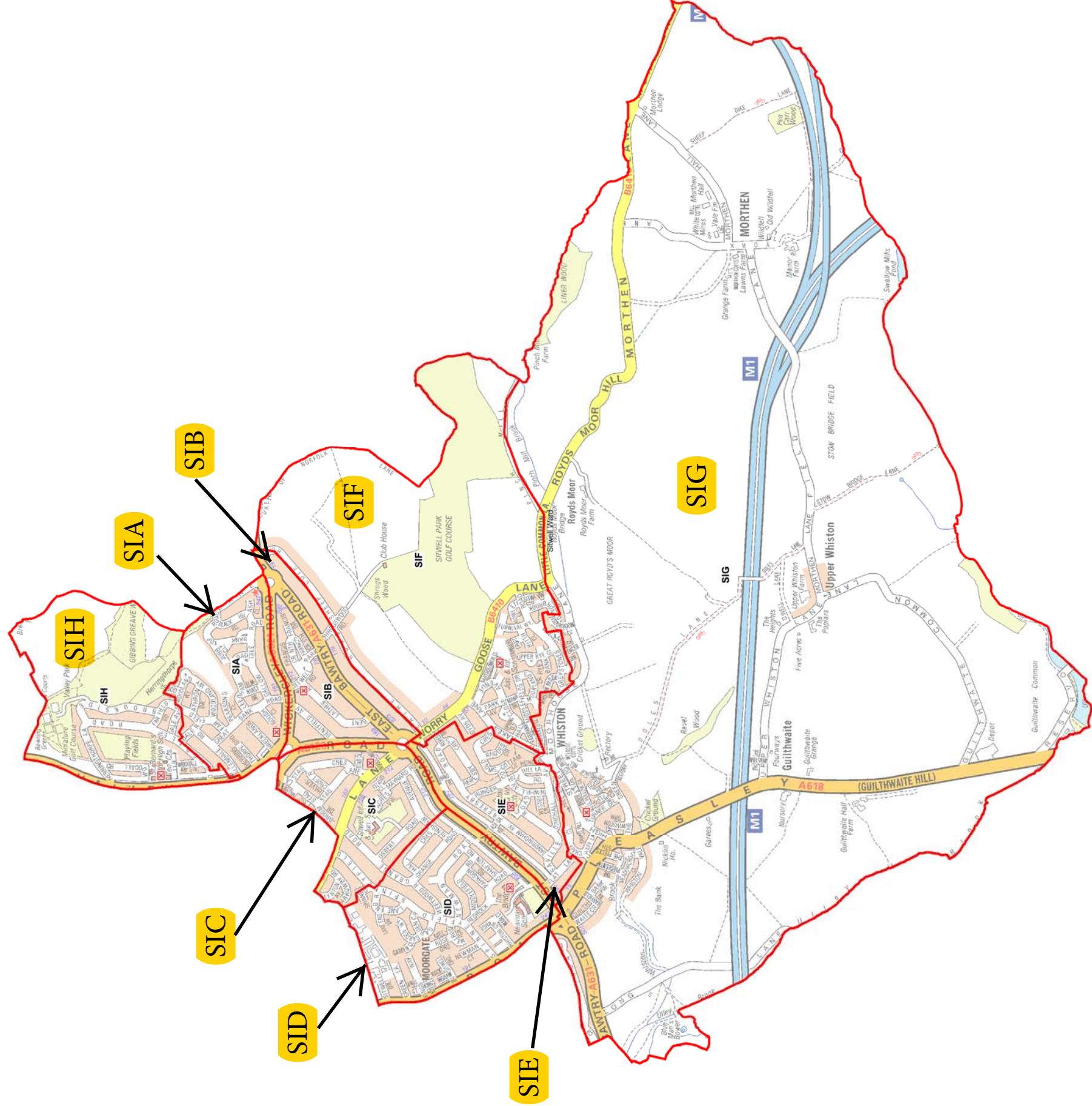


**Rotherham West Ward**

(New)

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 Riverside House  
 Main Street  
 Rotherham  
 S60 1AE





SIA	Herringthorpe United Reformed Church, Wickersley Road, Rotherham S60 4JN
SIB	St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Bent Lathes Avenue, Rotherham S60 4BN
SIC	Broom Methodist Church, Broom Lane, Rotherham S60 3NW
SID	Newman Additional Resource (next to Newman School) East Bawtry Road, Rotherham S60 3LX
SIE	Whiston J & I School, Saville Road, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4DX
SIF	Whiston Worrygoose J & I School, Hall Close Avenue, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4AG
SIG	Whiston Parish Hall, Well Lane, Whiston, Rotherham S60 4HX
SIH	St Bernard's Catholic High School, Herringthorpe Valley Road, Rotherham, S65 3BE

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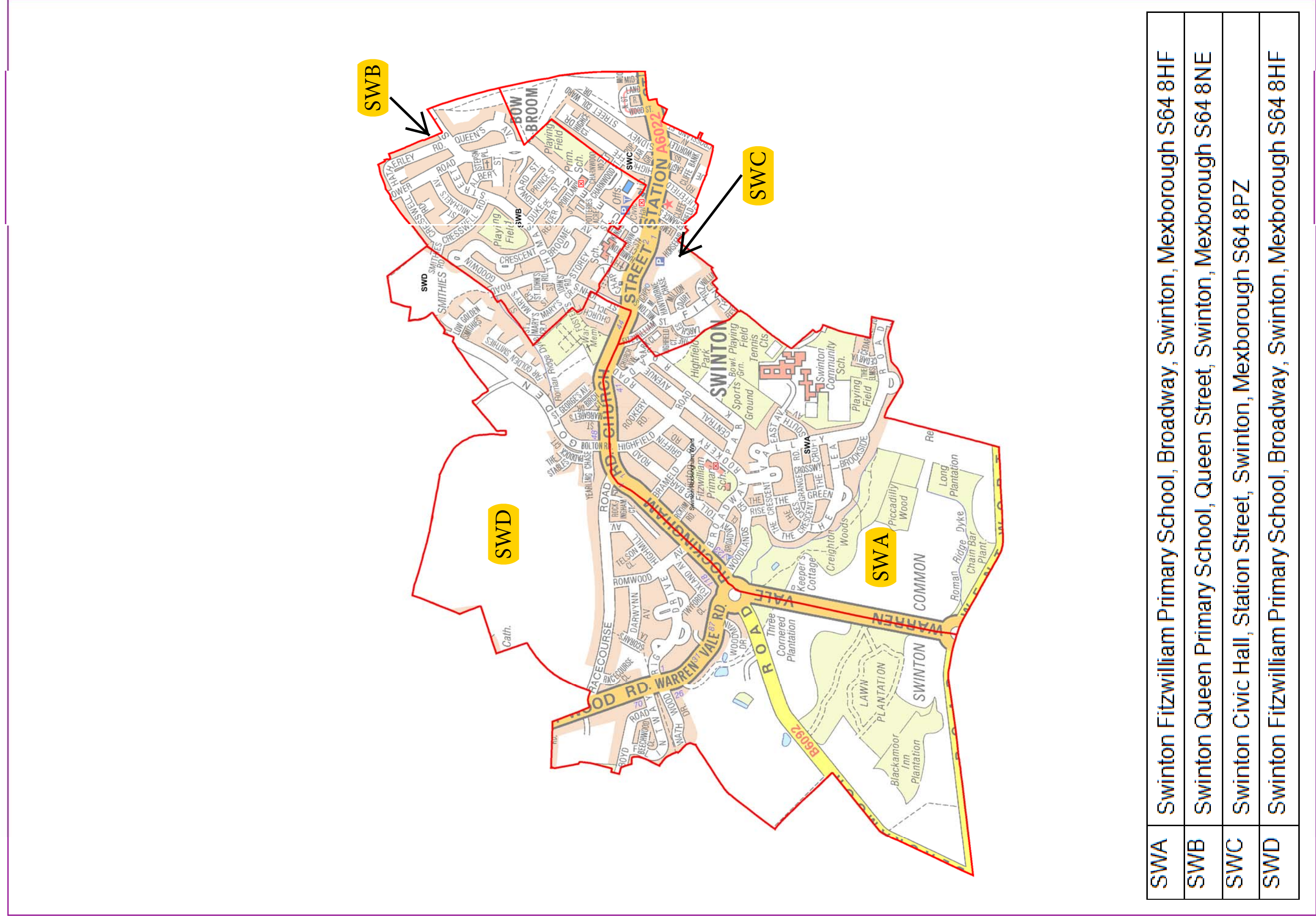


Sitwell Ward

12/11/2018

(New)

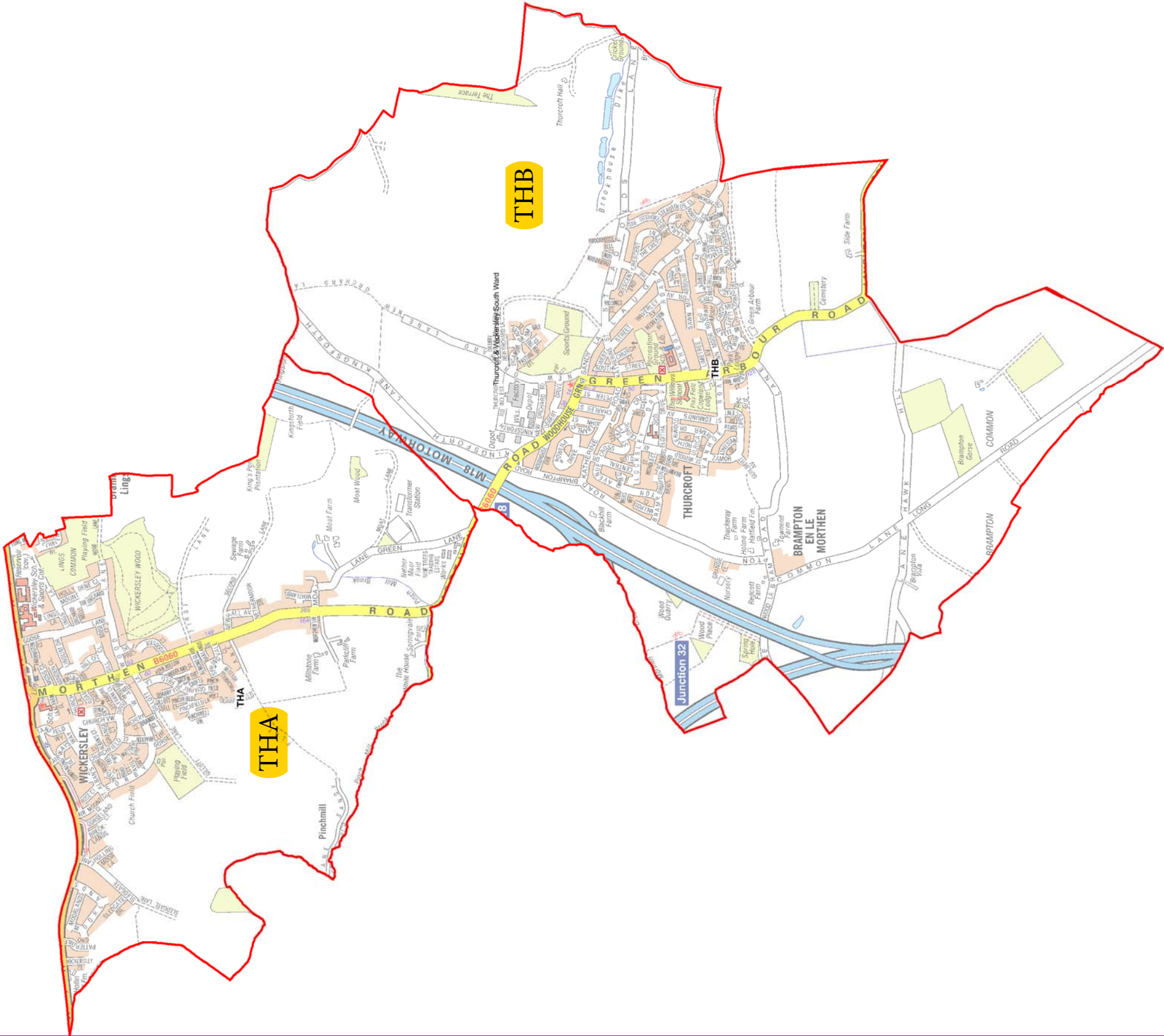




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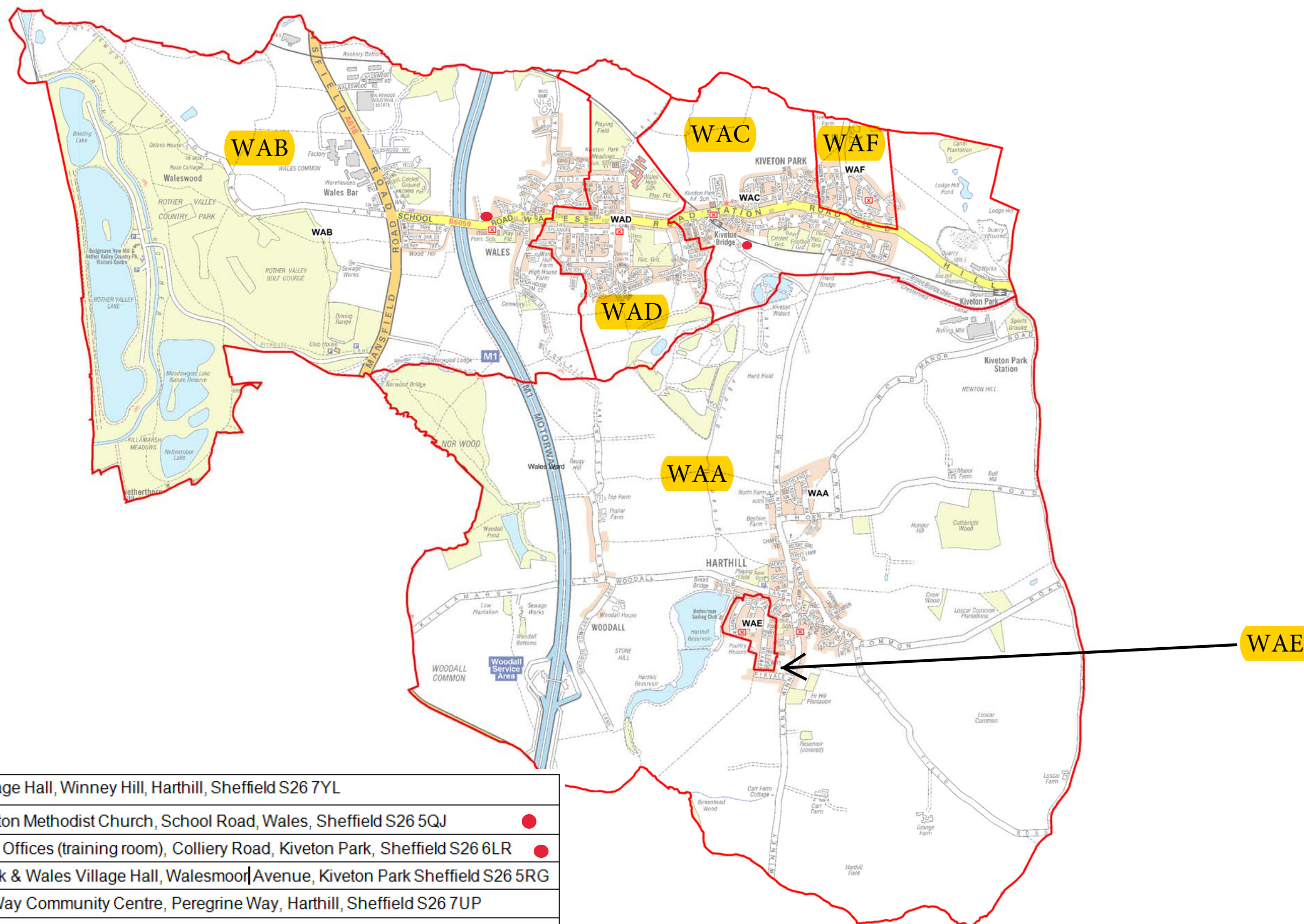
THA	The Church Barn, Church Lane, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 1ES
THB	Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham S66 9DD



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WAA	Harthill Village Hall, Winney Hill, Harthill, Sheffield S26 7YL
WAB	Wales-Kiveton Methodist Church, School Road, Wales, Sheffield S26 5QJ
WAC	Old Colliery Offices (training room), Colliery Road, Kiveton Park, Sheffield S26 6LR
WAD	Kiveton Park & Wales Village Hall, Walesmoor Avenue, Kiveton Park Sheffield S26 5RG
WAE	Peregrine Way Community Centre, Peregrine Way, Harthill, Sheffield S26 7UP
WAF	Viking Way Community Centre, Viking Way, Kiveton Park, Sheffield S26 6RX

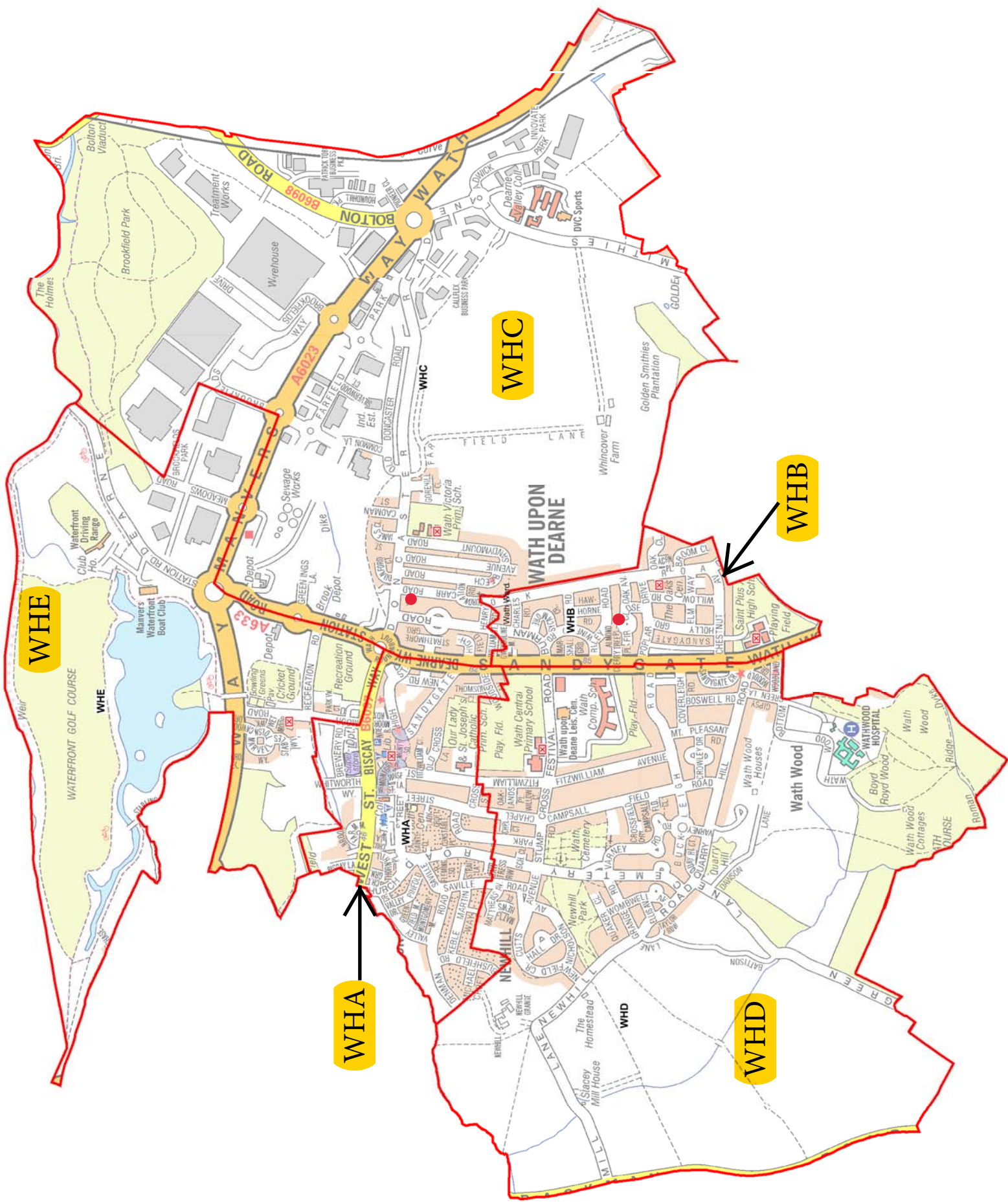
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**Wales Ward**  
 (New)

gis@rotherham.gov.uk (01709) 823364  
 Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
 Corporate ICT  
 Riverside House  
 Main Street  
 Rotherham  
 S60 1AE





WHA	Wath Community Library, Montgomery Square, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 7RZ
WHB	The Base Community Hub, Fir Close, Wath, Rotherham S63 7NU
WHC	St Joseph's Catholic Church Hall, 2 Carr Road, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 7NU
WHD	Wath Central Primary School, Fitzwilliam Street, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 7HG
WHE	Wath upon Dearne RUFC Clubhouse, Moor Road, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham S63 7RT

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WYA	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
WYB	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
WYC	Listerdale Primary School, Beech Avenue, Brecks, Rotherham S65 3HN
WYD	Flanderwell Early Excellence Centre, Flanderwell Primary School, Greenfield Court, Flanderwell, Rotherham S66 2JF
WYE	Sunnyside Community Centre, Flanderwell Lane, Sunnyside, Rotherham S66 3RL
WYF	Bramley Parish Hall, Cross Street, Bramley, Rotherham S66 2SA
WYG	Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, Northfield Lane, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2HF

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## **Summary Sheet**

### **Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Council – 23 January 2019

### **Report Title**

Recommendation from Cabinet – Housing Revenue Account Rents & Service Charges 2019/20

### **Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

Yes

### **Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Anne Marie Lubanski, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

### **Report Author(s)**

Mark Scarrott, Finance Manager  
01709 822007 or mark.scarrott@rotherham.gov.uk

Tom Bell, Assistant Director of Housing Services  
01709 254954 or tom.bell@rotherham.gov.uk

### **Ward(s) Affected**

All

### **Summary**

At its meeting on 21 January 2019, the Cabinet is due to consider a report in respect of the proposed rents and service charges for the Housing Revenue Account 2010/20.

As the Cabinet meeting is not until after the publication of this agenda, the formal recommendations from the Cabinet will be reported to the Council meeting within the Mayor's Letter.

To assist Members in their decision making, the report to Cabinet providing detail in respect of the proposals is appended in order to provide Members with sufficient knowledge to agree the proposals.

### **Recommendations**

1. That consideration be given to the recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Rents & Service Charges 2019/20.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 – Housing Revenue Account Rents & Service Charges 2019/20 –  
Report to Cabinet – 21 January 2019  
Appendix A – HRA Draft Budget Operating Statement 2019/20

**Background Papers**

Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016  
DCLG Guidance on Rents for Social Housing from 2015/16 (May 2014)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**  
Cabinet – 21 January 2019

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Summary Sheet**

### **Name of Committee and Date of Committee Meeting**

Cabinet – 21 January 2019

### **Report Title**

Housing Revenue Account Rents & Service Charges 2019/20

### **Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

Yes

### **Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Anne Marie Lubanski, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

### **Report Author(s)**

Mark Scarrott, Finance Manager  
01709 822007 or mark.scarrott@rotherham.gov.uk

Tom Bell, Assistant Director of Housing Services  
01709 254954 or tom.bell@rotherham.gov.uk

### **Ward(s) Affected**

All

### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the proposed values for the setting of the housing rents, non-dwelling rents, District Heating and service charges and the draft Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2019/20.

### **Recommendations**

1. That Cabinet recommend to Council:-

- (a) That dwelling rents are reduced by 1% for 2019/20 in line with the requirements outlined in the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016.
- (b) That there is a 2.4% increase to charges for garage rents, communal facilities, cooking gas and laundry facilities in 2019/20 in line with the increase in Consumer Price Index (CPI) as at September 2018.
- (c) That the unit charge per Kwh for District Heating Schemes remains at the same level as agreed by the Council in December 2017.
- (d) Agree the draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2019/20.
- (e) That rents and service charges will be collected over 52 weeks in line with Universal Credit payments.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix A HRA Draft Budget Operating Statement 2019/20.

**Background Papers**

Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016

DCLG Guidance on Rents for Social Housing from 2015/16 (May 2014)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board - 16 January 2019

Council – 23 January 2019

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Housing Revenue Account, Rents and Service Charges 2019/20**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Historically social housing landlords charged different rent levels for the same type and size of property, which was inequitable. Therefore Government set a target for social housing providers to achieve equitable rents by 2015/16. This process is known as 'rent convergence'. It enabled landlords with low rent levels such as the Council to charge an additional £2 rent above a 'formula rent' where rent was low. Rotherham's rents were not scheduled to reach full convergence until 2016/17. However, changes to the rent formula in 2015 removed the flexibility for landlords to increase rents above formula rent, so the Council has not achieved rent convergence.
- 1.2 The former Housing Revenue Account (HRA) subsidy system was replaced with a devolved system of council housing finance, called self-financing in April 2012. This gave local authorities the resources, incentives and flexibility needed to manage their own housing stock. It enabled long term financial plans to be developed and gave tenants greater transparency and accountability as to how rent is collected and spent on the services provided. The impact of not achieving rent convergence is lower levels of income which impact on the investment plans within the HRA Business Plan. Government guidance states that where properties have not reached formula rent by April 2015 it is expected that the rent is moved up to formula rent when the property is re-let following vacancy. Approximately 900 properties are re-let each year; it is anticipated that this will generate additional income of approximately £66k in 2019/20.
- 1.3 Section 23 of The Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 implements the government's policy on social housing rents which requires providers of social housing to reduce rents by 1% per year for four years with effect from April 2016 to March 2020. The policy applies to all registered providers of social housing including local authority landlords, who have a statutory obligation to implement the policy.
- 1.4 In October 2017 the government confirmed details of future social rent policy from 2020, after the four-year period of 1% rent decreases ends. The announcement confirms that for the five years from 2020/21, providers will be able to increase rents, up to a limit of Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) plus 1% each year.
- 1.5 This report also considers the charges for garages, garage plot sites, cooking gas and communal facilities including laundry services where provided, District Heating charges for 2019/20 and summarises the draft HRA budget.



## **2. Key Issues**

### **Housing Rents**

- 2.1 The average rent in 2018/19 is currently £72.87 when aggregated over 52 weeks. The 2019/20 average weekly rent based on the statutory 1% reduction would be £72.27, an average reduction of £0.60 per week. However, 2019/20 is a 53 week year. This is because rent is debited on a Monday and there are 53 collection days in 2019/20 and not the normal 52. Therefore, in line with Universal Credit payments it is proposed that annual rent is collected over 52 weeks as Universal Credit will only pay rent for a maximum of 52 weeks in any year. The rent will therefore require adjusting to reflect this and will result in an average weekly rent of £73.66 for 2019-20 collected over 52 weeks and therefore one week where rent is not collected.
- 2.2 Total housing rent income generated through the proposed revised weekly rents is estimated to be £76.496m in 2019/20 (compared with £76.236m in 2018/19) assuming 200 Right to Buy sales, voids, new acquisitions and rent adjustments at 1.4%. The reduction of 1% on the weekly rent charge will result in a loss in rent income of £260k compared with rent income for 2018/19. This is a lower reduction due to 2019/20 being a 53 week year and therefore one additional week's rent compared with 2018-19.

### **Garage Rents**

- 2.3 The Council has continued with its garage site improvement programme with plans to invest £250k in 2018/19, and a further £250k per annum over the next 3 years.
- 2.4 In previous years increases in charges have been linked to changes in CPI. At September 2018 CPI was 2.4%; therefore it is proposed that there will be an increase of 2.4% to the current charge. Therefore, the charge for garage rents for 2019/20 will increase by 11p to £5.00 per week.
- 2.5 It is proposed that there will also be a 2.4% increase to the charge for garage plot sites which will increase by £1.41 to £60.26 per annum in 2019/20. Unsurfaced garage plot sites will also increase by £1.27 to £54.24 in 2019/20.

### **Cooking Gas**

- 2.6 The Council also charges for cooking gas facility at 83p per week. It is proposed to increase the charge by 2.4% to 85p per week in line with other increases in charges.

### **Communal Facilities**

- 2.7 In line with other non-dwelling charges it is proposed to increase the communal facilities charge and the laundry charge by 2.4%.

The communal facilities charge will increase by 11p to £4.75 per week and the laundry charge will increase by 5p to £1.60 per week.

### **District Heating Charges**

- 2.8 During 2017-18 there was an extensive review of district heating pricing to ensure that charges are fair and reasonable to all tenants. As a consequence a revised schedule of charges was approved by Council on 13 December 2017.

This report proposed that charges be reduced to 6.28p per kWh including VAT and applied retrospectively from 1 April 2017, which saw a reduction in the average bill of £176 per annum. The total cost of the running the district heating scheme in 2017/18 resulted in a small surplus of £16k, however, the latest forecast for 2018/19 is that the scheme will be in deficit by £16k, therefore it is proposed to leave district heating charges unchanged as per table below.

	<b>Weekly Charge 2018/19</b>	<b>Weekly Charge 2019/20</b>	<b>Charge collected over 52 weeks</b>
<b>All District Heating Schemes -</b> Unit Cost KWh (inc VAT)	6.28p	6.28p	6.28p

<b>Pooled Schemes</b> - Pre-payment Charges per week (incl. VAT)			
Bedsit	£9.66	£9.66	£9.85
1 Bed	£11.25	£11.25	£11.47
2 Bed	£12.90	£12.90	£13.15
3/4 Bed	£14.93	£14.93	£15.22

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 3.1 Changes to the government's policy on social housing rents resulted in the requirement to reduce dwelling rents by 1% over four years from April 2016. To comply with the legislation rents will be reduced by 1% for a fourth and final year from April 2019.
- 3.2 In previous years increases to charges for non-dwelling rents have been linked to changes in CPI. As at September 2018 CPI was 2.4% and therefore it is proposed to increase charges for garages and communal facilities including laundry and cooking gas by 2.4% as follows:

<b>Non Dwelling Rents</b>	<b>Weekly Charge 2018/19</b>	<b>Weekly Charge 2019/20</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Charge collected over 52 weeks</b>
Garage rent	£4.89	£5.00	£0.11	£5.10
Garage Plots (annual charge)	£58.85	£60.26	£1.41	£61.42
Unsurfaced Garage Plots (annual charge)	£52.97	£54.24	£1.27	£55.29
Wharnccliffe flats parking space	£6.42	£6.57	£0.15	£6.70
Cooking Gas	£0.83	£0.85	£0.02	£0.87
Communal Facility	£4.64	£4.75	£0.11	£4.84
Laundry	£1.55	£1.60	£0.05	£1.63

The above charges exclude VAT where applicable

The proposed increase would generate additional income of approximately £28k in 2019/20.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 This report will be subject to review by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board before final decision by the Council.

#### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- 5.1 This report will be considered by the Council on 23 January 2019 and subject to approval, would be implemented from Monday 1 April 2019.

#### **6. Financial and Procurement Implications**

- 6.1 Appendix A of this report presents the 2019/20 detailed Draft Operating Statement which is effectively "The HRA Budget".

The table below presents an overall summary position of the Income and expenditure budgets:-

<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2019/20 £'000</b>
Expenditure	80,489
Income (including service charges)	-82,939
Net Cost of Service	-2,450
Interest Received	-100
Net Operating Expenditure	-2,550
Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay	14,692
Transfer from Reserves	-12,142
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	0

It can be seen that based on the 1% reduction in dwelling rent income and increase in service charges by 2.4% outlined in this report, the budgeted income of £82.939m is anticipated to be collected in 2019/20 and that this is offset by £80.489m of budgeted expenditure, which represents the net cost of delivering the service.

As budgeted income is greater than the net cost of delivering the service, there is an overall net income of £2.550m to the service after interest received.

Based on a review of the HRA business plan a Revenue Contribution to Capital of £14.692m has been made towards the approved HRA Capital investment Programme. Therefore there will be a transfer required from HRA Reserves of £12.142m in order to provide an overall balanced budget for 2019/20, this is provided for within the revised HRA Business Plan.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 In addition to the legal implications set out in the main body of this report, section 24 of the Housing Act 1985 allows local authorities to make such reasonable charges as they may determine for a tenancy or occupation of their houses. Further, it requires the local authority from time to time to review rents and other charges and make such changes, as circumstances may require. The changes proposed in the recommendations to this report would fall within the ambit of the Council's discretion as set out in section 24 of the Housing Act 1985.

## **8. Human Resources Implications**

- 8.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

## **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

- 9.1 No direct implications.

## **10. Equalities and Human Rights Implications**

- 10.1 No direct implications.

## **11. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates**

- 11.1 No direct implications for partners and other directorates.

## **12. Risks and Mitigation**

- 12.1 The greatest risk and uncertainty surrounds the level of rent income received into the Housing Revenue Account. This is dependent upon the number of properties available to generate income.

- 12.2 The level of properties is directly affected by the level of sales and demolitions which may vary to those used in the budget assumptions. Rules regarding Right to Buy (RTB) receipts were implemented in April 2012 included increasing the discount cap, which is currently £78,600. This has seen the number of RTB sales increase significantly as a result of the higher discount cap. Total sales in 2017/18 were 202, it is estimated that there will be 175 RTB by the end of 2018/19 and the HRA Business Plan assumes a further increase to 200 sales in 2019/20.
- 12.3 Strategic Housing Investment plans involve the acquisition or build of 29 new properties for council rent in 2019/20 and 52 shared ownership properties which will also bring in additional rent income. This will assist in mitigating against lost rental income for RTB sales.
- 12.4 The changes to the rent formula from 2016/17 will result in the Council receiving less income than under the original formula over four years, therefore impacting on the 30 year business plan.
- 12.5 The Government's changes to welfare benefits and the introduction of Universal Credit will also impact on the level of rent income collected including the level of arrears and therefore be reflected in the Housing Revenue Account balances.
- 12.6 All budgets carry a certain level of risk in that unforeseen circumstances may arise, causing additional pressures on the level of resources applied.

### 13. Accountable Officer(s)

Tom Bell, Assistant Director of Housing

Approvals obtained on behalf of:-

	Named Officer	Date
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	07/01/19
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Graham Saxton	21/01/19
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Stuart Fletcher	21/12/18
Assistant Director of Human Resources (if appropriate)	N/A	N/A
Head of Procurement (if appropriate)	N/A	N/A

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This report is published on the Council's website or can be found at:-  
<http://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories>



## HRA - Draft Budget Operating Statement 2019/20

Narrative	Full-year Budget 2018/19	Full-year Budget 2019/20	Year on Year Change
	£	£	£
Contributions to Housing Repairs Account	19,954,400	20,803,320	848,920
Supervision and Management	21,497,300	23,906,780	2,409,480
Rents, Rates, Taxes etc.	185,000	230,000	45,000
Provision for Bad Debts	1,334,200	1,147,200	-187,000
Cost of capital Charge	13,182,000	13,346,050	164,050
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	20,591,800	20,925,680	333,880
Debt Management Costs	125,000	130,000	5,000
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>76,869,700</b>	<b>80,489,030</b>	<b>3,619,330</b>
Dwelling Rents	-76,236,370	-76,477,360	-240,990
Non-dwelling Rents	-777,540	-802,170	-24,630
Charges for Services and facilities	-4,656,100	-4,966,260	-310,160
Other fees and charges	-374,260	-514,260	-140,000
Leaseholder Income	-167,511	-178,650	-11,139
<b>Income</b>	<b>-82,211,781</b>	<b>-82,938,700</b>	<b>-726,919</b>
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>-5,342,081</b>	<b>-2,449,670</b>	<b>2,892,411</b>
Interest received	-100,000	-100,000	0
<b>Net Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>-5,442,081</b>	<b>-2,549,670</b>	<b>2,892,411</b>
<b>Appropriations:</b>			
Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay	9,970,150	14,691,700	4,721,550
Transfer from Reserves	-4,528,069	-12,142,030	-7,613,961
<b>Surplus/Deficit for the year</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Council – 23 January 2019

**Report Title**

Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny – Modern Methods of Construction

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

No

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Shokat Lal, Assistant Chief Executive

**Report Author(s)**

Christine Bradley, Scrutiny Officer  
01709 822738 or christine.bradley@rotherham.gov.uk

**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

This report presents the findings from the scrutiny review into modern methods of construction which is included at Appendix 1.

The review was undertaken because of evidence that the:-

- housing market is not fit for purpose with the housing market locally reflecting national information and trends.
- demand for homes outweighs provision e.g. more one bedroom and larger properties are required in Rotherham
- number of homeless people is on the increase, this number could continue to increase due to the introduction of Universal Credit.
- Insufficient affordable properties available – which includes cheaper, renewable sources of energy to heat the homes.
- private and social owned properties are not being build quick enough to meet demand

The options for providing affordable homes, in a quicker timescale to traditional build homes, which are energy efficient and where possible use renewable sources of energy to keep running cost low. Two main options were looked at these were container and modular homes.

Following consideration by the Council, the Cabinet will be required to respond formally to the recommendations and indicate agreement or otherwise, what action, will be taken to implement the recommendations, along with details of timescales and accountabilities.

**Recommendations**

1. That the report and recommendations from the review of Modern Methods of Construction be noted.
2. That the response of Cabinet to the recommendations be reported to Council and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 Scrutiny Review of Modern Methods of Construction

**Background Papers**

None

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 12 December 2018

Cabinet – 18 February 2019

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No



## **Scrutiny Review: Modern Methods of Construction.**

Review from the Task Group from Overview  
and Scrutiny Management Board and  
Improving Places Select Commission

November 2018

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## Background

Following the general election of 2016, a survey among younger people and young families concluded that a major cause of their inability to find suitable accommodation was the lack smaller properties coupled with the punitive spare room subsidy, the so called 'Bedroom Tax'.

This was the catalyst for this piece of work, which prompted a discussion to take place at the Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 into the Council's annual budget for 2018/2019

An amendment to the budget proposals was put forward by the Opposition Party United Kingdom Independent Party, to ring fence £4m out of £55m unallocated funds, of the Housing Revenue Account, specifically for a project to develop modular one and two bedroomed homes and **where possible** the criteria for each home is to;

- Provide accommodation at a lower cost than traditional on site construction
- Fund as many homes as practicable on Council owned sites
- Delivery homes with an expected asset life span of 25 years or more
- Consider payback periods for the investment, aiming for the project to be revenue generating as soon as practicable
- Where possible, promote and utilise micro renewable and eco technologies so each home has very low running costs for the occupier
- Utilise local innovation where possible (e.g. graphene battery technology to support solar panels and solar spray if available).
- Consider delivering homes which can be picked up and moved to another site if necessary
- Design properties to meet the needs of homeless people, young and or older persons to assist them make a start on the housing ladder or down size to a more affordable home.

The amendment was not carried as it was a proposal that could not be considered at the meeting. (CM157)

However the interest highlighted during the discussions resulted in a cross party review group being formed, with Councillor Cowles as Chair and Councillor Sansome as Vice Chair.

## Legal and Policy Drivers

**Homelessness Reduction Act 2017** is the biggest change in homelessness legislation for many years and came into force on April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018. It aims to prevent homelessness, and not only find accommodation, but continue to support people to ensure they do not become homeless in the future. A new duty placed on local authorities is to prevent homelessness of all people regardless of priority need, who are eligible for assistance who are threatened with homelessness. The additional duty of identified public authorities to refer will mean that most referrals will result in a homeless application being submitted.

It is anticipated that homeless applications will rise by at least 50% or possibly double as a result of this.

## **Welfare Reform/Universal Credit**

Councils have raised concerns about the design and implementation of the Universal Credit (UC) Full Service to date. Feedback from councils shows that the initial payment waiting period for claimants is resulting in a marked increase in debt and rent arrears. This is damaging for households and councils' ability to invest in social housing.

Welfare reform has coincided with rising housing costs and lower incomes. This has led to an increase in the 'affordability gap' (household incomes v housing costs). A symptom of this is the marked increases in homelessness acceptances in recent years.

Rising private sector rents and changes to the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate, without a corresponding increase in housing benefit support, have contributed to an increase in the number of households that turn to the Council for support.

Some claimants migrating from existing welfare programmes will not receive transitional protection. Only those who move on to UC as part of the 'managed migration' in 2019 will receive protection. Councils are already reporting confusion and stress about the potential financial impacts for claimants who will move on to UC after a break in claim.

One of the key features of UC is its emphasis on making work pay and supporting in-work progression. DWP has produced very little information on support for in-work progression. The Local Government Association would like to see the Government take up the recommendations in the 'Work Local' report which would enable councils to provide more support to low-income working households. This is particularly important as recent research shows evidence of increasing levels of in-work poverty.

The reforms to housing-related benefits are a major contributor to the gap between living costs and affordability. Recent studies have shown that tenants in the private rented sector are facing among the largest real losses in income as a result of welfare changes. This is driven in particular by the freezing of the LHA rate, alongside the rise in private rents. It is estimated that private rents in 2020 will be 5 per cent higher than in 2016.

Many local authorities have recognised that the freeze to the LHA rate is exacerbating the pressures facing many recipients of UC. Councils' ability to support homeless households is already severely stretched. The combined impact of these changes risk undermining the objectives of the Government's welfare reform programme.

## **National Housing Context**

The housing market in Britain is broken which is the starting point for a recent white paper "Fixing our broken housing market" and this is because simply:-

- Not enough local authorities are able to deliver the social houses they need

- House building that is too slow
- A construction industry too reliant on a small number of big companies.

The law of supply and demand means that since 1998 the ratio of average house prices to average earnings has more than doubled. The issue for society is that less people are able to afford one of the basic needs – a home.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders predicts that by 2020 only one quarter of all 30 year olds will own their own homes. This is in contrast to the generation currently approaching retirement, half of whom owned a property by the age of 30.

A national housing charity Shelter has recently conducted an analysis of government data culminating in the report, “In work, but out of a home” which concluded that:-

- The proportion of working families who are homeless has been growing steadily across the last five years.
- The absolute number of working families has risen dramatically, from over **19,000** households in 2013 to over **33,000** in 2017.
- A sharp increase in the total number of homeless families - **43,750** in 2013 to **60,520** in 2017

The rates of change indicate that there is a problem specific to working families. Between 2013 and 2017 the number of working families in temporary accommodation rose by 73%, in comparison to the total population of families which grew by 38%.

Underpinning this trend is the chronic lack of affordable housing.

- There are currently 1.2 million households on council waiting lists for a new social home
- There are four households in need for each home that becomes available each year
- Housing benefit is now inadequate across most of the country
- Our research shows that by 2020, four fifths (83%) of England will be unaffordable to private tenants claiming housing benefit
- Working families are turning to the Council for emergency help because they have few other options
- The lack of stability in the privately rented sector is also likely to play a role in this trend – a privately rented home is rarely a home for life
- The loss of a private tenancy was the single biggest cause of homelessness in the country in the last year – accounting for 27% of all households accepted as homeless

These findings show that moving more people into work would not be sufficient to end or address homelessness.

By 2020 it is predicted that only a quarter of 30 year olds will own their own home, which is in contrast to more than half the generation approaching homeowners by their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is much harder for young people to get a foot on the housing

ladder than their parents/grandparents. Home ownership amongst 34 year olds has fallen from 59 per cent over a decade ago to just 37 per cent today.

### A New Deal for Social Housing

The recent Government Green Paper sets out a new vision for social housing and the following five principals which will underpin a fairer deal for social housing residents:

- A safe and decent home which is fundamental to a sense of security and our ability to get on in life.
- Improving and speeding up how complaints are resolved.
- Empowering residents and ensuring their voices are heard so that landlords are held to account.
- Tackling stigma and celebrating thriving communities, challenging the stereotypes that exist about residents and their communities
- Building the social homes that we need and ensuring that those homes can act as a springboard to home ownership

### Rotherham Social Housing Provision

The table below shows the breakdown by type of property of housing stock at Rotherham Metropolitan Council as at September 2017. The total number of properties was 20,393.

	0	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	Grand
BEDSIT	72							72
BUNGALOW	1	2783	1921	49				4754
FLAT	3	2122	2609	264	6	2		5006
HOUSE		4	1938	8136	258	2	1	10339
MAISONETTE		2	185	34	1			222
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>4911</b>	<b>6653</b>	<b>8483</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20393</b>

A point to note relates to tenants' "Right to buy". In 2017/2018 the total properties sold under this initiative was 202 reducing the overall number of housing stock held by the Council.

The below table is from the housing register at 31st March 2018, splitting applicants into number of bedrooms required. This clearly shows that the vast majority (71%) of applicants to Rotherham's housing register need a one bedroomed property.

Bedrooms required	No. of applicants
1	4,763
2	922
3	866
4+	123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,674</b>

## **The Housing Register**

There are currently 6,628 applicants on the Housing Register. Applicants who join the Housing Register are assessed and placed into one of the following bands:

**Band 1** - There are 268 applicants with immediate housing need

**Band 2** - There are 1,446 applicants with very urgent housing needs

**Band 3** - There are 1,817 applicants with urgent housing need

**Band 4** - There are 1,860

**Transfer Band** – There are 1,237 Council or Housing association tenants with no housing need

**Total 6,628**

There were 1,446 registered in Band 2 for a variety of reasons, for example due to medical requirements. The households detailed below have approached the authority due to homelessness issues and have been placed in Band 2 on the Housing Register:

- 148 households not ready to leave supported accommodation
- 99 households subject to domestic abuse
- 65 households ready to leave supported accommodation
- 37 households who have been assessed as statutory homeless

The temporary accommodation units of 41 (crash pads) are fully occupied 90% of the time.

## **Homelessness**

The review identified the level of need both in number and type of accommodation for homeless households. With regard to need, during the autumn of 2018 there were 132 open homeless cases undergoing assessment. The outcome of these cases could be potential prevention cases or potential acceptances.

The number of Homelessness acceptances: 2017/2018 = 122

As of 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018 the case load increased from 132 in April 2018 to 354

- 54 in intervention stage
- 149 prevention stage
- 143 relief stage
- 8 Main Duty stage.

The number of homelessness preventions

- 2017/18 = 714
- April 2017 to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 = 451

Two rough sleepers were identified on the Rough Sleepers Count in November 2017. This count in November 2018 was 4 – an increase of 100%

The main reasons why people become homeless are:

- Loss of an Assured Shorthold (private rented) tenancy
- Relatives or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate
- Parents no longer willing or able to accommodate
- Required to leave accommodation provided by the Home Office
- Relationship breakdown

During the same period, the top five priority need categories were:

- Applicants with dependent children
- Pregnancy
- Vulnerable due to a physical disability
- Vulnerable due to a mental illness
- Fleeing home because of domestic abuse or threat of violence

Sheffield Rough Sleepers. The link below shows an example of how partnership working is providing some comfort for rough sleepers.

<https://www.thestar.co.uk/news/sheffield-rough-sleeper-partnership-hailed-a-success-1-9084195>

### **Housing performance indicators**

Performance indicators 2017/18 the target for the number of new homes to be built in the Borough was 641 units, the number achieved was 479 units, a shortfall of 162 units.

Although the task of increasing the supply of new homes is difficult to achieve the Council is still continuing to work really hard to stimulate growth. The Council's efforts however are sometimes fettered by external influences, for example the bids it made to secure additional funding through the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund that would help deliver new homes in key sites in the Borough. Despite the setback the Council is continuing to work with representatives from Homes England, the body responsible for administering these funds to identify how future bids should be made.

### **Gaps in Housing Provision**

Night shelter/hostel/assessment bed – provision is needed for people who are not classed as priority need but until benefits claims are completed and income is available the accommodation options are very limited.

- Inadequate numbers of bedsit accommodation – both in the public and private sector
- Complex needs – there is a group of people who are stuck in a cycle of repeat offending and homelessness, whose previous behaviours prevent future access to property provided by Rotherham's partner organisations. Housing First <sup>1</sup> is appropriate in this situation, but more units need to be provided

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<sup>1</sup> **Housing First** England is a new project to create and support a national movement of **Housing First** services, improving the lives of, and support for, some of society's most excluded people.



- Accommodation for single people who may not meet the criteria of complex needs, but need a degree of support due to their vulnerability, and inability to get a tenancy (eg offending history/previous anti-social behaviour)
- Rent in advance/bond scheme. No current scheme in operation and discretionary housing payment (DHP) cannot be utilised unless there is an active claim. More work needs to be done with landlords to encourage them to accept certain client groups
- Need to increase number of temporary accommodation units for people with a priority need in accordance with homelessness legislation – currently being reviewed

The Housing First model and vulnerable adults' pathway will provide much needed supported accommodation for single people who have complex needs and become homeless on more than one occasion. However, the number of units may need to be increased dependent on funding. The pilot will be reviewed and further consideration will be given then on the future of this approach.

### **Population Trends**

Rotherham has an aging population with 50,500 (19.3%) aged 65+ in 2016, projected to increase to 58,500 (21.7%) by 2026 and 68,300 (24.8%) by 2036. There are no local statistics on divorce trends. However, divorce has been one factor leading to more people living alone, alongside older people who have been widowed.

The number of single person households in 2014 was 32,000 (29.1% of all households) and this is projected to increase to 38,000 (31.1%) by 2039. The demand for one bedroom housing is more likely to come from young people starting out or older people downsizing.

### **Scope of the Review**

The basis of this review came from the inability of young people and others in receipt of housing benefit/UC, to find suitable smaller accommodation. This finding was the driver for exploring solutions.

As the Group's knowledge of the modular market increased so did the scope of the project. Consideration was given to the provision of a range of larger and higher value MMC properties to make this housing option available to larger households. Thus the report reflects this wider brief:

- Original scope to meet the needs of younger single people reaching adult hood needing somewhere to live and older people who wish to downsize, and
- What is available and should modular housing be used to meet broader housing needs?

Initially, members' thoughts reflected their recollections of historic, modular housing such as post war 'prefabs' and there was a tendency to contrast and compare conventional housing with modular. As the study progressed and knowledge of the new modular housing offer grew, thinking changed to ask, why not modular housing rather than traditional build?

## Agreed Scope

The scope for the review is to look into the viability of providing affordable housing for young single individuals and larger families via MMC and, wherever possible, incorporating suitable technology to reduce running costs as well as with the ability to move the buildings where they are most needed.

## Method

The initial meeting of the Review Group on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 agreed the scope for the review along with other areas of research.

Councillor Cowles and Councillor Sansome explored the options of various modular buildings with visits to nearby manufacturers, REACH Homes in Sheffield, and Premier Modular and Ilke Homes in East Yorkshire

Councillor Napper and Councillor Walsh looked at technology to provide energy sources for heating and lighting the modular home; Councillor Walsh attended an Energy Source Conference, in Liverpool on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Councillor McNeely and Councillor Julie Turner worked with the Homelessness Team to identify the scale of homelessness in Rotherham.

The view of the Chair was that a key element of this review was to seek the views of the young people who could potentially become tenants/owners of modular homes. To achieve this, the Review involved Christian Palfrey, House Project, Leaving Care Service.

The officers who provided their knowledge and expertise included

- **Judith Badger** – Strategic Director, Finance and
- **Miles Crompton** - Performance, Intelligence & Improvement
- **Sharon Crook** - Scrutiny Support Officer.
- **Jane Davies** - Head of Housing Strategic Development
- **Paul Elliott** - Business and Commercial Programme Manager
- **Andrew Farmer** - Senior Quantity Surveyor
- **Wendy Foster** – Strategic Housing Coordinator
- **Liz Hunt** - Affordable Housing Officer
- **Jill Jones** - Housing Solutions Manager
- **Christine Lamont** - Business Development Manager, Premier Housing.
- **Andy Lumb** - Partnership Manager
- **Paul Maplethorpe** - Domestic Energy Officer
- **Mark Nearney** - Head of Contracts, Investment and Compliance
- **Christian Palfrey** – House Project, Leaving Care Service
- **Craig Rutherford** – Supported Housing Assistant
- **Billy Wilson** - Technical Officer

## Findings

For clarity, the definition of “Affordable Housing” for the sake of this report is **housing** units that are **affordable** by that section of society whose income is below the median household income.

## Modern Methods of Construction. (MMC)

Rather than using traditional methods of construction of bricks and mortar to build a property, the modern way is that the property is built in a factory. The finished products are transported to their new locations, where they are assembled by a builder. A property built using modern methods of construction (MMC) is not a mobile home. These homes are often called factory-built, system-built or homes built off-site. The term “prefabricated homes” conjures up visions of homes erected post 1945 for speed and ease of providing accommodation after the war. Current MMC properties are spectacular, versatile and adaptable units where sustainability, the environment, waste management, thermal efficiency and recycling issues are taken into account in the making of properties.

Suppliers visited by Members of the Scrutiny Group manufactured homes in a number of stages. The units were craned from stage to stage inside a large warehouse, similar to a production line in the automobile industry. Producing homes in this way offers far greater control of the manufacturing/build process than traditional build:

- Panel insulation - each panel is individually inspected during the process to ensure it is fully insulated and hence the overall thermal efficiency of the completed unit can be guaranteed within defined parameters
- The size of walls and window openings are machined to exact dimensions ensuring that they fit together exactly and there are no gaps allowing for cold bridges or drafts
- Interior fixtures and fittings slot exactly into the space provided and the doors and skirting boards fit without gaps that need filling.

Put simply, the process provides end to end quality control throughout the build process. This also applies to suppliers of components who as well as their own internal quality control checks receive visits and component inspections from the MMC manufacturer. This overall quality regime and management of the build process ensures that each unit can be guaranteed to meet strict production and performance parameters and avoids the 'Friday Afternoon House' where things are not quite as they should be. **Further information can be provided on request**

## Types of Modular Home

The Group was provided with an outline of the various types of modular homes currently available on the market. Two different types of homes were identified as being the most relevant type to meet the criteria set by the Scrutiny Group; Container/modular homes and panelised homes.

## **Container Homes**

Container homes are used widely in Northern Europe as student accommodation and, have more recently been used in Brighton to house homeless applicants whilst their claim is being assessed. The lifespan of a container home is 20+ years is well maintained. Other examples in the UK include:

- Container City opposite the O2 Arena in London Docklands
- Box Park in Croyden, and
- Raynes Court in Stoke Newington.

## **Reach Homes (Sheffield.) [www.reachhomes.org](http://www.reachhomes.org)**

Reach Homes is a not-for-profit business which aims to change the market by converting shipping containers into viable eco-friendly homes. Each unit costs around £37,000 - 90% less than a traditional build home and uses up to 60% recycled local materials.

For around £37,000 the container home could include solar PV and battery storage system so that the excess electricity produced during the day can be stored for use at night. The owner of the business, who lives in this house, stated his utility bills were in the region of £100 p.a. making this type of accommodation a very attractive offering for our original target market.

The owner also stated that he is looking for assistance in locating a production development site; this may be something in which the Council may be interested. Contact has been made with officers from Rotherham Industrial Development Office to assist with this enquiry.

## **Panelised**

In order to gain a better understanding of modular homes, a group from RMBC staff, including technical officers, visited the factory of Premier Modular and Ilke Homes – in East Yorkshire.

The panels are manufactured to exact measurements and are usually supported by a timber or galvanised metal frame.

The units were constructed in the factory and then transported and placed in situ by lorry and crane.

The delegates who visited the various modular homes were very impressed by what they saw from the perspective of speed of build/erection, to the quality of the workmanship and less snagging issues.

## **Points to consider when comparing MMC properties versus traditional build**

- The buildings often sit on a concrete raft, so there is no need for extensive ground works

- Once the concrete raft is in place the building is delivered on a lorry and installed using a crane to place the main sections that are then fixed together – this minimised disruption to neighbours, traffic and the environment, sites can easily be returned to green space with the removal of the unit
- The build timeframe is greatly reduced as ground works can be carried out alongside the manufacture of the unit unlike the linear nature of traditional build homes.
- MMC units are still subject to building regulations and planning permission
- Modular home designs vary in style/size, can be customised and more easily extended than traditional build
- Modular homes are permanent structures — “real property”
- The Buildoffsite Property Assurance Scheme (BOPAS) is a structural warranty insurance scheme which covers a period of 10 years after completion; it is the equivalent of NHBC (National Housing Builder Council) for traditional build
- Mortgages for most MMC homes are the same as traditional built homes, (although financial institutions have been slow to recognise the longevity of MMC, this is rapidly changing as they recognise the potential of this market)
- Building/contents insurance is required
- Because MMC homes are so flexible, they can be fully accessible and designed to comfortably house individuals throughout the changing requirements of their lives
- MMC is ideal for smaller, constrained sites (of which RMBC has 300+) as long as the access is adequate for the crane to position the units – some manufacturers, such as [HUSK](#), specialise in redeveloping old garage sites
- For small units, MMC is approximately 10%-20% more expensive than traditional build but significant savings can be made when delivering a substantial number of units
- Modular homes usually have better sound proofing than traditional builds due to construction methods
- Containers can be stripped down and melted down to be reused/recycled

## Maintenance Costs

In order to undertake a financial appraisal of the whole life costs of the scheme information will be required around the ongoing maintenance of the units. As the units are of non-standard construction, they may not be included in existing contract agreements with maintenance partners. Further investigations into the likely costs of maintaining the units as well as the arrangements for procuring this service will need to be undertaken to understand the whole life costs of the units and this will form part of the financial appraisal of any scheme.

The Council will re-procurement the repairs and maintenance contract in the New Year and maintenance of MMC units will be written into the contract.

Strategic Housing and Development Service are delivering two MMC pilot schemes; 12, two bedroomed bungalows and 10 single person modular pods. The bidders who have submitted tenders to carry out this work have stated that repairs and maintenance costs are similar to traditional built homes.

The workforce needed to maintain this type of housing may require different skill sets from those need to maintain traditional built properties. The pilot scheme will allow

assessment of this requirement and if necessary allow the workforce to up-skill to provide support and maintenance to a larger development in the future.

### **Views of Young People**

Three young people (Leaving Care) took part in the review and viewed both modular and container homes.

The visit to REACH Homes elicited these comments

- JS said “I would be up for living in one”, he said he had enjoyed the visit.
- KG said “the containers are better than the other modular housing we saw”, “would be nice if it could be made even more affordable for care leavers”, and finally he said “I want one, I’ll move in now.”
- CPa said “Rite good, mint idea, would live in one if had money, but it’s a bit Bullseye – here’s what u could have won” CPa felt that £35,000 was out of reach for most care leavers.

In summary, the views of the young people were wholly positive, the style, size, ease of up keep/maintenance, low energy bills and the variable locations for the units appealed to them. They preferred the one person container units over the larger houses. Communal/or shared living was not an option that the young people would chose, each preferred their own space to make it home.

### **External Funding Programmes**

If the scheme progresses the Council may wish to submit a bid to Homes England to secure grant funding to support MMC development. The amount of grant funding will vary according to the total scheme cost and will only pay for a proportion of the costs, not the whole scheme. There has been a recent announcement on future funding programmes. They are to cover the period 2016-21 (current programme), 2018- 2022 and 2022 -2026. The terms of the grant funding will be explored if any additional finance is required.

### **Legal and Financial considerations**

Different specifications, contracts and payment terms may need to be adopted if the Council wishes to deliver significant numbers of MMC housing. For modular build, in particular, the bulk of supplier costs are incurred upfront as the unit is manufactured in a factory and the staged payment terms used with traditional built properties do not fit.

### **RMBC Finance**

Councillor Cowles put forward a suggestion that in addition to any new MMC units being subject to the standard financial viability appraisal, they should to be individually monitored for performance, repairs and maintenance. This should provide a full and clear cost and revenue breakdown for the property. This information may help the Council better understand asset life/depreciation cycle.



## **Land Assets.**

It is proposed that the units will be delivered on Council owned land. Suitable small sites can be identified by the Council's Asset Management Team. A review of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) land assets is underway. Officers have visited all of the HRA sites and inspected them to determine possible future use. The review includes garage sites (with fixed garages) and garage plot sites (where plots are offered to tenants to provide their own building).

## **Tenancy Options**

Although this topic was not explored in depth as part of the review, careful consideration needs to be given to the ownership of the properties as this will determine the types of tenancy which can be issued. Further details are provided in <https://www.rotherhamkeychoices.org.uk/content/Information/PolicyDocuments>

## **Energy Options**

The energy supply market for domestic customers offers a number of options, each with their own advantages and disadvantages. In the long term, the decisions the Council takes may not reflect future technology gains or future Government policy.

Decisions around energy efficiency measures will be taken with consideration to price, increase of supply and the offset of capital costs (the price of the technology used) against payback period. High-end energy efficiency technologies tend to bring additional cost to the Council but the benefits of the technology is realised by the tenant only.

Value for money may have to be compromised if some of the options are adopted but the Council must limit the risk of tenants being exposed to fuel poverty. It must be understood that a change in behaviour is needed to get the most of many new technologies; this is often very difficult to establish.

Depending on the site, it may be possible to deliver off-grid pods with self-sufficient solar power. This would be of significant benefit to the tenant of that property in terms of fuel costs.

Tenants of in-grid properties with solar photovoltaics (solar PV) would benefit from selling excess energy back to the grid; the sums received would depend on the weather and the tenant's behaviour.

Battery storage was considered as part of the original solar power idea. It turned out that battery storage could offer advantages in its own right in grid-connected pods without solar arrays. Lithium ion batteries were the only technology likely to be useful on the envisaged scale of individual pods or groups of perhaps up to a dozen at this time.

One option is to simply store the electricity till it's needed and the best option is at the source of use in the tenant's home. By charging a battery at off peak times the price of energy can be less. The exact times vary, but the off-peak period will begin between 10pm and 12pm, and last for 8 hours. This stored electricity can then be

used during the day offsetting the peak cost of electricity. The cost of the battery and its installation would have to be borne by the consumer or third party and this may mean the resident is tied into one supplier contract which would not be practical or possible under current legislation or tenant landlord agreements/legislation. Although the battery could be supplied as part of such a tariff, this would require a long term commitment which might not be compatible with tenancy agreements. Therefore this option would require the battery to form part of the capital investment in the pod, unless the cost of the metre can be removed from the capital investment and offered separately.

If a group of pods were to be located some distance from existing power supplies, a communal battery for peak-opping could reduce the required capacity of the mains connection. Depending on the length of the connection, it could be cheaper to install a battery and a low-rated power line than to install a high-rated line. This could become relevant if there was an intention to locate pods in rural parts of the Borough.

Another consideration is the life span of the batteries. This depends on how often the batteries are charged and discharged and the conditions in which they are charged and discharged. The lifespan of a battery will depend on how it is used but it is not unusual for a battery to last 15 years. Alternatively, a large battery could have the capacity to serve a small group homes. The council could enter into An Energy Service Company (ESCo)<sup>2</sup>, buy a storage battery and buy energy at off peak times to sell to the estate. Capital outlay would be expensive and may not be possible with the Council acting alone.

Complications with this system include:

- Possible security of supply should the battery fail
- Reputationally, the Council may not wish to disconnect non-paying tenants
- Battery storage (behind the meter<sup>3</sup> or not) should not be considered as the only option

## Conclusion

Evidence shows that the housing market is broken due to insufficient homes being built at a rate quick enough to meet the demand of the changing demographics at a local and national level.

Overall the construction industry is reliant on a few large companies who dominate the industry. Insufficient affordable homes are being built and fewer people are able to buy their own homes as the ratio of average house prices to averages earnings

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<sup>2</sup> An Energy Service Company (ESCo) is a commercial structure created specifically to produce, supply and manage the local delivery of decentralised energy to a 'whole site' development. For example, an ESCo can be formed to support a regeneration area, a large residential development, a single commercial initiative such as an office or manufacturing plant, or a hospital or multi-unit development of commercial offices or retail outlets. High initial capital costs can be seen as an obstacle to the provision of decentralised energy.

<sup>3</sup> "behind-the-meter" means the energy storage system is installed on the customer's property and on the customer's side of the utility meter. The use of a BTM energy storage system, therefore, can reduce the customer utility bill.

has more than doubled since 1998. The proportion of working families who are homeless has grown in the last five years. It is anticipated that homeless applications will rise by at least 50% as a result of this and the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The introduction of Government initiatives such as Welfare Reform and Universal Credit has had an impact as the initial waiting period between submitting a claim and receiving money can be six weeks. This often leads to an increase in the claimant's individual debt and rent arrears.

The number of applicants on the Council's housing register is 6,628 against a housing stock of 20,393 properties.

The tenant's "Right to buy" continues to reduce the number of social house.

The need for single person accommodation is set to rise in the coming years.

One of the ways identified in the Green Paper – A New Deal for Social Housing to assist the growth of the housing market is by building social homes to act as a springboard to home ownership.

There are renewable energy options available to the Council to introduce in to MMC properties, however further consideration needs to be given to the preferred option. Points for consideration include the efficiency of type of energy used, the capital cost of installing new technology/equipment, to prevent possibility of tenants falling into "fuel poverty" and finally and the most difficult is to change behaviours surrounding the use of renewable energy options.

It has been suggested by the Government that a radical rethink is required to reshape the housing market, by:

- Encouraging Councils to plan for the right homes in the right places based on evidence of need
- Building homes faster to make the planning system open and accessible to prevent unnecessary delays in the process
- Diversify the housing market by opening the market to smaller builders and to those who embrace innovative and modern efficient methods
- Supporting housing associations and encouraging local authorities to build again
- Encouraging investment in the private rented sector
- Promoting modular and factory built homes.
- Making it easier for individuals to build their own homes

## Summary

A positive outlook from this review is that options have been discussed that if carried out would assist in repairing the broken housing market locally. One solution is to provide new affordable container and modular homes, with renewable, cheaper energy sources, for young people and small families.

The idea of container homes received positive comments from young people who wanted to move in straight away.

There are currently two small MMC pilot projects underway in the Borough which in time will offer learning to support future MMC developments. As with all expenditure made on behalf of the council, value for money needs to be delivered. It is estimated that the cost of one container home is around £37,000. This would be reduced should the Council seek deliver greater numbers of units or if there was to be a guaranteed pipeline of properties.

A quote for consideration.....

*“Normal ways of doing things are there to be challenged. If we're going to make life better, we need to try new things”.* (Citu Team)

## **Recommendations**

1. That consideration of any learning points identified as part of the RMBC's MMC pilot schemes be used to inform any future MMC housing projects
2. That Housing develops a pilot project of up to 10 pods at various locations throughout the Borough
3. A pilot project of 5 MMC homes for families be developed
4. Develop the option of various energy packages in the MMC properties e.g. solar power and high energy efficiency measures for residents of the Borough whether in social or private rented accommodation
5. That each individual MMC property is monitored to demonstrate capital cost and repairs/maintenance costs over a set period of time to allow practical comparison with traditional built homes.

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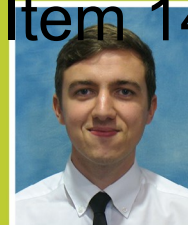
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Councillor  
Allen



Councillor  
Elliott



Councillor  
Williams

PUTTING COMMUNITIES AT THE **HEART** OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Serving Wingfield, Rockingham, Munsbrough, Greasbrough and Kimberworth Park

### WHAT have we done?

We recently produced a **WINGFIELD WARD ANNUAL REPORT** which we circulated to all Councillor colleagues and the wider community BUT just to reiterate some of the things we have done . . .

**REDUCED** anti-social behaviour by initiating and overseeing a complete physical re-design of St Johns Green, Kimberworth.



**FUNDED** and overseen the creation of Byrley Road Garden Hut—a new community hub for Kimberworth Park TARA and other groups which we launched with The Mayor . . .



. . . and the internal / external refurbishment of Greasbrough Library—an existing community hub which we again launched with The Mayor. Feedback from the community has been positive; *'Amazing and unique for Greasbrough'* and *'We were there for a meeting . . . Very impressed!!'*





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Councillor John Williams (01709 255916)



Councillor  
Allen



Councillor  
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Williams

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## WHAT have we done?

HELD regular ward networking events to inform the development and delivery of our Ward Plan. Ward budget funding was granted to community groups at a one event we ran as a Dragons Den. At another event, attended by up to 40 people, we captured feedback on proposals for St Johns Green. The most recent one was the annual community awards.



ENSURED a co-ordinated approach to crime and ASB at our regular WOAT - Wingfield on a Thursday—meetings. Councillors provide drinks and toast!!

## WHAT do we want to do?

Recently refreshed our Ward Priorities at a networking event and away day with Neighbourhoods officers.

- ⇒ Continue to develop community hubs and engage with individuals / groups through networking events
- ⇒ Continue to ensure a co-ordinated response to Crime and ASB
- ⇒ Seek to address isolation / loneliness
- ⇒ Support groups working to provide facilities for young people
- ⇒ Seek to address any impacts arising from Universal Credit
- ⇒ Look at what can be done locally in respect of mental health



## WHAT have we learned?

Colleagues will have the opportunity to read our **WINGFIELD WARD ANNUAL REPORT** and this report. We wish to take the opportunity presented on Wednesday 23rd January 2019 to reflect on WHAT have we learned—as the Ward Councillors—not simply what have we done, which we hope will be interesting to everyone involved.



# Anston and Woodsetts Ward

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Councillor Clive Jepson (01909 564647)

Councillor Katherine Wilson (01709 255929)



Councillor  
Ireland



Councillor  
Jepson



Councillor  
Wilson

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## Ward Priorities

- Build community infrastructure via the development of a ward based network of key individuals/groups.
- Support and develop activities and facilities for children, young people and families including educational projects.
- Support health and wellbeing initiatives.
- Support the development of any new Neighbourhood Watch
- Support the implementation of the road improvement scheme.
- Work in partnership with police and others around community safety.
- Develop tenant engagement and support.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Through the Ward Budget we have allowed community groups to bid for the funds rather than us decide where we think it should be spent. By doing this since its introduction in 2017 we have supported the sustainability and infrastructure of the buildings and land that they use including Anston Bowling Club, Anston Cricket Club, 27th Woodsetts Scouts, Woodsetts Parish Council and 35th Anston Scouts.

We have funded a mud kitchen at Anston Stones Early Years to help improve the physical development and co-ordination of their children as well as several cultural and activity trips for both adult and children's groups.

There were many more applications but these are just a few of the ones that have been supported.

## Anston Plantation Event March 2018

In 2017 the Woodland Management Plan recommended the removal of a large number of trees after they were identified as being unhealthy and potentially dangerous to members of the public who use the area on a regular basis. Rather than just simply remove the trees and dispose of them it was agreed that an educational project could be developed around this proposed work.

With the help of Rotherham Park Rangers and Neighbourhood Partnerships we were able to put on a two day event within the plantation. On the Friday 160 local school children had the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities including wood carving, learning about the local woodland and its wildlife, creating wildlife habitats and watch a sawmill in action with the Saturday being open to any resident and their families to participate. The wood that was removed from the plantation will eventually be turned into benches which will be placed around the village and in Anston Stones Wood.

### **Rackford Meadows Event October 2018**

Following on from the successful Anston Plantation event it was decided that with the co-operation of Anston Parish Council who own the land a similar one would be held at Rackford Meadows at North Anston to encourage educational woodland activities. A hundred children from local schools attended on the Friday and went on a series of educational woodland walks in Anston Stones Wood which is designated as a SSSI and has an archaeological history dating back millions of years before returning to make pictures out of natural items found in the woods, The wood carver and sawmill activities were also back to work with the children and on the Saturday stalls were provided by the Chesterfield Canal Trust, Sheffield Conservation Volunteers, South Yorkshire Badger Group, Sheffield Sorby Natural History Society, Cresswell Craggs Heritage Centre, RMBC Dog Wardens and the Salvation Army. The event was well supported on the Saturday by many residents and their families.

### **Ward Defibrillator Project**

We are looking at developing a ward wide defibrillator project where it is hoped that through a combination of the Ward budget, the Community Leadership Fund and other funding streams we can provide more of these units in both Anston and Woodsetts. We have already had one installed at Greenlands Park at North Anston which was as a result of partnership working with RMBC Green Spaces and Anston Parish Council. Following on from this training sessions have been held for local residents and users of the park to show them how to use the equipment.

In the New Year we will be visiting all of the schools in the ward to discuss the possibility of a defibrillators being installed outside each school as well as identifying any other any other suitable locations.

### **Woodland Drive, North Anston**

Working together with South Yorkshire Police and Neighbourhood Partnerships we are looking at ways to support the residents on Woodland Drive after numerous complaints were received regarding anti-social behaviour and drug related issues in the area. After a number of meetings we are now working with both Housing and Streetpride to improve the existing street lighting and install new CCTV cameras around the Community Centre to help residents feel safe within their community.

### **Community Clean Up Days**

A community skip and clean up day is well received by the community and gives us the opportunity along with partner organisations the opportunity to engage and speak to residents who wouldn't normally call to see us at our ward surgeries. These days are a valuable resource for the residents to help keep their community clean and tidy and in turn it allows us to discuss with residents any on going problems in the area.

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## **BOSTON CASTLE WARD—PRIORITIES AND RESPONSES**

### **Priority 1 - Strengthen belonging and communities feeling safer in Boston Castle ward**

Boston Castle's Councillors have ensured a pro-active, co-ordinated response to such issues.

#### **Duke of Norfolk estate**

- Ward Councillors initiated and led a Tasking Group involving residents, Police, Community Safety and Neighbourhoods Service in response to community concerns regarding high no of burglaries
- Presented proposals to a public meeting at the Town Hall attended by 120+ residents
- As a result, ward budget funded several measures including CCTV on entrance points to estate and barriers installed on a number of alleyways throughout the estate.



Duke of Norfolk residents were given a special award by the Police Crime Commissioner for the pro-active work they did including establishing a WhatsApp group with over 150 residents

#### **Nelson Street, Wharnccliffe**

- Community concerns were raised in response to which Councillors called a meeting with RMBC CPU, SYP and the local Housing provider
- Agreed a letter be sent to every household in area; Acknowledging concerns, Informing residents of actions being taken to address those concerns and Emphasising importance of using recognised channels of reporting

#### **Harcourt Terrace / Badsley Moor Lane and Broom Road / Arundel Road**

- Community concerns were raised in response to which Councillors held a meeting with partners and a follow up meeting with residents in the Clifton Park Garden Room
- Put in CCTV, received positive feedback

#### **Clifton Mount**

- Community concerns were raised at a surgery in response to which Councillors asked officers to develop and deliver an Action Plan
- Progress reports were provided by Councillors and RMBC CPU / Neighbourhoods at subsequent surgeries – received positive feedback



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## Priority 2 - Engage and involve local communities, voluntary and community organisations and businesses to support Boston Castle ward priorities

### Ward Budget – Dragons Den Event 10<sup>th</sup> Oct '17

- Groups were invited to bid into the Ward Budget and pitch to the public at a Dragons Den event
- Residents and Councillors agreed to fund 6 projects including Rotherham African Drummers and Canklow Rainbow Kids Club
- The Boston Castle Ward Budget has also funded other projects including Casting Innovations and Clifton Park Community Gym.



## Priority 3 - Work with the community on specific local developments

Boston Castle ward includes very different neighbourhoods as well as the Town Centre. The Councillors hold ward networking events bringing people together to update and where possible work with them on specific local developments. Progress reports have been provided in relation to; Boston / Clifton Parks, Rothwell Grange and the Town Centre including the relocation of the bus station

## Priority 4 - Celebrate achievements and bring communities together

The ward networking event in December is a chance to say thank you to partners and residents. The Councillors have presented Community Angel Awards in 2017 and 2018.



**STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, 13th December, 2018**

Present:- Councillor McNeely (in the Chair); Councillors Clark, Simpson, Vjestica, Mr. D. Bates, Mr. D. Rowley and Mr. R. Swann, Parish Council Members, and also Mr. P. Edler and Mrs. J. Porter, Independent Members.

Also in attendance was Mr. P. Beavers, Independent Person.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pitchley and Mr. D. Roper-Newman.

**19.       DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Clark declared a personal interest in Minute No. 24 (Outcome of Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing regarding Alleged Breach of the Code of Conduct) and left the room whilst the matter was discussed.

Councillor Simpson declared he was now a Parish Councillor as well as a Borough Councillor.

**20.       MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

With regards to Minute No. 13 the Committee received confirmation that terms of office for the Parish Council Representatives had been agreed up to 2020 and the Representatives advised accordingly.

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 be approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**21.       THE APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL AND INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the report which set out the recommendations in respect of the Parish Council Members on the Standards and Ethics Committee and, following interview, the need for approval of the two candidates for the role of Independent Members to the Standards and Ethics Committee.

The Committee noted the Parish Council Liaison Group had resolved that it would wish for the current Parish Council Members of the Committee to continue as members until the 2020 elections and would continue in these roles until the end of the 2019/2020 municipal year or until further nominations were made to these roles following the Parish Council



elections in May 2020, whichever was the later.

Following the recruitment process to try to fill the three Independent Member vacancies two applications were received. An interview process involving the Chair, Monitoring Officer and one of the Independent Persons confirmed both of the candidates were felt to be appropriate persons to undertake the role of Independent Member. The two candidates were Mags Evers and Adela Bingham.

The Committee welcomed confirmation of the Parish Council Members and the appointment of two more Independent Members. However, this now brought the Independent Member numbers back up to four out of five places, but it was felt the remaining vacancy should still be filled for the remaining Independent Member on the Committee. The Committee asked that this be pursued.

Clarification was also sought on why the Independent Persons were not included in the membership of the Committee and it was pointed out the need for independence and that they attended meetings by invitation only. However, it was suggested that as part of the annual membership reporting the Independent Persons be identified and listed for information.

**Resolved:-** (1) That Council be recommended to approve the continuation of the Parish Council Members on the Standards and Ethics Committee until the end of the 2019/20 Municipal year or until further nominations are made after the Parish Council elections in 2020, whichever is the later.

(2) That Council be recommended to confirm the appointments of Mags Evers and Adela Bingham as Independent Members of the Standards and Ethics Committee for a period of four years.

(3) That the recruitment process continue in order to fill the current vacancy for an Independent Member of the Committee.

(4) That as part of the annual membership reporting the Independent Persons be identified and listed for information.

## **22. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINTS**

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, detailing the progress with the handling of complaints relating to breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members and Town and Parish Councillors. The report listed the current cases of complaint and the action being taken in respect of each one and an updated complaint schedule was circulated.

Details of each related case and recommended outcome were highlighted.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the progress in respect of each case be noted pursuant to the Standards and Ethics Committee Complaints Procedure.

**23. REVIEW OF CONCERNS RAISED PURSUANT TO THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report and appendix presented by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, which provided an overview of the Whistleblowing cases which have been received over the past year.

The appendix to the report set out clearly the description of the concerns received and action.

Clarification was sought on the continuation of any action once a person had left the authority and whether it was normal practice for concerns to be submitted anonymously.

The Committee were advised action still continued even if a person had left the authority and this was recorded on their personal files. Reporting concerns anonymously also safeguarded individuals in circumstances where investigations could take place without identification of where the concern originated.

**Resolved:-** That the Whistleblowing concerns raised over the previous year and the actions taken to address these matters be noted.

**24. OUTCOME OF STANDARDS AND ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING RE ALLEGED BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Deputy Monitoring Officer which set out clearly the outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing which took place on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 in relation to an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by Councillor Brian Cutts and the subsequent decision of Council, at its meeting on 31st October, 2018, to remove Councillor Cutts from the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.

As set out in the Decision Record, the Sub-Committee found that Councillor Brian Cutts' conduct was in breach of the Code of Conduct in that he had failed to treat others with respect. They found that the two of the comments he had made were homophobic, being indicative of a dislike or prejudice towards LGBT people and that in making those comments he had failed to treat others with respect, namely the LGBT community and in particular same sex couples who foster or adopt children or who wish to do so.

The Sub-Committee also found that by making the comments Councillor Brian Cutts was also in breach of the Code of Conduct in that he had done something which may cause the Council to breach any of the equality duties and had conducted himself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing his office of councillor or the Council into disrepute.

The Sub-Committee recommended a number of sanctions that should be applied to the Subject Member:-

- The member shall be censured.
- The formal decision notice setting out the findings of the Sub-Committee shall be published on agenda of the next meeting of the Standards & Ethics Committee.
- The Sub-Committee shall recommend to the Councillor's Group Leader that he be removed from the Committees or Sub-Committees of the Council upon which he sits.
- The Monitoring Officer shall be instructed to arrange equalities training for the Subject Member.
- That the Sub-Committee shall recommend to Council that the Subject Member be removed from all outside appointments to which he has been appointed or nominated by the Council.

The Leader of Councillor Cutts' political group declined to remove him from his role on the Improving Places Select Commission. The equalities training for Councillor Cutts took place on 30th October, 2018 and Council considered the Sub-Committee's recommendation regarding outside bodies at its meeting on 31st October, 2018 and removed Councillor Brian Cutts from the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.

The Committee were pleased with the outcome following the hearing, but expressed its disappointment at the decision of the Leader of the Opposition not to remove Councillor Cutts from the Improving Places Select Commission.

The Committee also realised it had limited powers under the Localism Act, but would await the outcome of the review by the Committee for Standards in Public Life and the outcome of the consultation process by January/February, 2019. A report on the outcome would be submitted to the next meeting in March, 2019.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the outcome of the Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing on 14th September, 2018 be noted.

(2) That the decision of Council at its meeting on 31st October, 2018 to accept the recommendation of the Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee

and to remove Councillor Brian Cutts from the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel be noted.

(3) That the decision by the Leader of the Opposition not to remove Councillor Cutts from the Improving Places Select Commission was disappointing.

## **25. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act (as amended March, 2006) (information relates to finance or business affairs).

## **26. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Head of Internal Audit which provided an update on two recent internal audits covering areas that were included in the Committee's Terms of Reference.

The first audit covered 'Governance', in particular reviewing the Codes of Conduct, Registers of Interest, Gifts and Hospitality, and the Induction Process for Officers and Members.

The second audit covered 'Compliance with Financial Procedure Rules – Virements', this being an area identified by the Assistant Director, Financial Services as a possible area of concern.

Internal Audit were able to give 'Reasonable Assurance' for both reviews. The definition for that level of assurance was that there was 'Reasonable Assurance' that the system of internal control is designed to achieve the service's objectives and minimise risk. However, some weaknesses in the design or inconsistent application of controls put the achievement of some objectives at a low risk'. Recommendations were graded red, amber or green according to their importance.

The Committee welcomed the reports and were comfortable with the levels of authorisation and completion of appropriate registers.

Clarification was sought on the differences between the Members and Officers declarations for gifts and hospitality with a request that a report be submitted to the next meeting in March for consideration.

**Resolved:-** (1) That the work completed by Internal Audit be noted.

(2) That a report be submitted to the next meeting on the differences between the Members and Officers declarations for gifts and hospitality.

**27. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the next meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee take place on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE  
27th November, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Wyatt (in the Chair); Councillors Cowles, Vjestica, Walsh and Bernard Coleman (Independent Person).

Mr. T. De Zoya, Grant Thornton, was also present.

Councillors Allen and Lelliott were in attendance for Minute No. 58 (Regeneration and Environment Directorate's Risk Register).

**43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Minute No. 55 (Appointment of Independent Person) - Bernard Coleman made a Personal Declaration.

**44. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR THE PRESS**

There were no members of the public or press present at this meeting.

**45. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 2ND OCTOBER, 2018**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018.

Arising from Minute No. 32 (Audit Committee Terms of Reference), an update was sought as to whether the updated Terms of Reference had been considered by the Constitution Working Group.

Resolved:- (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit Committee be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

(2) That an update be submitted to the next meeting with regard to the Terms of Reference.

**46. MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS MONITORING REPORT 2018-19**

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Finance Manager outlining a mid-year treasury review.

The review, as set out in the Appendix submitted, highlighted the key changes to the Council's capital activity (the Pls) and the actual and proposed treasury management activity (borrowing and investment).

With regard to investments, the primary governing principle remained security over return and the criteria for selecting counterparties continued to reflect this.



Overall borrowing remained fairly constant over the period covered by the report. The Council would maintain its strategy of being significantly under-borrowed against the capital financing requirement as the most cost effective approach in the current financial climate. The Council's existing Treasury Management Strategy provided for the Council to take out £30M of new borrowing per annum over the next 4 years to reduce the amount of under-borrowing over time. The position would remain under review and an update of the Strategy would be submitted to Members within the Budget and Council Tax 2019/20 report to Council in February, 2019.

With regard to governance, strategies and monitoring were undertaken by the Audit Committee.

The report showed that the underlying economic and financial environment remained difficult for the Council, foremost being the improving but still challenging concerns over investment counterparty risk. This background encouraged the Council to continue maintaining investments short term and with high quality counterparties. The downside of such a policy was that investment returns remained low. The governing principle remained security over return and the criteria for selecting counterparties continued to reflect this.

Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators would form part of the 2019/20 budget report submitted to Council on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

Discussion took place with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Acknowledgement that the delay in taking out new long borrowing did give rise to an element of interest rate risk as long term borrowing rates may rise. However, the situation was closely monitored
- Working with Treasury Management, the interest rates were looked at on an almost daily basis with further updates at a weekly briefing

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

#### **47. EXTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2017-18**

The Finance Manager reported that KPMG had now concluded their 2017/18 audit and had issued their audit certificate on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2018. Both the audit certificate and notice of conclusion of audit had been published on the Council's website.

The audit work had been designed to specifically address the following significant risks:-

- Valuation of PPE
- Pensions Assets and Liabilities
- Faster Close

A copy of the AAL was attached to the report.

The main headlines from the AAL in relation to the accounts and other audit responsibilities were that:-

- The external auditor had issued an unqualified audit opinion on the Authority's financial statements on 31<sup>st</sup> July
- 4 adjusted audit differences were identified. These adjustments did not impact the prime financial statements
- 4 unadjusted audit differences were identified. As the majority related to estimates in property, plant and equipment, no amendment was required as the actual value of the adjustments was not certain
- An unqualified conclusion on the Authority's arrangements to secure value for money (VFM) for 2017/18 on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018
- A risk assessment had been undertaken as part of the VFM audit work to identify key areas impacting on their VFM conclusion. Financial sustainability and delivery of the Children's Services Improvement Plan had been identified
- The Annual Governance Statement approved at the July Audit Committee (Minute No. 24 refers), was consistent with KPMG understanding and compliant with the CIPFA/SOLACE framework on good governance in local government
- The Council's consolidation pack prepared to support the production of Whole of Government Accounts by HM Treasury was consistent with the audited financial statements
- There were no high priority recommendations or other matters that needed to be brought to the attention of the Audit Committee

Resolved:- That the final Annual Audit Letter 2017/18 presented to the Council by its former external auditors, KPMG LLP, be noted and approved for publication on the Council's website.

#### **48. EXTERNAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Further to Minute No. 7 of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2018, consideration was given to a report, presented by Bev Pepperdine, Performance Assurance Manager, providing details of recent and current external audits and inspections including the details of

arrangements that were in place regarding the accountability and governance for implementing recommendations arising therefrom.

The report included detail of progress being made in respect of the following specific areas and Directorates:-

- the “Fresh Start” Improvement Plan;
- Adult Care and Housing;
- Children and Young People’s Services;
- Liberty House
- Regeneration and Environment Services
- Finance and Customer Services

The summary of recommendations from “Active” Inspection and Audit Action Plans was appended to the submitted report.

Senior Managers attended the Annual Conversation with HMI Ofsted on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. This was a formal discussion which included a self-evaluation by Children’s Services and discussion of progress against the 8 recommendations from their previous inspection. It was hoped that a number of the 33 actions identified to address the 8 Ofsted report recommendations would be classed as complete when the outcome of the Annual Conversation was received in January 2019.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the governance arrangements that were currently in place for monitoring and managing the recommendations from external audits and inspections, as now reported, be noted.

(3) That the Audit Committee continue to receive regular reports in relation to external audit and inspections and the progress made in implementing recommendations.

#### **49. USE OF SURVEILLANCE AND ACQUISITION OF COMMUNICATIONS DATA POWERS - UPDATE**

Dermot Pearson, Assistant Director, Legal Services, presented an update on the use of covert surveillance and covert human intelligence sources (CHIS) carried out by Council officers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).

As previously with the Office of Surveillance Commissioners (OSC), the Council was required to notify IPCO of the number of directed surveillance/CHIS authorisations granted in each financial year. The annual return submitted in April for the 2017/18 financial year confirmed that there had been no such authorisations in that period nor had there been any such authorisations so far this calendar year.

The Council was also required to notify the Interception of Communications Commissioner's Office of the number of authorisations for the acquisition and disclosure of communications data granted each calendar year. There had been no such authorisations so far in 2018.

The Council's Policies were considered by the Committee in June, 2018 and re-adopted with minor amendments. However, the publication of the Revised Codes of Practice for Covert Surveillance and Property Interference and for Covert Human Intelligence Sources would require the RIPA Policy to be reviewed before the next scheduled annual review in June 2019.

Resolved:- (1) That it be noted that the Council had not made use of surveillance or acquisition of communication data powers under RIPA to date in 2018.

(2) That a further report be submitted on the implications of the Home Office's revised Codes of Practice on covert surveillance and interference with property and on covert human intelligence sources.

## **50. CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, submitted the refreshed Council Code of Corporate Governance for consideration.

In April 2016 CIPFA (the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) and SOLACE (the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) published revised guidance on delivering good governance in local government. The Council's Code of Corporate Governance was rewritten at that time to set out how it would comply with the new guidance. Although there had been no subsequent changes to the guidance in the last year, an annual review of the Code had been completed in order to ensure it remained up-to-date and relevant to the Council.

The 7 key principles set out in the guidance which underpinned the governance of each local government organisation had not changed. However, how each of those principles would be evidenced in Rotherham had and was set out in the report submitted.

Discussion ensued on the report with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Inclusion of Equalities and Human Rights Implications in accordance with the Council's reporting template
- Key decisions were included within the Forward Plan which was published 28 days before consideration by the Cabinet

Resolved:- (1) That the refreshed version of the Local Code of Corporate Governance be approved.

(2) That Local Code of Corporate Governance be signed off by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council.

**51. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND GUIDE**

Further to Minute No. 48 of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017, Simon Dennis, Corporate Risk Manager, submitted proposed changes to the Risk Policy and Strategy.

The changes to the Policy and Strategy were:-

- Removal of references to structures and processes that no longer existed
- Greater emphasis on high impact, hidden risks as well as a summary of the different types of risk that the Council might face
- Recognition of the “word based” version of the Risk Register that Directorates could now use instead of the excel version
- Inclusion of Appendix F setting out the numbering conventions that the Council applied to risk management

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The Risk Champions Group met on a monthly basis where discussions included the wider changing climate and associated risks to the Council
- The Local Resilience Forum met to discuss the forthcoming Brexit

Resolved:- That the revised Risk Policy and Strategy be approved.

**52. AUDIT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN**

Consideration was given to the proposed forward work plan for the Audit Committee covering the period January, 2019 to November, 2019.

It was noted that the next edition of the forward work plan would include the updated schedule of reports provided by Grant Thornton.

Resolved:- That the Audit Committee forward work plan, now submitted, be supported and any amendments arising actioned in due course.

**53. EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report submitted by Grant Thornton UK LLP providing details of the progress of the external audit of the Council's accounts and financial statements for the 2018/19 financial year, for the period ending 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

Mr. T. De Zoysa (representatives of Grant Thornton UK LLP) presented the report and answered questions from Members.

It was noted that quarterly liaison meetings were to be held with the Chief Executive and the Strategic Director, Finance and Customer Services, throughout 2018/19 as well as a routine meeting with key members of the Senior Finance team on 3<sup>rd</sup> December to discuss key accounting and auditing issues impacting on the 2018/19 accounts.

Key Finance staff would be invited to Grant Thornton's annual accounts workshop in February, 2019.

A Local Authority Audit Committee Chairs and Members event was to be held in Leeds on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

Resolved:- That the report be received and its contents noted.

**54. ITEMS FOR REFERRAL FOR SCRUTINY**

There were no items for referral to Scrutiny.

**55. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER**

(Mr. Bernard Coleman, Independent Member, left the room whilst this item was being discussed.)

David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, presented a report setting out the current arrangements with regard to the Audit Committee's Independent Member.

The Council had amended the Committee's Terms of Reference in 2015 to include the provision for the appointment of an Independent Member. On 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, Mr. Bernard Coleman had been appointed for a 3 year period.

The report set out 3 options for consideration as to how it wished to fill the vacancy that would arise on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2018:-

Option 1 – commence a recruitment process for a new Independent Member

Option 2 – appoint the current Independent Member for a further 3 year term until December 2021

Option 3 – appoint the current Independent Member for a 12 month period to allow a recruitment process to take place.

Discussion ensued on the 3 options before the Committee.

Resolved:- (1) That Option 3 be approved by the Committee.



(2) That the Council, at its meeting on 5th December, be recommended to appoint Mr. Bernard Coleman as Independent Member of the Audit Committee until 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019.

(Mr. Bernard Coleman, Independent Member, rejoined the meeting.)

**56. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That under Section 100(A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 (information relates to finance and business affairs).

**57. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report presented by David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, which provided a summary of Internal Audit work completed during 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018, and the key issues that had arisen therefrom.

The completion of the audit plan had been impacted by 2 staff vacancies within the Audit Team. Recruitment was underway with 2 new starters expected to commence work in January 2019 and the secondments out of and into the team had become permanent.

Performance against key indicators had improved meeting the required level.

The updated plan was given in Appendix A and reasons for the deferral of specific reviews were set out in Appendix B of the report submitted along with proposed additions to the plan resulting from the consultation exercise and management requests. The inclusion of an audit on Eastwood Enforcement was discussed.

4 audits had been finalised since the last Audit Committee meeting one of which Partial Assurance; the remaining 3 all had Substantial or Reasonable Assurance.

Appendix D set out details of the unplanned responsive work completed since the last Audit Committee with Appendix E summarising Internal Audit's performance against a number of Indicators.

Appendix F showed the number of outstanding recommendations that had passed their original due date, age rated. For those over 120 days old the detail was then given, where they had been deferred the comment received from the Manager was given and where there was no change to the due date or comment, the Manager had not updated the system.

Discussion ensued on various matters contained within the agreed actions section of the report which included:-

- Setting of realistic completion dates by managers
- Adult Social Care Direct Payments
- Liquid Logic

Resolved:- (1) That the Internal Audit work undertaken since meetings of the Audit Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018, and the key issues arising therefrom be noted.

(2) That the information submitted regarding the performance of Internal Audit and the actions being taken by management in respect of the outstanding actions be noted.

(3) That a progress report be submitted by Performance and Planning on Liquid Logic.

## **58. REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT'S DIRECTORATE RISK REGISTER**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Paul Woodcock, Acting Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment, and Tom Smith, Assistant Director, Community Safety and Street Scene, providing details of the Risk Register and risk management activity within the Regeneration and Environment's Directorate.

Cabinet Members for Jobs and the Local Economy and Cleaner, Greener Communities, were also in attendance.

The Committee sought reassurance on the Risk Register and risk management activity in particular highlighting:-

- How the Register was maintained/monitored and at what frequency
- Involvement of the Cabinet Members for Jobs and the Local Economy, Waste Roads and Community Safety and Cleaner, Greener Communities
- How risks were included on and removed from the Register
- Anti-fraud activity in the Directorate

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised:-

- The Register currently had 17 risks listed 4 of which were also deemed Strategic risks
- Risks were regularly discussed and reviewed at the Directorate Leadership Team and escalated to the next strategic level for inclusion on the Risk Register where necessary
- The Risk Register was a standard item at the monthly meetings with the 3 Cabinet Members

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- 2 new risks added to the Register
- Update of Emergency Plan
- Planned approach to fraud
- Licensing Service as a whole
- Updating required with regard to members of staff and Commissioners
- Household Waste Collection Service
- Security of Council buildings

Resolved:- That the progress and current position in relation to risk management activity in the Regeneration and Environment Directorate, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

**59. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:- That a further meeting be held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, commencing at 2.00 p.m.

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**  
**21st November, 2018**

**Present:-**

Councillor David Roche	Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and Health <b>(in the Chair)</b>
Tony Clabby	Healthwatch Rotherham
Chris Edwards	Chief Operating Officer, Rotherham CCG
Carole Lavell	NHS England
Anne-Marie Lubanski	Strategic Director, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health
Dr. Jason Page	Governance Lead, Rotherham CCG
Jon Stonehouse	Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services
Janet Wheatley	Voluntary Action Rotherham

**Also Present:**

Miles Crompton	Performance, Intelligence and Improvement, RMBC
Lydia George	Rotherham CCG
Gordon Laidlaw	Communications Lead, Rotherham CCG
Phil Morris	Business Manager, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children's Board
Councillor Short	Vice-Chair, Health Select Commission
Becky Woolley	Policy and Partnership Officer, RMBC

**Report Presenters:**

Christine Cassell	Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children's Board
Gilly Brenner	Public Health Consultant, RMBC
Nick Leigh-Hunt	Public Health Consultant, RMBC

A member of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mallinder and Watson, Sharon Kemp (RMBC), Terri Roche and Kathryn Singh (RDaSH).

**25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

**26. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

The member of the public present at the meeting did not wish to ask any questions.

**27. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 19TH SEPTEMBER, 2018**

The minutes of the meeting of the previous meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, were considered.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, be approved as a correct record.

Arising from Minute No. 15(4) (HWB Strategy Aim 4 Update), it was noted that a very successful event had been held recently at Voluntary Action Rotherham attended by a wide range of providers and voluntary groups.

Arising from Minute No. 15(6) (Housing Strategy Refresh), it was noted that Public Health had been included in the work with regard to health inequalities.

Arising from Minute No. 16(5) (HWB Strategy Aim 2 Update), it was noted that extra funding had been received from the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System and was a joint project between the RCCG and the Council. An update would be provided as the project developed.

Arising from Minute No. 18 (Rotherham Integrated Care Partnership Agreement), the Agreement had been signed off in consultation with the Chair.

Arising from Minute No. 16 (Better Mental Health For All), it was noted that the Trailblazer funding process had not been finalised as yet but a report would be submitted in due course.

**28. COMMUNICATIONS**

(1) An email link had been circulated to all Board members with regard to the LGA case study of Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board.

(2) A joint HIV awareness raising event was to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> November in Riverside House.

**29. LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD AND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORTS 2017/18**

**Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board**

Christine Cassell, Chair of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board, presented the Board's annual report 2017-18 outlining the role of the Board, its relationship to the Health and Wellbeing Board and the context for the 2017-18 annual report which was:-

- Governance and accountability arrangements
- Effectiveness of arrangements to keep Rotherham children safe
- Learning and Improvement Framework
- Safer Workforce
- Strategic Priorities for 2016-18

Christine drew attention to the following issues:-

- There had been a number of external inspections which were a very important part of the checking of the safeguarding system in Rotherham. The outcomes reflected the significant improvement particularly in Children's Services over a very short period of time
- The improvements in other agencies were to be celebrated across the safeguarding system and the staff involved should be congratulated
- There were still further improvements to be made, as highlighted in the inspection reports, and the work of the Board itself highlighted areas where there was a need for further safeguarding improvement
- It was a particularly important time in the improvement journey that Rotherham and its partners were working to ensure that safeguarding really was at the heart of the work that took place across the partnership as well as the good practice and further improving practice was embedded into day-to-day work
- Demand was challenging whilst budgets were reducing. This was a national issue
- The problem in Rotherham was exasperated by the effective multi-agency working on complex cases and by the impact of the investigations that were ongoing through Operation Stovewood. Once the perpetrators were detected through the investigations and prosecutions commenced, it had implications for any children of those families. Whilst the exact number of perpetrators' children could not be predicted, there would be large numbers of children where consideration had to be given to their safety within the family context
- The effect of management of demand would be something that the Board would continue to monitor whilst supporting and continuing to challenge
- The specific areas that the Board would be driving for improvement immediately included neglect and potential links between neglect and poverty, effective Early Help Services, continued focus on CSE but to widen the scope to look at other forms of exploitation of young people and their vulnerabilities



**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 21/11/18**

- Continued development of the work established through the protocol across the Local Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards and focus on safeguarding in Rotherham
- The need to collectively improve the understanding of communities and target support services appropriately and aim to increase the resilience of local communities

As a consequence of the Children and Social Work Act and subsequent Statutory Guidance, LSCBs would cease to exist in their current form; there would be a different arrangement for the safeguarding of children and the 3 key partners – Health through the CCG, Police and the Local Authority – who would be required to design new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements which would have more flexibility than currently prescribed for LSCBs. A working group had been established and currently working up proposals for the way the new arrangements would work. The commitment from the 3 partners with the new arrangements would build on the strength of the current partnership and make further improvements in the work of protecting children across Rotherham.

A discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Although the survey that had shown a decline in the number of young people who felt safe was a perception survey and not always accurate, it needed to be taken seriously and explore with the young people why they had those views. Sometimes young people gave messages that were not very comfortable but work was needed to look into what had led them to make those comments
- Work would take place with statutory groups with regard to their attendance at and commitment to the Board. Consideration would be given to the structure and attendees as part of the new arrangements

### **Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017/18**

Anne-Marie Lubanski, Strategic Director, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, presented the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board 2017/18 Annual Report.

During 2017/18 the Board had continued to work to promote and protect vulnerable adults in Rotherham and had met bi-monthly to ensure the hard work of the previous year was built upon and that all partnership working was developed and strengthened in the sub-groups.

Anne-Marie highlighted:-

- The shared work area in terms of ensuring Adults and Children's safeguarding

- The Local Safeguarding Adults Board was still in its infancy and was working on making sure the foundations were correct and the partnership working
- The Board had responsibility for those who worked in a significant provider area and had to ensure it had the challenge and processes as well as the appropriate representation on the Board
- The Board would continue to create policies and procedures and the South Yorkshire footprint. Work was already taking place to ensure that the policy and procedures within the statutory organisation were tied into that of the Board
- Work still ongoing on an agreement with regard to the setting of thresholds for vulnerable adults
- Work was taking place on modern slavery and human trafficking which crossed over particularly with the Children's Board and the Safer Rotherham Partnership and would be a continued priority for 2018/19
- The case studies included within the report gave a clear indication of what the organisations were undertaking as well as the journeys but also the good work and the areas that needed to be developed further
- 2 Safeguarding Adult Reviews had taken place and action plans developed. There had been positive learning about how to work together

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The increase in the number of Section 42 enquiries would be a mixture of more cases coming through and improvement in recognising them. Following any awareness raising there tended to be a rise in the number of referrals
- The Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards sat outside safeguarding but it was important that Safeguarding Boards had linkage to it. There had been a decrease in the number of authorisations granted and not granted to that of 2015/16. It was an area that was monitored
- The Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards were very technical. A provider with a 60 bed facility may submit 60 DOLS potentially unnecessarily because they had a statutory duty to request a standard variation order to cover that. Some homes would include everyone and then sift through as to who actually required one. It was a challenge to all local authorities and the health environment

Christine and Anne-Marie were thanked for their reports.

It was noted that Sandi Keene, Independent Chair, would be stepping down from the position in 2019.

Resolved:- That the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Adults Boards' annual reports 2017-18 be noted.

### **30. REFRESHED JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION**

Gilly Brenner, Consultant in Public Health, reported that the current Rotherham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was due to be refreshed. This provided an opportunity to consider rationalising the content, a better fit to drive current priorities and ensuring it was more meaningful to commissioners, Service providers and partners.

All partners were actively encouraged to participate in a consultation process to shape the design and that Board members provide a considered response to the consultation.

It was proposed that key interested representatives from organisations be identified/confirmed through the consultation who would then form part of a working group of authors who contributed to the JSNA on an ongoing basis.

In order to provide the required level of data and accompanying contextual information within current capacity, it was suggested that the JSNA comprise of strategic overview of key areas at a Rotherham level and at Ward profiles and that depth of certain priority topics was added according to priority. The JSNA author group would support the provision of more indepth data where a priority was agreed. Prioritisation would be determined where there was a defined current use and demand for information and where there was a sponsor who could lead a topic-specific working group to support collation of the required information.

An interactive presentation was given allowing Board members to express their views on the proposal which included:-

- The Ward profiles drawn up by the Authority last year should be shared with a wider audience but would need to be tweaked to take account of the Health localities
- Recognition required of the Integrated Social Care Partnership and the Sheffield City Region in the context of bidding documents
- Did the current structure of the document exclude people if they felt they did not belong within the particular headings?

- The document would only be available electronically with the ability for the reader to save/print certain sections themselves

Resolved:- (1) That the proposal of a refresh of the JSNA be approved.

(2) That senior managers from a wide range of partner organisations be encouraged to be involved in the strategic and policy design and commissioning or service delivery and take part in the consultation to ensure the revised JSNA was meaningful, well used and fit for purpose.

(3) That discussions take place between Miles Crompton and Chris Edwards with regard to the Ward profiles to take account of the Health localities.

**Action:- Miles Crompton/Chris Edwards**

(4) That the link to the document be circulated to enable Board members to forward to relevant colleagues to ascertain their views.

**Action: Gilly Brenner**

(5) That key contact details for each organisation be forwarded to Gilly Brenner.

**Action:- All Board members**

(6) That the Kirklees JSNA be circulated to Board members for information.

**Action:- Becky Woolley**

### 31. **UPDATE ON THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY AIMS 1 AND 3**

**Aim 1: All children get the best start in life and go on to achieve their potential**

Jon Stonehouse, Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services, together with Collette Bailey, Head of Locality, presented an update in relation to Aim 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025 focussing on Priorities 1 and 2 :-

Priority 1 – Ensuring every child gets the best start in life (pre-conception to age 3)

Priority 2 – Improving health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people through integrated commissioning and service delivery

With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, following the principles of Signs of Safety, the Board considered:-

What's working well

What are we worried about

What needs to happen

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The 3 months consultation on the SEMH Strategy would commence in January 2019 and would include the Board
- A postholder had recently been appointed to develop the Joint Obesity Strategy
- Public Health had already commissioned Obesity work particularly for children above the age of 8 years and their families. It was focussed mainly in the Public Health arena but also within the Early Help offer putting together programmes with parents around healthy eating, weaning and early years diet. The other main arena was within the education system with schools now addressing it through PHCP. There were a number of strands that could have influence at low/no cost although it was acknowledged that there had been difficulties in the past particularly in relation to Obesity Services
- Healthwatch Rotherham had recently published a review of CAMHS recommending the removal of Autism from the Service and commissioning a standalone Autism Service to replace what currently was not working within CAMHS. The RCCG had recognised the difficulties with Autism Pathway and was a top priority

### **Aim 3: All Rotherham people live well for longer**

Nick Leigh-Hunt, Public Health Consultant, presented an update in relation to Aim 3 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025.

With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, following the principles of Signs of Safety, the Board considered:-

What's working well  
What are we worried about  
What needs to happen

Discussion ensued with the following issue raised/clarified:-

- Consideration of targeting occupations/work place settings to improve the uptake of health checks

Discussion ensued on the issue of Board Sponsors and Lead Officers and the rationale for the previous decision with regard to Board Sponsors. It was felt timely for a refresh of the Board Sponsors for each of the Strategy Aims.

Resolved:- (1) That the progress made against Aims 1 and 3 be noted.

(2) That an update be provided at the next meeting on Obesity.

**Action:- Terri Roche**

(3) That an email be sent to Board members regarding Board Sponsors for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy Aims and discussed further at the January 2019 meeting.

**Action:- Becky Woolley**

### **32. HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY - DRAFT PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK**

Becky Wooley, Policy and Partnership Officer, reported that a performance framework was being developed to measure the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Minute No. 6 of 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 refers).

Attached to the report was the first draft of the framework which included a longlist of potential indicators. It was envisaged that the final performance framework would be in the form of a scorecard and would include approximately 3 high level indicators for each Aim with clear targets set for 2025.

Resolved:- (1) That the approach of the performance framework be endorsed.

(2) That Board members consider the longlist of potential indicators and notify Becky Woolley of their thoughts by 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Action:- All Board Members/Becky Woolley**

(3) That the full performance framework be submitted to the January 2019 Board meeting with performance updates submitted to future Board meetings.

### **33. ACTIVE FOR HEALTH**

Amy Roden, Public Health, and Dr. Simon Nichols, Sheffield Hallam University, gave the following powerpoint presentation on insights from the Rotherham Active for Health Research Projects 2015-2018:-

What is Active for Health (AFH)

- A safe and robust multi-condition sport and physical activity project linking healthcare services to community physical activity opportunities. With the aim to facilitate long term adherence to sport and physical activity to aid recovery and condition management

Why was Active for Health developed

- Research evidence for long term conditions and physical activity
- Need and demand locally
- Specific activity for inactive patients e.g. cancer, cardiac and heart failure, COPD, falls, stroke, MSK lower back pain
- Evidence and models from previous Falls pilot work
- Opportunity to access large pilot funding pot – Get Healthy Get Active for piloting projects with physical activity/long term conditions



### The 'Active for Health' Programme

#### Step 1 Rehabilitation

- Lead exercise professionals work with patients in health care services to motivate referrals into step 2

#### Step 2 Moving on

- 12 week condition specific physical activity programme. Delivered by level 4 instructors

#### Step 3 Keeping active

- Maintenance sessions aimed at continuing recovery

### How the programme was delivered – what's different

- Level 4 exercise specialists to ensure patients gained condition specific physiological outcomes
- Procured the service – 2 providers, 2 reasons; more effective management/long term sustainability
- Borough-wide community based approach
- Linked into relevant local, regional, national programmes to enhance delivery at local level (clinical champions, SPS, Health trainers)

### The evaluation of Active for Health

"To what extent the Active for Health Pathway is effective and cost effective in supporting and sustaining inactive individuals into physical activity opportunities/sport"

#### Primary Outcomes

- Physical activity change
- Cost benefit/health service utilisation

#### Secondary Outcomes

- Quality of life
- Patient and stakeholder experience

### Sustainability – What's happening with the project now?

- Sustainability plan
- Provision will continue
- Funding secured for Falls and Cancer programme 2018/19
- Providers will continue to offer a modified service for all other conditions
- Final research report – December 2018

Discussion ensued on the presentation with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Someone diagnosed with Cancer and clinically obese would be referred through their GP or other health care professional. Cancer Nursing Teams at the Hospital had signposted patients
- The Cardiac referral form was very complicated and time consuming for a GP to complete and felt that the information required was out of proportion for patients to get exercise. However, it was the level of

information required in terms of medication, condition etc. before an instructor could set an exercise programme. This level of information only applied to cardiac patients

- The programme had known of the patients that needed activities to be delivered in community-based facilities and had linked them up into other activities. It had to also look at the differences between getting generally inactive people active
- Active for Health was trying to do things differently and connect everything together. There was no real shortage of opportunities to undertake physical activity but the big change for Active for Health was to get the clinicians and hospitals to work with it
- Across the whole of the project the retention rates after 3 months were 60-70%. The reasons for drop outs would be included in the final report.

Amy and Simon were thanked for their presentation.

Resolved:- (1) That the presentation be noted.

(2) That when produced, Amy Roden provide Becky Woolley with the final report for circulation to the Board.

**Action:- Amy Roden/Becky Woolley**

**34. ROTHERHAM HOSPICE QUALITY ACCOUNT**

The Rotherham Hospice Quality Account 2018 was submitted for information.

**35. ROTHERHAM INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERSHIP PLACE PLAN - PERFORMANCE REPORT: QUARTER 1.**

The Quarter 1 performance of the Rotherham Integrated Care Partnership Place Plan was submitted for information.

**36. MINUTES OF THE ROTHERHAM INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERSHIP HELD ON 3RD OCTOBER, 2018**

The minutes of the Rotherham Integrated Care Partnership Place Board held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018, were noted.

**37. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 23RD JANUARY, 2019, COMMENCING AT 9.00 A.M.**

Resolved:- That a further meeting be held on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019, commencing at 9.00 a.m. venue to be confirmed.

**PLANNING BOARD**  
**6th December, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Atkin, Bird, Sansome, Steele, John Turner, Walsh, Whysall, Williams and Short.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Andrews, D. Cutts, M. Elliott, Fenwick-Green and Tweed.

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-  
<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

**59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

**60. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board held on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, be approved as a correct record.

**61. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS**

There were no site visits nor deferments recommended.

**62. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS**

Resolved:- (1) That, on the development proposals now considered, the requisite notices be issued and be made available on the Council's website and that the time limits specified in Sections 91 and 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 apply.

(2) That application RB2018/0909 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting and subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report.

**63. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PLANNING REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT**

Consideration was given to the report highlighted the current performance of the Development Management team.

The report detailed the performance statistics for Development Management against the Government targets for each application type. It also set out what enforcement action had been prioritised against the new Enforcement Plan during 2018.

Development Management, like all other services within the Council, had to save money year on year and was now at a resource level that would struggle to maintain performance if it was subject to further reductions.

A considerable amount of work had been undertaken to ensure the service was as efficient as possible and this, amongst a few other reasons, had been recognised by the RTPi in awarding Rotherham as the 'Local Authority Planning Team of the Year' 2018.

**Resolved:-** That the report be received and the contents noted.

**64. UPDATES**

The following update information was provided:-

- The scheme of delegation had recently been changed which in the main affected courtesy consultation planning applications. This would now mean that only controversial and/or those applications where the development was close to the Rotherham boundary would be submitted to the Board.

**65. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at 9.00 a.m.

**PLANNING BOARD**  
**10th January, 2019**

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Andrews, Atkin, Bird, D. Cutts, M. Elliott, Fenwick-Green, Sansome, Steele, John Turner, Tweed, Walsh, Whysall and Williams.

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-

<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

**66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

**67. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2018 (HEREWITH)**

**68. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS**

There were no site visits or deferments recommended.

**69. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS**

Resolved:- (1) That, on the development proposals now considered, the requisite notices be issued and be made available on the Council's website and that the time limits specified in Sections 91 and 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 apply.

In accordance with the right to speak procedure, the following people attended the meeting and spoke about the following application:-

- Erection of toilet block to side & single storey extension to front at 131 Bawtry Road Wickersley for Mr Baker (RB2018/1747)

Mr. D. Baker (Applicant)  
Mrs. M. Godfrey (Objector)

(2) That, with regard to application RB2018/1451:-

(a) subject to a satisfactory legal agreement with the applicant made under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the purposes of securing:-

- Financial contribution of £17,204.88 towards the improvement of existing green space, in particular for the provision of children's equipped play at a site to be agreed with green spaces team.
- Financial contribution of £21,000 towards sustainable transport measures.

(b) subject to the satisfactory securing of such an agreement, the Council resolves to grant planning permission for the proposed development subject to the reasons for grant and conditions listed in the submitted report and subject to amendment to Condition No. 8 and the addition of two new conditions inserted after Condition No. 8 making fifteen conditions in total to read:-

08

Above ground development shall not begin until a foul and surface water drainage scheme for the site, based on sustainable drainage principles and an assessment of the hydrological and hydro geological context of the development, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include the construction details and shall subsequently be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is completed. The scheme to be submitted shall demonstrate:-

- The utilisation of holding sustainable drainage techniques (e.g. soakaways);
- The limitation of surface water run-off to equivalent brownfield rates (i.e. minimum of 30% reduction in flows based on existing flows and a 1 in 1 year return period);
- The ability to accommodate surface water run-off on-site up to the critical 1 in 100 year event plus a 30% allowance for climate change, based upon the submission of drainage calculations; and
- A maintenance plan including responsibility for the future maintenance of drainage features and how this is to be guaranteed for the lifetime of the development.

Reason

To ensure that the development can be properly drained in accordance with the Local plan and the NPPF.

09

A flood route drawing showing how exceptional flows generated within or from outside the site will be managed including overland flow routes, internal and external levels and design of buildings to prevent entry of water, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority and the development shall not be brought into use until such approved details are implemented.

Reason

To ensure that the development can be properly drained and will be safe from flooding in accordance with the Local plan and the NPPF.

10

Before the development is brought into use, that part of the site to be used by vehicles shall be constructed with either;



- a/ a permeable surface and sub-base, or;
- b/ an impermeable surface with water collected and taken to a separately constructed water retention/discharge system within the site.

The area shall thereafter be maintained in a working condition.

#### Reason

To ensure that the development can be properly drained in accordance with the Local plan and the NPPF

(3) That application RB2018/1747 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting and subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report.

(4) That applications RB2018/1857 and RB2018/1859 be referred to the Government Office as a departure, and if they indicate that they do not wish to call in the application, that permission be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting and subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report and subject to an amendment to Condition 28 for both applications to now read:-

28

The approved advanced planting details submitted in application RB2017/1791 shall be implemented for the site excluding the area around the new access which shall be planted in accordance with plan references Softworks Proposals 1 718\_401 Rev C; Softworks Proposals 2 718\_402 Rev C and Softworks Proposals 3 718\_403 Rev C submitted on the 03-01-19 as below:-

- i. Prior to the first occupation of the part or phase of development to which the screen relates: or
- ii. In accordance with an implementation timetable agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Any plants or trees which within a period of 5 years from completion of planting die, are removed or damaged, or that fail to thrive shall be replaced. Assessment of requirements for replacement planting shall be carried out on an annual basis in September of each year and any defective work or materials discovered shall be rectified before 31st December of that year.

## 70. UPDATES

There were no updates to report.

## 71. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019 at 9.00 a.m.

**LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE  
26th November, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Buckley, Napper and Sheppard.

**24. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Police Act 1997 and Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (business affairs and prevention of crime).

**25. APPLICATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES**

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to applications for the renewal and review and of hackney carriage/private hire drivers' licences in respect of Messrs. Z.I. and I.A.

Messrs Z.I. and I.A. attended the meeting and their representatives and were interviewed by the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:- (1) That the hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. Z.I. be suspended until such time as he satisfactorily completes an appropriate driving assessment course – the details of which are to be provided by the Council.

(2) That the application for the renewal of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. I.A. be approved and he be granted a licence, but he be issued with a letter of warning stressing the importance of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers' Policy regarding vehicle cameras and their use.

(Councillor Sheppard declared that he is a contact of one of the representatives via social media, but they did not discuss cases and nor had he had any involvement with any of the applicants)

**26. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE**

Further to Minute No. 17 of the meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Licensing Manager, concerning an application for the grant of a private hire operator's licence in respect of Mr. F.J. (UBL).

Representatives from UBL attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:- That the application for the grant of a private hire operator's licence in respect of Mr. F.J. (UBL) be approved for one year, subject to an amendment to Condition No. 3 of the previously approved licensing conditions regarding the inclusion of authorised electronic storage methods of data. There will also be an amendment as to the data to be kept in respect of every booking and complaint to include the individual's contact details.

**27. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Licensing Manager, concerning an application for the grant of a private hire operator's licence in respect of Mr. W.H. (G.F.).

Mr. W.H. attended the meeting and was interviewed by the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:- That the application for the grant of a private hire operator's licence in respect of Mr. W.H. (G.F.) be approved for one year, subject to a condition restricting the number of vehicles to two.

**28. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee be held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 at 9.30 a.m.

**LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE  
17th December, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Elliot, Hague and McNeely.

**29. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Police Act 1997 and Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (business affairs and prevention of crime).

**30. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES**

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to applications for the renewal and review and of hackney carriage/private hire drivers' licences in respect of Messrs. M.K., R.R., J.H. and M.A.

Mr. M.K. attended the meeting with his representative and was interviewed by the Sub-Committee.

It was noted that Mr. M.A. had surrendered his hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence.

Resolved:- (1) That the hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. M.K.. be revoked.

(2) That consideration of the review of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. R.R. be deferred and he be afforded the opportunity of attending a future meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee.

(3) That consideration of the review of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. J.H. be deferred and he be afforded the opportunity of attending a future meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee.

(4) That the surrender of the hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence by Mr. M.A. be noted.

(Councillor Beaumont declared that she used to teach Mr. M.K. and therefore withdraw from the meeting and did not take part in any discussion or decision making of the case.)

**LICENSING BOARD-SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**19th December, 2018**

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Clark, Reeder and Sheppard.

**31. HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Licensing Manager, concerning the following applications for the grant of promoter's permits to carry out a house-to-house collection:-

Organisation	Area	Date
Beads of Courage UK	Whole of Borough	12 months from 1 <sup>st</sup> January, 2019
Cancer Research and Genetics UK	Whole of Borough	3 <sup>rd</sup> December, 2018 to 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2019
National Deaf Children's Society	Whole of Borough	1 <sup>st</sup> December, 2018 to 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2019
North of England Children's Cancer Research	Whole of Borough	1 <sup>st</sup> December, 2018 to 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2019
North of England Children's Cancer Research	Whole of Borough	1 <sup>st</sup> January to 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2019
Woodlands Cancer Care	Whole of Borough	12 months from 3 <sup>rd</sup> December, 2018

Resolved:- (1) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by Beads of Courage UK for a promoter's permit be refused on the grounds:-

- That the total amount likely to be applied for charitable purposes as a result of the collection was inadequate in proportion to the values of the proceeds likely to be received.
- That remuneration in relation to the total amount is likely to be, or has been, retained or received out of the proceeds of the collection.

(2) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by Cancer Research and Genetics UK for a promoter's permit be refused due to the submission of insufficient financial information.

(3) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by the National Deaf Children's Society for a promoter's permit be deferred and representatives of the organisation be invited to the Licensing Board Sub-Committee meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, to present further information.

(4) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by the North of England Children's Cancer Research for a promoter's permit be refused on the grounds that the total amount likely to be applied for charitable purposes as a result of the collection was inadequate in proportion to the values of the proceeds likely to be received.

(5) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by the Woodlands Cancer Care for a promoter's permit be deferred and representatives of the organisation be invited to the Licensing Board Sub-Committee meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, to present further information.

**32. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Police Act 1997 and Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (business affairs and prevention of crime).

**33. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES**

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to applications for the renewal and review and of hackney carriage/private hire drivers' licences in respect of Messrs. N.A., B.T., N.A., S.K., K.M. AND H.I.

Messrs. N.A., B.T., N.A., S.K. and H.I. attended the meeting with their representatives and were interviewed by the Sub-Committee.

Resolved:- (1) That the application for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. N.A. be approved and he be granted a licence for a period of three years.

(2) That the application for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. B.T. be approved and he be granted a licence for a period of three years.

(3) That the application for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. N.A. be approved and he be granted a licence for a period of three years.



(4) That the application for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr.S.K. be approved and he be granted a licence for a period of three years.

(5) That consideration of the review of a hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. K.M. be deferred and he be afforded the opportunity of attending a future meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee.

(6) That the hackney carriage/private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr. H.I. be suspended until such time as he satisfactorily completes an appropriate driving assessment course – the details of which are to be provided by the Council.

(Councillor Sheppard declared that he is a contact of one of the representatives via social media, but they did not discuss cases and nor had he had any involvement with any of the applicants)