



Council

Wednesday 26 May 2021

2.00 p.m.

Magna, Magna Way, Rotherham S60 1FD

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council 

WELCOME TO TODAY'S MEETING

GUIDANCE FOR THE PUBLIC

The Council is composed of 59 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. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain private information and these will be marked accordingly on the agenda.

Council meetings are recorded and streamed live, or subsequently uploaded to 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 have any queries on this agenda, please contact:-

Contact:-

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Date of Publication:-

18th May, 2021

COUNCIL

Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

THE MAYOR (Councillor Jenny Andrews)
DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Ian Jones)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Sharon Kemp)

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

ANSTON AND WOODSETTS

BAUM-DIXON, Timothy J.
MCCLURE, Emma J.
WILSON, Tracey H.

ASTON AND TODWICK

BACON, Joshua
BARKER, Aaron

AUGHTON AND SWALLOWNEST

AUSTIN, Jack C.
PITCHLEY, Lyndsay

BOSTON CASTLE

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

BRAMLEY AND RAVENFIELD

MILLS, Lewis H.M.
REYNOLDS, Gregory

BRINSWORTH

CARTER, Adam J.
CARTER, Charlotte R.

DALTON AND THRYBERGH

BAKER-ROGERS, Joanna
SYLVESTER, Michael D.P.

DINNINGTON

CASTLEDINE-DACK, Sophie
WHOMERSLEY, Benjamin J.
WOODING, Charlie Andrew

GREASBROUGH

ALLEN, Sarah A.
ELLIOTT, Robert W.

HELLABY AND MALTBY WEST

ANDREWS, Jenny
BALL, Simon A.

HOOBER

BARLEY, Emily J.
LELLIOTT, Denise
ROCHE, David J.

KEPPEL

BROWNE, Tony
CLARK, Maggi
HAGUE, Paul

KILNHURST AND SWINTON (EAST)

CUSWORTH, Victoria
SANSOME, Stuart J.

MALTBY EAST

HUNTER, Lee J.
TINSLEY, Adam J.

RAWMARSH EAST

HUGHES, Rachel E.M.
SHEPPARD, David

RAWMARSH WEST

BIRD, Bob
THOMPSON, Jill

ROTHER VALE

BROOKES, Amy C.
MIRO, Firas

ROTHERHAM EAST

COOKSEY, Wendy
HALEEM, Rukhsana B.
KHAN, Tajamal

ROTHERHAM WEST

AVEYARD, Ben
JONES, Ian P.
KEENAN, Eve

SITWELL

BURNETT, Simon L.
FISHER, David F.
GRIFFIN, Tony

SWINTON ROCKINGHAM

MONK, Gina
WYATT, Ken

THURCROFT & WICKERSLEY

COLLINGHAM, Zachary A.
SINGLETON, Thomas R.

WALES

BECK, Dominic E.
HAVARD, Marnie A.

WATH

ATKIN, Alan
COWEN, Sheila A.

WICKERSLEY NORTH

ELLIS, Sue
HODDINOTT, Emma E.
READ, Chris

Council Meeting Agenda

Time and Date:-

Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

Venue:-

Magna, Magna Way, Rotherham, S60 1FD

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

To elect a Mayor and Chair of the Council for the 2021-22 municipal year.

One nomination has been received:- Councillor Jenny Andrews

“That Councillor Jenny Andrews be elected Chair of the Rotherham Borough Council for the ensuing municipal year and that (s)he be entitled to the style of Mayor by virtue of Section 245(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.”

Proposer – Councillor Roche Seconder – Councillor Pitchley

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect a Deputy Mayor and Vice-Chair of the Council for the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

4. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CADETS

To note the appointment of the Mayor's Cadets for the 2021-22 municipal year.

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

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. 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.

8. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING (Pages 7 - 66)

To receive the record of proceedings of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 3rd, reconvened meeting on 10th March and extraordinary Council meeting held on 19th March, 2021, and to approve the accuracy thereof.

9. 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.

10. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 67 - 70)

To elect a Leader of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

11. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT

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

12. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING (Pages 71 - 83)

To note the minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 22nd March, 2021.

13. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER - BOROUGH ELECTION RESULTS (Pages 84 - 91)

To consider the results of the persons elected as Members of the Council at the election held on 6th May, 2021.

14. DINNINGTON ST JOHN'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM (Pages 92 - 97)

To note the outcome of the Referendum and adopt the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan.

15. MEMBERSHIP OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON THE COUNCIL, POLITICAL BALANCE AND ENTITLEMENT TO SEATS (Pages 98 - 107)

To report on the establishment of political groups, the political balance of the Council and the entitlement of each group to seats on the authority's committees.

16. AUDIT COMMITTEE (Pages 108 - 118)

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 119 - 132)

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 133 - 142)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

19. LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE AND LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (Pages 143 - 152)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

20. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO DESIGNATED SPOKESPERSONS

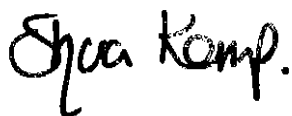
To put questions, if any, to the designated Members on the discharge of functions of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority and South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, in accordance with Council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

21. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

To put questions, if any, to Cabinet Members and Committee Chairpersons (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
21st July, 2021 at 2.00 p.m.**

COUNCIL MEETING
3rd March, 2021

Present:- The Mayor (Councillor Jenny Andrews) (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Albiston, Allen, Atkin, Beaumont, Beck, Bird, Brookes, Buckley, Carter, Clark, Cooksey, Cowles, Cusworth, B. Cutts, D. Cutts, Elliot, M. Elliott, R. Elliott, Ellis, Fenwick-Green, Hague, Hoddinott, Jarvis, Jepson, Jones, Keenan, Khan, Lelliott, McNeely, Mallinder, Marles, Marriott, Napper, Pitchley, Read, Reeder, Roche, Rushforth, Russell, Sansome, Senior, Sheppard, Short, Simpson, Steele, Taylor, John Turner, Julie Turner, Tweed, Vjestica, Walsh, Watson, Whysall, Williams, Wyatt and Yasseen.

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

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

446. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to with sadness the recent death of former Councillor Paul Hill. The Mayor led a minute's silence in his honour.

The Mayor referred to the following Mayoral engagements:

- Making in a video to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January that had been shared on the Council's social media channels.
- Taking part in an informal video chat with the Mayor of Zabrze, Poland, a town that the Council had formed a co-operation agreement with, in order to share experiences of how the pandemic had impacted both communities.

The Mayor noted some upcoming events including:

- Sending flowers and good wishes to a couple in the Borough who would be celebrating their Diamond wedding anniversary.
- The launch on 14th April of the of the "Beat the Street" initiative, a game that had been developed by a team of doctors and physical health experts, to encourage fun, physical activity across the Borough.

The Mayor also noted her congratulations to Stephen Boulton from Swinton who had been awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's honours list for his services to karate and the community.

COUNCIL MEETING - 03/03/21

The Mayor concluded by advising that an extraordinary Council meeting had been scheduled for Friday, 19th March, to formally bestow onto Dame Julie Kenny the honour of the Freedom of the Borough and welcomed all Members and members of the public to join her online for this very special occasion.

447. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ireland.

448. COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor advised that since the publication of the agenda notification had been received that Councillor Ian Jones had changed political affiliation from 'Independent' to 'Rotherham Democratic Party'.

As a result of the changes the political makeup of the Council was noted to be as follows

Councillors	Committee Seats Pre-Adjustment	Committee Seats Post-Adjustment
Labour 42 Councillors	104	104
Rotherham Democratic Party 12 Councillors (+1)	27	30
Non-aligned 6 Councillors (-1)	18	15
TOTAL	149	149

It was noted that by virtue of representing the Rotherham Democratic Party on the Improving Places Select Commission, Licensing Board and Licensing Committee there were no further seat reallocations that were required to be made.

449. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved: - That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 13th January, 2021, be approved for signature by the Mayor.

Mover: - Councillor Read

Seconder: - Councillor Watson

450. PETITIONS

The Mayor introduced the report and confirmed the receipt of 3 petitions received since the last Council meeting which had not met the threshold for consideration by Council.

- Containing 97 signatures calling on the Council to prevent vehicles going the wrong way down a one-way system and to enforce the Access Only Guidance.
- Containing 21 signatures calling on the Council to request that the National Crime Agency open a line of investigation into those individuals, organisations, partners, agencies or others identified during the investigation and to determine if charges should be brought against them, without further delay. Councillor Allen Cowles the lead petitioner addressed Council as part of the presentation of the petition.
- Containing 38 signatures requesting that the Council install residential parking only on Mortain Road and Lymister Avenue with time limits of 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the report be received.
- 2) That the relevant Strategic Directors be required to respond to the lead petitioners, as detailed in the report, by 17th March, 2021.

Mover: - Councillor Read

Seconded: - Councillor Watson

451. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jepson declared a Personal Interest in agenda item No. 22 (Recommendation from the Standards and Ethics Committee - Outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing regarding the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct - Councillor Ireland).

Councillors Cowles, Ellis and M. Elliott declared a Personal Interest in agenda item No. 23 (Recommendation from the Standards and Ethics Committee - Outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing regarding the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct - Councillor Ellis).

452. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(1) Mr. Thirlwall asked the Leader to tell him whether the Council had an anti-nepotism policy. The Leader confirmed that there was no specific anti-nepotism policy but allegations of nepotism would be dealt with under the Officer Code of Conduct for members of staff with conflicts of interest with regards to recruitment. For Elected Members, matters regarding the Nolan Principles would fall under the Member Code of Conduct.

In his supplementary question, Mr. Thirlwall explained the definition of nepotism. He stated that the Leader had appointed his spouse, Councillor Hoddinott, to the role of Cabinet Member with an allowance of £13,000 per year. He asked whether the Leader thought he was guilty of nepotism

and if the relationship should be declared on both Councillor's Register of Interest. Mr. Thirlwall went on to state that Councillor Hoddinott had been deemed unfit to be a Cabinet Member by Louise Casey in 2015 and as such the Leader should explain why Councillor Hoddinott was the best person for this job.

In response the Leader confirmed that Cabinet Members were appointed on merit and that he was lucky to be able to choose from a selection of high quality Councillors with national experience. He gave the example of Councillor Alam who had previously worked with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission; Councillor Roche who was a former advisor to the DFE and Councillor Hoddinott who was a current national local government officer for a national political party. The Leader explained that it would be an error on his part not to use the best talent available to him to serve the Borough. The Leader also explained that at the Centre for Public Scrutiny Conference 2 or 3 years ago, Louise Casey spoke about Rotherham Council and said that there were good people at Rotherham Council, specifically mentioning Councillor Hoddinott who had been scapegoated for the failings of those that gone before her. The Leader pointed out that those that had gone before Councillor Hoddinott included people like Mr. Thirlwall. The Leader also explained that Louise Casey had described his leadership as outstanding on more than one occasion and that they had made extraordinary progress on improving the Council. The Leader stated that Councillor Hoddinott had done an excellent job for the people of Rotherham by delivering major roads improvements and transport improvements. It was confirmed that the Council had been in intervention long before Councillor Hoddinott's appointment due to the politicisation of road improvement decisions. Councillor Hoddinott had also led a huge change in household bin collections and introduced the maternity/paternity policy. The Leader explained that the Borough was a better place for women because of the work Councillor Hoddinott had done with sex establishments. The Leader was proud of Councillor Hoddinott's achievements as Cabinet Member and confirmed that she had not accepted any of her Special Responsibility Allowance for her work as a Cabinet Member and as such there had been no financial benefit to his household.

(2) Mr. Felstead asked a question on the PFI type funding agreement for Forge Island. He asked the Leader to demonstrate the best value to the tax payer. Mr. Felstead explained that, as he understood it, Muse Developments were putting £30 million into construction of the buildings and that the Council would then rent the buildings back from Muse for 35 years for an unknown amount of rental and that after the 35 years, the Council would have the option to buy back the buildings. Mr. Felstead believed that would cost over £200 million based on the last 35 years property prices and did not make sense and, therefore, was another example of mismanagement of money. Mr. Felstead asked why this PFI type of scheme was better value for money than the Council just investing the £30 million itself.

In response the Leader explained that this was not a PFI arrangement but a contractual arrangement with Muse where the Council would take on a head-lease for facilities that they were going to be built. The Leader also explained that the reason it is good value for money was that the Council is not a cinema developer and does not have the skills or experience to bring in a cinema developer. The Leader explained that if the Council had gone down the route of developing the project itself rather than appointing Muse, he expected Mr. Felstead would have objected to that as a waste of money. Muse were selected as the development partner through a competitive tender process which demonstrated best value. It was expected that rather than costing the Council money, the development would generate a small profit for the Council. The head-lease was not yet fixed and would not be fixed until all commercial partners were in place.

In his supplementary question, Mr. Felstead explained the Council would still get the same amount of profit if they went directly to a builder rather than through Muse Developments. He believed that if the Forge Island Scheme was a success, the Council could end up paying hundreds of millions of pounds when it could have just paid £30 million up front. Mr. Felstead was concerned about the business plan that relied on parking fees. He explained that residents would use other facilities such as Meadowhall where they did not have to pay for parking. Mr. Felstead also stated that the Cinema industry was a risky industry to invest in and may not be around in 35 years. He also explained that Muse was a London based developer which took money out of the local economy. Mr. Felstead highlighted the fact that the Council were advertising the Head of Change post at £550 a day which he believed was to help the Council get out of bad financial decisions. Mr. Felstead's supplementary question was when would the Council conduct a full financial consultation on the scheme?

The Leader did not accept much of what Mr. Felstead had stated and explained that the risk of the development was shared and that the Council's risk did not begin until Muse had contracts in place for the development. There are limits of the amount of commercially sensitive data that can be put in the public domain but the cinema had been widely consulted on and was a very popular choice when the Leader consulted on it around 6 years ago. All of the documents relating to the decision making on the project had been published in the correct way which allowed people to comment before the decisions were taken. The Council wanted this to be a success and the Council had acted in a usual and standard way in bringing forward this development.

453. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.

454. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT

In welcoming everyone to the final meeting of the Municipal Year, the Leader noted that no one would ever want to experience another year like the last one.

The Leader advised that he was hopeful, however, that there was a glimmer of light on the horizon with Covid case numbers dropping nationally and locally. The Leader advised that as of 1st March there were 56 patients in hospital in Rotherham with Covid and that also there were currently no Care Home resident positive cases being reported. The Leader advised that there had been a good reduction in positive cases being reported for those aged over 60 and amongst school age children, however, there was still a way to go with working age people, with cases numbers remaining higher than would be liked.

The Leader thanked the Clinical Commissioning Group and local volunteers for the remarkable progress that they continued to make in delivering vaccinations. The Leader advised that the target to vaccinate 56,000 people during the initial 8 week period had been exceeded, with over 60,000 residents being vaccinated, with over 90% of residents in the top four priority groups having been vaccinated. The Leader noted that over 75,000 vaccinations had now been delivered with second dose vaccinations scheduled to start on 9th March.

The Leader advised that over 1,500 businesses had now been supported by the Local Restrictions Support Grant schemes, having received support totalling £17.8million. In addition, the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority had also supported over 1,300 businesses with the Additional Restrictions Grant.

The Leader noted with sorrow the loss of 776 residents during the pandemic and stated that whilst the vaccination would offer a level of protection against the Covid-19 virus, it did not mean that the risk had gone away.

The Leader advised, however, that the situation would improve and that everyone could help by following the national restrictions, staying at home and getting tested if needed.

The Leader thanked all Members for giving their time to serve the community over the last 5 extraordinary years. The Leader reflected on the enormous progress that had been made over the previous 5 years, most notably with regard to Children's Services, and in bringing the intervention to a close, but also in the taking of difficult decisions around Social Care in the right way, in the trebling the number of Council homes built each year and the steps being taken to revitalise the town centre. The Leader noted that while Members may have had at times disagreed, that this had been done so with good grace, and where Members had

agreed, partnership had not stood in the way of getting things done, a situation that the Leader hoped would continue into the future.

455. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 25th January and 15th February, 2021 be received.

Mover: - Councillor Read

Seconder: - Councillor Watson

456. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2021-22 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

Further to Minute No.117 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th February, 2021, consideration was given to the report that proposed the Council's Budget and Council Tax for 2021/22. This was based on the outcome of the Council's Final Local Government Finance Settlement, budget consultation process and consideration of Directorate budget proposals through the Council's formal Budget and Scrutiny processes (Overview and Scrutiny Management Board), alongside a review of the financial planning assumptions within the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

It was stated in the report that in setting the proposed 2021/22 budget, Cabinet had recommended an increase of 1.99% in the Council's basic Council Tax and an Adult Social Care precept of 1.0%.

The report proposed the revenue budget for 2021/22, an updated capital programme to 2023/24 and the updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2022/23.

In moving the recommendations, the Leader thanked everyone who had contributed to the process of pulling the budget proposals together, in particular the Strategic Director – Finance and Customer Services and her team, the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services and Finance, and Cabinet colleagues.

The Leader stated that after 11 years of austerity, and in the face of a global pandemic, it was unsurprising that councils across the country were under unprecedented financial pressure, with 12 councils being reportedly in discussion with the Government about additional support. The Leader stated that this was the same Government that had told councils that they needed to be more entrepreneurial, who were now saying that councils should not take risks.

The Leader noted that the 2019 Conservative manifesto had praised the virtue of low Council Tax, but that in the Spending Review, where an extra £2.2bn for councils had been announced, it had not been mentioned that 85% of this increase in available funding would come from higher Council

Tax bills, and not from the Government directly. The Leader noted that as a consequence it was not surprising that three quarters of councils with social care responsibilities were expecting to increase bills by the full 4.99% allowed in 2021. The Leader stated that while this showed that public services could not be run on fresh air, the Conservative Government were cutting the funding for road repairs in Rotherham by £2.6million, withdrawing half a million pounds of annual contributions to support the Council with Operation Stovewood and cutting regional economic growth funding to South Yorkshire by at least a third.

The Leader stated that according to the Institute of Fiscal Studies, the most deprived parts of the country had seen their council budgets cut by nearly twice as much as the most affluent by the current Government, and that this showed that the Government did not understand communities like Rotherham

The Leader stated that the Council had not taken commercial risks, but instead had trusted public servants to deliver public services and that these decisions had been taken as they had been the right, rather than the easy thing to do. The Leader stated that because a long-term view had been taken, the Council Tax rise in Rotherham in 2021 would be below those of most other councils. The Leader noted that these difficult decisions had created a stronger reserves position than had been anticipated as well as enabling an additional £1.86 million of revenue spending commitments for the coming year.

The Leader referred to the Barnsley poet, Ian McMillan who had described the “sad mood music of austerity in a minor key” – the visible decline in the upkeep of communities. The Leader stated, however, that this year, in the grip of the Coronavirus pandemic, it had been laid bare the insecurity that far too many Rotherham residents live with. The Leader noted several real-life examples of how the pandemic had put residents under significant financial strain and pressure through no fault of their own.

The Leader stated that the greatest honour of his position was having the resources to make a difference to people’s lives. The Leader stated that in October 2020, whilst the Government had dallied, the Council had made sure that 10,000 children in low income families had received free school meals in addition to the 9,000 children who had received financial help towards the purchase of school uniforms. The Leader also referred to the decision that had been taken to prioritise the local Council Tax Support Scheme, and to the additional funding made available, and going further than many other councils by initially crediting eligible families with £200 and later with £450 towards essential bills that had meant that more than 14,000 low income working age households had had their bills for the current year effectively reduced to zero.

The Leader noted that the rise in child poverty had also meant that right across the country more children had come into the Care system. The Leader restated the Council's commitment to ensure that Children's Services were as strong as they possibly could be and noted that by 2021/22 an additional £20 million had been spent Children's Social Care than had been the case when he had become Leader. The Leader stated that for children, going into care should only ever be a last resort, which was why Family Group Conferencing had been included in the budget, so as to keep more families together.

The Leader noted with sadness that the insecurities created by the pandemic would not be fixed by the vaccine, but would be around for much longer and as such it was proposed in the budget:

- £102,000 to support 89 work placements for young people at risk of long-term unemployment, paid at the Real Living Wage.
- £100,000 to increase our existing support to food banks, and to develop a social supermarket to help those who are ready to move on.
- £150,000 of match funding to help people to stay in work and advance their careers.

Furthermore, the Leader advised that there would be more help available for new businesses to create new jobs, upgrading of business centres, as well building a new one, and that the additional millions of pounds secured in the devolution deal would be put behind the economic recovery.

The Leader detailed his commitment to deal with digital exclusion, as well as to making it easier for residents to get through to the Council by telephone, by committing £50,000 towards a £450,000 fund to be spent over the coming year that would help residents to get online and be more IT confident. The Leader also advised that it was being proposed to increase the Community Leadership Funds to help Councillors respond to local needs as well as increasing funding to support outreach youth work and improvements and events in libraries. The Leader advised that for the communities that had been so badly affected by flooding in 2019, whilst the Government had sat on its hands, £5.8 million of capital was being made available by the Council in order to accelerate the development of flood defence schemes.

The Leader noted the £1.8m that had been committed in the previous year towards new bins and street cleansing equipment, routine weed removal from dual carriageways, and a 7 days a week responsive Street Cleaning Service, and that this year an additional 4 Streetpride teams would be funded in order to make a visible difference across the Borough.

The Leader also referred to how the Council was meeting the shortfall in Government funding to ensure a £30 million redevelopment of the markets and central library could be progressed and to the new Towns and Villages Fund which would invest £4 million in local centres, so that

the benefits were felt in communities across the area. The Leader also noted the Council's continued commitment to 1,000 new Council homes, and to the huge programme of investment in the area's roads.

The Leader stated that while the cynics would continue to say that these positive changes could not be done, that things could never change, or that the perfect should made the enemy of the good, everyone should take pride in how far the Council had already come.

The Leader stated that the continued agenda would be:

- A better Borough that rises to the expectations of our communities
- Good jobs, decent homes, public services that set people free
- And security for those who need it most, so we leave no one behind

The Leader concluded in stating that with each year that passed, the Council was able to build a little more on the foundations that were already laid, in order to secure the futures that the residents of Rotherham deserved and that now was not the time to put that at risk, but instead was the time for renewed purpose.

In seconding the recommendations, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services stated that the proposed budget was a budget that would support services for residents who had been negatively impacted by not just years of Government austerity, but also by the pandemic, noting that the most deprived and vulnerable residents had been impacted most. The Cabinet Member advised further that years of effective financial management had allowed investment proposals to be included in the budget that would benefit residents, the town, and that would ensure that no one was left behind. The Cabinet Member stated that the budget had been built on the principles of reducing inequality and improving social justice in Rotherham.

The Cabinet Member noted the continuing financial challenges that years of austerity had created and would continue to create for the Council and stated that as such further challenging savings would need to be made. The Cabinet Member noted that whilst challenging, the delivery of savings would provide an opportunity to look creatively at how services could be delivered better.

The Cabinet Member concluded in thanking Cabinet colleagues, members of the budget working group, scrutiny and all Members who had contributed to the development of the budget.

At this point the Mayor advised that there had been an amendment proposed to the budget and that this amendment was detailed at Appendix B of the Mayors' Letter.

It was moved by Councillor Cowles and seconded by Councillor R. Elliott:

“I wish to propose an amendment to the published budget proposals, that the following items to the total of £1.362m are removed from the revenue budget investments for 2021/22:

- CYPS 1 Additional support for Youth Work (£50k)
- CYPS 2 Expansion of Family Group Conferencing (FGC) (£130k)
- R&E 1 Additional street cleansing and grounds maintenance (Streetpride) (£489k)
- R&E 2 Planning Enforcement (£44k)
- R&E 4 Events that bring people together (£118k)
- R&E 5 Licensing Service (£150k)
- R&E 8 Restoration of Libraries Book Stock Budget (£50k)
- ACX 3 Community Leadership Fund uplift (£59k)
- R&E 3 ADVANCE careers support programme (£150k)
- FACS 2 Reducing customer call waiting times (£122k)”

I propose that the total funding of £1.362m from the removal of these budget investments will be alternatively proposed to be used to fund the estimated cost in 2021/22 of providing every child in the Borough, turning the age of 4 during the financial year, with a tablet computer. Additionally, should it be necessary, for half of those tablets to include one-year's limited data allowance. I would propose to work through this proposal further in consultation with schools and CYPS where my knowledge and experience is limited in order to decide how best this would be implemented to achieve the maximum benefit for the young people. The proposal contains £76,240 more than is needed to meet the estimated cost of the proposal for contingency purposes.”

In moving the motion Councillor Cowles noted that given the impact of the pandemic on the world, and on how people lived and worked, that it was essential that the Council must also change how it operated. Councillor Cowles reaffirmed his position that the Council should focus on activities that would attract green businesses and green jobs to the Borough.

Councillor Cowles noted the pandemic had highlighted the issue of unequal access to IT and the internet amongst children in the Borough and stated that it was essential that action was taken to address this in order to ensure equal access to education for all children. Councillor Cowles proposed that the budget be amended to enable all 4 year olds in the Borough to receive a tablet, as well internet access for those who did not already have access. Councillor Cowles detailed the estimated costs for the proposal as well as how he proposed that the budget be amended to release the funding that would be required. Councillor Cowles stated that it was essential all possible steps should be taken to enable equal access to education and that decisive action needed to be taken to

ensure that no child in Rotherham fell behind in their education or had their life chances negatively impacted by not being having IT access.

Councillor Cowles stated tough budget choices needed to be made and that spending on children and education had to be a higher budget priority than the creation of one year road cleaning posts that would not provide long term benefits to the Borough.

In seconding the motion Councillor R. Elliott stated that as the future was the green economy, it was essential that investments were made in activities that would attract green businesses to the Borough. Councillor R. Elliott stated that the proposals detailed in the amendment that would provide all 4 year olds with a tablet would be a huge investment the in the Borough's children that would give them the best chance to succeed in life.

Councillor Watson noted that he was sympathetic to the sentiments behind the amendment but stated that given the budget position of the Council the focus of spending had to be directed at those in the Borough who were in most need and in providing services such as the Family Group Conferencing that would support families to stay together.

The Leader concurred with Councillor Watson that he too was sympathetic to the sentiment of the amendment but noted that the Council had been actively working to ensure that the children and young people across the Borough who lacked IT equipment had received the support they needed with IT equipment throughout the pandemic. The Leader stated that making this provision universally would not be good use of resources. In response to Councillor Cowles' questions, the Leader advised that the extra posts that were being created were one year contracts that would be reviewed during the year. The Leader noted that the creation of the posts, for example to enable increased street cleaning and footpath maintenance, would enable the Council to deliver increased levels of service to residents, and as such was the right thing to do. The Leader also noted that prior to the pandemic, Rotherham had had one of the fastest growing local economies both regionally and nationally.

Councillor Carter noted his agreement with the premise of the motion but advised that the proposals detailed in the motion did not address the wider actions needed to enable the Borough to recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

In response to the issues raised in the debate, Councillor Cowles reaffirmed that his specific concerns around jobs and the local economy were about the lack of green jobs that were being created in Rotherham and noted that it was essential for economic recovery in Rotherham that action was taken to create skilled jobs in the green economy. Councillor Cowles advised that he did not believe employing an additional street cleaning team for one year would make a significant difference to the street cleanliness, noting that despite large amounts of spending on street

cleaning, the litter situation in Eastwood had not improved over recent years. Councillor Cowles reaffirmed his belief that all 4 year olds in the Borough should be issued with IT equipment in order to ensure equal access to education.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared as lost.

Members then proceeded to debate the original motion.

Councillor Carter stated that despite promises made by the ruling administration around the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Living Wage, many care giving staff in Rotherham were not receiving the recommended wage. Councillor Carter noted concerns regarding the wasteful spending carried out by the ruling administration in the delivery of some Council services, including the Planning Service, and stated that residents were facing increased Council Tax bills to pay for Labour's wasteful spending. Councillor Carter also noted his concerns regarding the money received from the Government to support local businesses that had not been distributed and had been returned to the Government. Councillor Carter advised that as the budget was both wasteful and also provided poor services to residents, he would be voting against the proposals. Councillor Carter stated that effective scrutiny was not carried out at the Council due to the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board being a Labour Member.

Councillor Allen stated that she was really proud of the proposed revenue and capital investments in her portfolio of Cleaner, Greener Communities that would make a positive difference to residents across the Borough, such as the increased street cleaning and planned improvements to foot and cycle paths that would encourage active travel. Councillor Allen also noted the proposed investments, linked to addressing climate change that included the expansion of the tree planting programme and the creation of a one year fixed term Climate Change research post that would enable the evidence to be gathered that would then inform the activities required of the Council to address the climate emergency. Councillor Allen stated that she could not understand how anyone could be against the proposals that would have such a positive impact for the Borough, were focused on issues of concern for residents and that would also help Members carry out their community leadership role.

Councillor Hoddinott noted that the content of the budget reflected the political choices that had been made and that responded to issues of concern raised by residents. Councillor Hoddinott stated that the spending plans detailed in the budget were being proposed despite a decade of austerity, and that the spending proposals in many areas, such as road maintenance were filling the gaps left by reductions in Government funding. Councillor Hoddinott welcomed the continued development of flood protection schemes, noting the positive impact that the schemes would have on residents in this area. Councillor Hoddinott noted her thanks to Councillor Sheppard for his continued work on this issue.

Councillor Hoddinott also noted the changes to Household Waste Recycling Centre opening times and to the Bulky Waste Collection Service that would lead to improved services for residents. Councillor Hoddinott thanked officers and Members for their contribution to the development of the budget and also noted her thanks to staff who had worked through the very difficult past year to ensure that vital services had continued to be delivered.

Councillor Roche stated that Councillor Carter should focus on the needs of residents rather than in election posturing, noting that had Councillor Carter attended scrutiny meetings he would have known that the Council had, in April 2020, ensured that all those employed in care giving roles were in receipt of the recommended Joseph Rowntree Foundation recommended living wage. Councillor Roche noted that despite the significant and continued financial pressures faced by the Council, that good financial management had ensured that it had not been necessary to make any cuts to services. Councillor Roche noted the unprecedented demands that the pandemic had placed on the Council and its finances, and that had it not been for the essential spending required to deal with the pandemic, Adult Care Services would have ended the year with a balanced budget. Councillor Roche welcomed the proposed funding that would enable a purpose-built REACH centre to be delivered that would provide the best possible service to service users.

Councillor Lelliott noted that despite the years of austerity that had been imposed on the Council, the Council was still in a position due to good financial management to invest in projects and services, including development of the town centre, that would benefit residents. Councillor Lelliott noted the positiveness of the budget and its focus on supporting and improving the skills of young people in the Borough who had been so impacted by the budget. Councillor Lelliott noted her thanks to all the Council staff who had worked throughout the pandemic delivering frontline services.

Councillor Steele, as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board noted the scrutiny that the budget proposals had gone through and that members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, after careful scrutiny, had supported the budget proposals. Councillor Steele, in response to the points around scrutiny raised by Councillor Carter, stated that he was independent from the administration and always challenged Cabinet Members on their proposals, noting that if Councillor Carter attended scrutiny meetings he would have been aware of this.

Councillor Beck noted the rigorous processes that had involved all Members and Scrutiny in the development of such a positive and forward-looking budget. Councillor Beck highlighted budget proposals around investment in aids and adaptations that would support residents to stay in their own homes for as long as possible. Councillor Beck noted how the Council continued to invest in housing of all types and tenures across the

Borough and how the Council continued to ensure that all Council-owned homes met the national Decent Homes Standard.

Councillor Jepson noted that while he was not supportive of every aspect of the budget proposals, that as a Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, he had been fully involved in discussions that had contributed to its development.

Councillor Cowles stated that while he was not opposed to large sections of the budget, he opposed some of the choices that had been made including the proposal to increase Council Tax. Councillor Cowles stated that the ruling administration had made its choices, with those choices prioritising additional road sweeping provision for one year over providing IT access for children, which in his opinion was the more pressing need. Council Cowles asked why other local authorities managed to end the year under budget when this never happened at Rotherham and stated that budget management at the Council was not strong enough.

Councillor Watson noted that in the current year, as in every year, the proposed budget reflected the political choices that had been made. Councillor Watson noted the extra pressures that the demands created by the pandemic had created for services, and stated that these demands had made an increase in spending on Children and Young People's Services essential as well as negatively impacting on the delivery of previously agreed savings in the Directorate. Councillor Watson highlighted several areas of proposed investment in the budget that were designed to support and keep families together, which he noted had to be top priority.

Councillor B. Cutts stated that he thought much of the cleansing and road sweeping activity carried out across the Borough was done inefficiently with too many staff involved and questioned why children's homes in the Borough had been closed down. Councillor Mallinder questioned how many meetings Councillor Carter attended each year, as he did not attend scrutiny meetings.

Councillor Atkin commended the budget proposals, in particular the proposals on the expansion of the tree planting programme that would improve the local environment and make the Borough a better place for residents to live in. Councillor Atkin also noted the income that the Planning Service generated and the excellent service that it continued to provide. Councillor Pitchley noted how the budget proposals supported the values of the Labour administration and showed how much could be delivered despite the reduced resources available to the Council. Councillor Pitchley welcomed how the proposed budget would support families, improve the local environment and improve people's lives.

The Leader responded to the issues that had been raised in the debate. The Leader agreed with the comments that had been made regarding the decisions that had been taken in making the budget proposals being based on strong political values.

In response to Councillor Carter, the Leader stated that the funding received from the Government for business support had attached a set criteria on how it could be used, and that the Council had paid out as much of the funding as it had been able to, given the set criteria. The Leader noted that the costs related to the delivery of the award-winning Planning Service had reduced substantially in recent years. In response to Councillor B. Cutts, the Leader repeated that the children's homes that had been closed had been done so as they were sub-standard. In response to Councillor Cowles' comments regarding inefficient practices regarding cleansing activities the Leader advised that many road cleaning tasks were dangerous and extra personnel were needed when these were carried out to ensure everyone involved remained safe. In response to Councillor Mallinder the Leader advised that Councillor Carter would have attended 8 Council meetings a year.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 and the Council's Constitution, a recorded vote was taken for this item as follows:

For: Councillors Alam, Allen, Andrews, Atkin, Beaumont, Beck, Bird, Brookes, Buckley, Clark, Cooksey, Cusworth, D Cutts, Elliot, Ellis, Fenwick-Green, Hoddinott, Jarvis, Jepson, Keenan, Khan, Lelliott, Mallinder, McNeely, Marles, Pitchley, Read, Roche, Russell, Rushforth, Sansome, Senior, Sheppard, Simpson, Steele, Taylor, Tweed, Vjestica, Walsh, Williams, Watson, Whysall, Wyatt and Yaseen.

Against: Councillors Albiston, Carter, Cowles, B Cutts, M Elliott, R Elliott, Hague, Jones, Marriott, Napper, Reeder, John Turner and Julie Turner.

Abstentions: None

Resolved: -

- (1) That the Budget and Financial Strategy for 2021/22, as set out in the report and appendices, including the proposed budget adjustments and investments, a basic Council Tax increase of 1.99% and an Adult Social Care precept of 1.0%, be approved.
- (2) That the updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2022/23, including the carry forward of the 2020/21 £4m budget contingency and £3.5m Treasury Management Savings in a Budget Strategy Reserve, be approved.

- (3) That the Reserves Strategy, as set out in Section 2.8 of the report, be approved, noting that the final determination of Reserves will be approved as part of reporting the financial outturn for 2020/21.
- (4) That the comments and advice of the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services (Section 151 Officer), provided in compliance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, as to the robustness of the estimates included in the Budget and the adequacy of reserves for which the Budget provides, as detailed at Section 2.12 of the report, be noted and accepted.
- (5) That the consultation feedback from the public and partners following public consultation on the Council's budget for 2021/22 which took place from 5th January, 2021 to 26th January, 2021, as detailed at Section 4 of the report, be noted.
- (6) That the proposed increases in Adult Social Care provider contracts as set out in Section 2.4 of the report, be approved.
- (7) That the investment proposals, as set out in Section 2.7 and Appendix 2 of the report, be approved.
- (8) That the Council Fees and Charges schedules for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix 7 of the report, be approved.
- (9) That the application of the Business Rates Reliefs, in line with Government guidance, as set out in Section 2.9 of the report, be approved.
- (10) That the Capital Strategy and Capital Programme, as presented at Section 2.10 and in Appendices 3A to 3F of the report, be approved.
- (11) That the Treasury Management matters for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix 4 of the report, including the Prudential Indicators, the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Investment Strategy, be approved.
- (12) That the Flexible use of Capital Receipts Strategy 2021/22, as set out at Appendix 5 of the report, be approved.

- (13) That any 2020/21 revenue outturn position underspend be transferred into the Council's reserves and be held within the Budget Contingency Reserve.
- (14) That any 2020/21 un-ringfenced Covid funding balances be transferred into the Council's reserves to meet Covid related pressures and costs in 2021/22.
- (15) That the Capital Programme budget continues to be managed in line with the following key principles:
- i. Any underspends on the existing approved Capital Programme in respect of 2020/21 be rolled forward into future years, subject to an individual review of each carry forward to be set out within the Financial Outturn 2020/21 report to Cabinet.
 - ii. In line with Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules 6.17 and 13.9, any successful grant applications in respect of capital projects will be added to the Council's approved Capital Programme on an ongoing basis.
 - iii. Capitalisation opportunities and capital receipts flexibilities will be maximised, with capital receipts earmarked to minimise revenue costs.
- (16) That the Statutory Resolution of Council Tax for 2021/22, as set out Appendix 6 of the report, incorporating precept figures as advised from the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and the Town and Parish Councils within the Borough, be approved.

457. CALENDAR OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE 2021-22 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Consideration was given to a report, submitted in accordance with the rules of procedure as detailed in the Council's Constitution, that set out the proposed Calendar of Meetings for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

Resolved: - That the Calendar of Meetings for the 2021/22 Municipal Year be approved.

Mover: - Councillor Alam

Seconder: - Councillor Watson

458. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY UPDATE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board presented a report that provided Council with an update of overview and scrutiny activity since the last update had been received in November 2020.

Mover: Councillor Steele

Seconder: Councillor Napper

459. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - BUILDING USE

A report was submitted to inform Council of the findings of the findings and recommendations from the Working Group on Building Use which was established by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Councillor Mallinder, who had led the Working Group thanked all the Members who had taken part in the review for their contribution.

Resolved: -

That the briefing be noted, and the following recommendations be submitted to Cabinet for consideration:-

- a) That the principle be agreed that the future usage of buildings be determined in accordance with the needs of services located therein.
- b) That, prior to buildings being brought back into use by staff or the public, consultation take place with Trade Unions and staff following completion of risk assessments in respect of the building or location concerned.
- c) That any decision to return employees to Council buildings beyond the minimal number that have been required to be present throughout the pandemic be made having regard to advice from the Corporate Health and Safety Team and Human Resources, as well as being subject to Government guidance around the safe use of Council buildings.
- d) That Members be notified when main operational buildings are to be brought back into use, specifically the Town Hall as the civic hub of the Borough.
- e) That, having regard to the positive implications associated with virtual meetings in respect of the Council's carbon footprint, the Leader of the Council lobby the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to legislate for the ongoing provision of virtual meetings beyond 7th May, 2021.

- f) That Asset Management and Digital Services work together to identify the necessary changes or solutions required in Riverside House and Rotherham Town Hall, as well as any changes required to equipment or software for Members and officers, to enable continued use of remote working whilst permitting physical presence in a Council building.
- g) That the Head of Democratic Services prepare guidance and training on the procedures and operation of hybrid meetings.

Mover: Councillor Mallinder

Seconder: Councillor Steele

460. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - HOMES ALLOCATIONS POLICY

A report was submitted to inform Council of the findings of the findings and recommendations from the Working Group that had been established to review the proposed amendments to the Council's Homes Allocation Policy.

Councillor Mallinder, who had led the Working Group thanked all the Members who had taken part in the review for their contribution.

Councillor Beck, the Cabinet Member for Housing, welcomed the review that had taken place, noting that due to the importance of the policy that any proposed changes had been thoroughly considered and reviewed.

Resolved: -

That the briefing be noted, and the following recommendations be submitted to Cabinet for consideration: -

- a) That the briefing be noted.
- b) That sustained funding for staff on the homelessness prevention and temporary accommodation teams be safeguarded.
- c) That revisions to the Policy be undertaken to ensure clarity and readability throughout the document, especially as regards application processes and shortlisting criteria.
- d) That notation about prolific offenders be included in the information provided to the Housing Assessment Panel.
- e) That quality standards regarding the proper completion of housing forms be reaffirmed to officers.
- f) That rent arrears be added to the scrutiny work programme for 2021-22.

- g) That single occupants of larger homes owned by the Council be given the opportunity to downsize.

Mover: Councillor Mallinder

Seconder: Councillor Steele

461. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - CALL CENTRE COMMUNICATIONS

A report was submitted to inform Council of the findings of the findings and recommendations from the Working Group on Call Centre Communications that had been established by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Councillor Steele, who had led the Working Group, thanked all the Members who had taken part in the review for their contribution.

Resolved: -

That the briefing be noted, and the following recommendations be submitted to Cabinet for consideration:-

- a) That the Council further promotes a digital-first route for customers to access Council services.
- b) That regular data updates be provided to the Leader and Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on a six-monthly basis.
- c) That the Customer Service Standards of the Council be reaffirmed to officers, particularly in respect of written communication with customers.

Mover: - Councillor Steele

Seconder Councillor Napper

462. THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS - UPDATES FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillors Buckley, Carter and Simpson, on behalf of the Brinsworth and Catcliffe Ward, gave an update on their Ward priorities as follows:-

- Funding received by The Centre, Brinsworth, to run the Hot Food Projects serving 2 course meals twice a week to elderly and vulnerable residents.
- Purchase of gazebos and portable equipment by the Brinsworth Arts Group to allow the Group to meet outside safely
- 'Brighten up Brinsworth' at Christmas with funding provided to install Christmas lights, hold virtual Christmas events, donate prizes and support the illumination of the life-size nativity scene in Catcliffe Kiln

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- In conjunction with the Housing Hub, funding provided to install security lighting outside several ground floor flats at Fortway Road and Roman Crescent
- Replacement of fence panel on Victoria Street had helped to reduce incident of anti-social behaviour
- Parking buddies provided at Waverley Junior Academy to help promote road safety outside schools
- In partnership with Catcliffe Parish Council match funding provided for a fly-tipping camera which would be monitored by the Council. Deployment of the camera would be decided by the Parish Council and local residents
- Casting Innovations commissioned to work with Neighbourhood staff and local schools to provide 30 bird boxes and 20 bat boxes to encourage wildlife across the Ward and 2 apple trees to be planted in Catcliffe which will hopefully be the start of a planting programme
- Funding provided to Friends of St George's Churchyard to clean and clear the graveyard
- Community Chest grants to Catcliffe and Brinsworth Parish Councils to help refurbish play areas and purchase an inclusive swing and a Cobra swing
- Community Chest funding for new outdoor shelters/equipment to maintain the bowling greens at Catcliffe and Brinsworth Bowling Clubs
- Friends of Howarth supported with an outdoor classroom and play equipment providing additional space for pupils to safely learn and play outside
- Funding provided to Crafty Talk to make 70 'craftolation' packs and given to those shielding/isolating during lockdown helping their mental health and wellbeing
- RUCST, misconception of youth, was a virtual Journalism programme that taught young people skills and equip them with the tools to become keen journalists
- Friends of Brinsworth Manor purchased two outdoor clocks for the playground to help with outdoor play and education

Councillors Lelliott, Steele and Roche, on behalf of the Hoover Ward, gave an update on its Ward priorities as follows:-

- Tackled social isolation amongst the elderly by working with the communities and Neighbourhood Team to reach out to as many groups as possible
- Supported the newly formed Brampton Community Gardeners by providing funding for plants and gardening equipment
- A celebration event held to thank all the local groups who worked tirelessly to make the area a better place to live
- West Melton Park had received additional equipment including a MUGA area, exercise equipment, benches and tables and the planting of trees. Residents had been consulted throughout the whole process and gave their full support

- Outdoor summer activities had taken place in a Covid safe manner
- Assisted the community with the delivery of food parcels or hot meals for those who were shielding or vulnerable. Food shopping, prescription collections and a befriending service was also available
- Covid safe Halloween activities and a Winter Wonderland had taken place
- Unfortunately Christmas 2020 had been much quieter due to the Covid restrictions but the West Melton Christmas tree had been lit
- Funding provided for redundant telephone kiosks to now house 2 defibrillator kiosks around the Ward together with one situated on the wall of a primary school and one on the wall of a local public house
- Plant pot holders and plants provided to the Brampton Volunteer Gardens for a small group of residents to brighten their village up in both the Brampton and West Melton areas
- Reinstatement of a public footpath that had been closed off separating 2 communities and stopping school children easy access to the school. Together with the people of the parish and local community group, the Parish Council had been challenged to re-open the footpath and the fencing removed to allow access
- Other groups funded included Brampton Junior FC, Brampton Youth Group, Brampton Volunteer Gardeners, Cortonwood Comeback Food Bank, Harley in Bloom, Harley Junior FC, Wath, West Melton and Brampton Litterpickers, Cortonwood Luncheon Club, Cortonwood Comeback, Harley Mission Rooms Trust, Wentworth Village Community Association, Men in Sheds, West Melton Allotment Society, Christmas Tree Barriers and Brampton Parish Council

The Ward Members thanked officers for their support during the last 12 difficult months.

Councillors Clark, D. Cutts and Hague, on behalf of the Keppel Ward, gave an update on its Ward priorities as follows:-

- Following complaints, funding provided for a barrier to the Sough Hall Road Surgery Car Park entrance to prevent the out of hours anti-social behaviour/littering
- Housing had provided security packs to the over 70's Council housing tenants; Ward Members had used extra funding to purchase the same pack for those private rented or owned their own properties
- Cacti fencing to 2 garage sites at Kimberworth Park following reports of anti-social behaviour
- St. John's Green lighting project to help people feel safe and continue to support local shops
- Together with the Rotherham West Ward, match funded the purchase of CCTV to record any criminal activities Droppingwell

- Consultation with Green Spaces regarding the style and the positioning of the rustic benches funded by the Ward on Keppels Field giving views of Wentworth, Wentworth Woodhouse, the follies, Keppels Column, Greasbrough and beyond
- Working with Public Rights of Way, enhancement/renewal of the horse hops on entry to Keppels Field and Scholes Coppice to make it safer and prevent off road motorcycles
- Joint funding to remove hedges/replaced with fencing on Kimberworth Park Road
- A request submitted to the Road Safety Fund for enhanced safety improvements near the junction of Oaks Lane and Upper Wortley Road. This had been agreed and would be carried out shortly
- Operation Slowdowns had taken place in various areas within the Ward
- Traffic measures including traffic surveys had been undertaken on some of the more problematic routes in the Ward. The information had been used to purchase and position an illuminated street sign in Thorpe Hesley and new traffic signing on Thorpe Street
- Parking buddies installed outside Thorpe Hesley Primary School
- Unfortunately to Covid unable to do a similar Christmas event as in 2019
- Supported Wingfield Academy's OAP Christmas Party
- Funded new fishing tackle damaged during the flooding for Fishermen's Friends
- Provided funding for Kimberworth Park Community Partnership for food hampers for families at Christmas time
- Christmas trees provided for Kimberworth Park and Thorpe Hesley
- Kimberworth Park Community Partnership's Food Pantry was hoped to be operational in late spring where residents from the local area would be able to purchase food for a small contribution

Members thanked the Neighbourhood Team and all the partners they had worked with for all their work during the last 12 months.

463. NOTICE OF MOTION - STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Proposed by Councillor John Turner and seconded by Councillor Cowles.

"This Council believes that:

The Standards and Ethics Committee is not serving the people of Rotherham as a forum for justice, is unfair, biased and not transparent."

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared as lost.

464. NOTICE OF MOTION - THE 'RIGHT TO FOOD' TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NATIONAL FOOD STRATEGY

Proposed by Councillor Sheppard and seconded by Councillor Cooksey.

“This Council believes that:

The ‘Right to Food’ should be incorporated into the National Food Strategy

This Council recognises that we are seeing a crisis of food poverty born out of the political choices and systemic failings created over the past four decades, which has now reached a tipping point for so many Rotherham residents. The figures are devastating for one of the richest nations in the world and highlight the inequality in the UK in 2021.

This Council notes:

- That there are consistently high rates of poverty across our Borough. There is growing concern amongst our health and care professionals about the current situation and the likely exacerbation of poverty figures due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and economic uncertainty as 2021 progresses.
- Between 2015 and 2019 End Child Poverty reported a 3.4 per cent increase in the number of children in Rotherham who live in poverty. The Rotherham Foodbank gave out 4,716 emergency parcels in 2019-20 and have helped 504 clients since January 2020. As there are other foodbanks operating in the area it is fair to assume that the real figure is likely to be much higher.
- The National Food Strategy is the first independent review of England’s entire food system for 75 years. Its purpose is to set out a vision for the kind of food system we should be building for the future, and a plan for how to achieve that vision. It argues that the Covid-19 crisis has brought into painful focus the flaws in the UK’s food system, especially its effect on the nation’s physical and mental health.

This Council supports the demand by The Right to Food campaign that the 11 million people in food poverty should be central to The National Food Strategy. Enshrining the ‘Right to Food’ into law would clarify government obligations on food poverty and would introduce legal avenues to hold government bodies accountable for violations.

This Council calls for the ‘Right to Food’ to be incorporated into the National Food Strategy. We ask the Chief Executive to write to Henry Dimbleby, who is heading the strategy, to further this request.”

On being put to the vote the motion was declared as carried.

465. COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO.16

At 7:05pm, with the meeting having run for over 5 hours and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.16, it was moved by Councillor Cowles, seconded by Councillor Fenwick-Green and resolved that the meeting be adjourned and be reconvened on Wednesday, 10th March at 2.00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING
10th March, 2021

Present:- The Mayor (Councillor Jenny Andrews) (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Albiston, Allen, Atkin, Beaumont, Beck, Bird, Brookes, Buckley, Carter, Clark, Cooksey, Cowles, Cusworth, B. Cutts, Elliot, M. Elliott, R. Elliott, Ellis, Fenwick-Green, Hoddinott, Jarvis, Jepson, Jones, Keenan, Khan, Mallinder, Marles, Marriott, McNeely, Napper, Pitchley, Read, Reeder, Roche, Rushforth, Russell, Sansome, Senior, Sheppard, Short, Simpson, Steele, Taylor, John Turner, Julie Turner, Tweed, Vjestica, Walsh, Watson, Whysall, Williams, Wyatt and Yasseen.

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

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

467. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

468. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hague.

469. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

470. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jepson declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 (Recommendation from The Standards and Ethics Committee - Outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing regarding the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct - Councillor Ireland).

Councillors Cowles, Ellis and M Elliott declared a personal interest in agenda item 11 (Recommendation from The Standards and Ethics Committee - Outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing regarding the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct - Councillor Ellis).

471. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.

472. STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee held on 21st January, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor McNeely

Seconded:- Councillor Clark

473. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE - LGA MODEL MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

Pursuant to Standard and Ethics Committee Minute No.106 (2020/21), consideration was given to a report that recommended that the Local Government Association's Model Code of Conduct be adopted by the Council.

The Local Government Association Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

Resolved: - That the Local Government Association Model Councillor Code of Conduct be adopted by the Council.

Mover: Councillor McNeely

Seconded: Councillor Clark

474. AUDIT COMMITTEE

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 19th January, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor Wyatt

Seconded: - Councillor Walsh

475. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 13th January, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor Roche

Seconded: - Councillor Mallinder

476. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE - OUTCOME OF STANDARDS AND ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING REGARDING THE ALLEGED BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT - COUNCILLOR IRELAND

Councillor Jepson who had declared an interest in this item left the meeting at this point and did not take place in the subsequent discussion and vote.

Consideration was given to a report that set out the outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub Committee Hearing that took place on 18th January, 2021, in relation to an alleged breach of the Anston Parish Council Code of Conduct by Anston Parish Councillor Jonathan Ireland.

It was noted that a complaint had considered at the Sub-Committee Hearing that alleged that:

The Subject Member had breached the Anston Parish Council Code of Conduct by making comments under the pseudonym "Anstonian" on a social media blog site, named Anston Parish Council Watch. The comment was in the context of a contract awarded to a local firm of surveyors by Anston Parish Council. A statement has been received from the owner of that firm of surveyors who considered the statement to be defamatory.

As set out in the Decision Record, the Sub-Committee found that Parish Councillor Ireland had made the posts under the pseudonym of Anstonian and due to the content of the post was in breach of the Code of Conduct in that he had failed to treat others with respect. It was noted further the Sub-Committee had also found that by making the post Parish Councillor Jonathan Ireland had conducted himself in a manner that could reasonably be regarded as bringing his office of Parish Councillor and the Parish Council into disrepute.

The full Decision Record in respect of the complaint and Hearing was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

As a result of their considerations, the Sub-Committee decided that the following sanctions should be applied to Parish Councillor Jonathan Ireland:

1. The Member shall be censured.
2. The formal decision notice setting out the findings of the Sub-Committee shall be published on agenda of the next meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee.
3. That the findings in respect of the Subject Member's conduct should be published on the Council's website.
4. That the findings should be reported to full Council for information.

5. That the Councillor's Group Leader be recommended to remove the Subject Member from the Council's Standards and Ethics Committee.

During the discussion on the item it was noted by the Leader that Councillor Ireland had voluntarily resigned his seat on the Standards and Ethics Committee.

Resolved: - That the outcome of the Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing held on 18 January 2021 be noted.

Mover: Councillor McNeely

Seconder: Councillor Clark

Councillor Jepson re-joined the meeting at this point.

477. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE - OUTCOME OF STANDARDS AND ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING REGARDING THE ALLEGED BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT - COUNCILLOR ELLIS

Councillors Cowles, Ellis and M. Elliott who had declared an interest in this item left the meeting at this point and did not take place in the subsequent discussion and vote.

Consideration was given to a report that set out the outcome of a Standards and Ethics Sub Committee Hearing that took place on 18th January, 2021, in relation to an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by Councillor Sue Ellis.

It was noted that at the Sub-Committee Hearing that two similar complaints had been considered to the effect that Councillor Ellis had been overpaid in respect of her Chairing of the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority after she had finished in that role.

The Sub-Committee Hearing had found that Councillor Ellis' conduct did amount to a breach of the Council's Code of Conduct under General Obligations Section 5 – "you must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or the Council into disrepute". However, the Sub-Committee did not find a breach of the Code of Conduct in relation to the sixth Nolan Principle - Honesty.

The full Decision Record in respect of the complaint and Hearing was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

As a result of their considerations, the Sub-Committee decided that the following sanctions should be applied to Councillor Sue Ellis:

1. The Member shall be censured

2. The formal decision notice setting out the findings of the Sub-Committee shall be published on agenda of the next meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee
3. That the findings in respect of the Subject Member's conduct should be published on the Council's website.
4. That the findings should be reported to full Council for information.

Resolved: - That the outcome of the Standards and Ethics Sub-Committee Hearing held on 18th January. 2021, be noted.

Mover: Councillor McNeely

Second: Councillor Clark

Councillors Cowles, Ellis and M Elliott re-joined the meeting at this point.

478. PLANNING BOARD

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Planning Board held on 4th February, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor Sheppard

Second: - Councillor Williams

479. STAFFING COMMITTEE

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 10th February, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor Alam

Second: - Councillor Read

480. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STAFFING COMMITTEE - PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2021

Further to Minute No. 39 of the Staffing Committee held on 10th February, 2021, consideration was given to a report that detailed the proposed the Pay Policy Statement for 2021-22.

It was noted that the Localism Act 2011, Chapter 8 Pay Accountability, made it a legal requirement for authorities to produce and publish a Pay Policy Statement by 31st March each year and that this must be agreed by Council and detail the remuneration of its Chief Officers. The Pay Policy Statement for 2021-22 was attached as an appendix to the officer's report

Resolved: - That the Pay Policy Statement for 2021-22 be approved.

Mover: - Councillor Alam

Second: - Councillor Read

481. LICENSING BOARD

Resolved: - That the reports, recommendations and minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Board Sub-Committee held on 1st February, 2021, be adopted.

Mover: - Councillor Ellis

Seconder: - Councillor Beaumont

482. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO DESIGNATED SPOKESPERSONS

(1) Councillor Cowles referred to a recent article in the local paper by the Police and Crime Commissioner, in his bleeding-heart comment about how sorry he was to impose a further tax increase on hard working people. He said he would first need to consult; but did not say with whom. Since it was not Joe Public, with whom did he consult?

Councillor Sansome explained the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) had a statutory duty to consult with the public and with rate payers to obtain their views before the precept was set and, although Councillor Cowles obviously missed it, that was what he had done.

This year a pre-consultation on policing priorities and willingness to pay more in their Council Tax was undertaken during the autumn. Then, on 19th December, 2020, the PCC launched the formal statutory consultation around the setting of the precept.

During the 4 week period the survey was promoted heavily across the OPCC social media channels (Twitter and Facebook) and was supported by South Yorkshire Police social media accounts – both corporate and neighbourhood accounts – as well as on social media accounts of partners. The survey was circulated twice via SYP Alerts to in excess of 30,000 residents who have signed up to receive the service via email. It was also supported by a press release and articles within the local media.

A total of 2,160 responses were received and the results show that 67% of respondents were supportive of the maximum £15 (Band D property) increase, which was 19p per week.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles asked when the PCC wrote articles why did he not make this clear and then residents would not need to ask. The point being was why did the PCC want an increase when people have suffered in the way they have. Even in his Ward Councillor Cowles was aware of many self-employed people who were increasingly upset about this approach and suggested that any increase in Council Tax for this should be matched with increases in productivity. He asked, therefore, would Councillor Sansome go back to the PCC and make that recommendation to him.

Councillor Sansome was concerned that residents were raising their concerns with Councillor Cowles. During his time on the Police and Crime Panel there had been no questions from the public to the PCC from the Sitwell Ward. Councillor Sansome struggled to understand the correlation.

In terms of performance of the PCC, this was measured and considered by Police and Crime Panel; a Panel which Councillor Cowles was nominated to and did not take up the seat, yet continued to write letters to the local press.

483. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

(1) Councillor Fenwick-Green referred to one of the main messages being heard during the pandemic, stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. She asked what measures did the Cabinet Member feel needed to be taken to ensure the NHS was protected, both now and in the future?

Councillor Roche explained he was very proud of the NHS, but needed adjustment with some areas requiring improvement. Throughout the pandemic the NHS had come under excess strain and pressures, such as in the number of patients in areas like critical care where these pressures affected both primary and secondary care. Rotherham could be especially proud of its vaccination roll-out which had already started to show the impacts on the severity of illness. The success was partly due to the fantastic partnerships in Rotherham in the health and care field. The work done by the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG), Rotherham Council and NHS had been fantastic and deserved our praise and thanks.

The NHS did need protection and the pandemic had shown this. Before the pandemic there were signs of weakness in the NHS and there were attempts to run it down and make it ripe for privatisation. The potential move to an American health care system would be a disaster. This Council had committed itself to resisting any further privatisation of the NHS.

The NHS could not work on a supermarket just in time model. The lack of availability of PPE in everyday life showed that very clearly the NHS needed the cushion to be ready for divergences, especially in the need of critical care beds to ensure these were available when needed.

It was hard to see how a product company could make a profit in running the NHS without reducing standards or service. Nevertheless, creeping privatisation by stealth was being seen. Only 2 weeks ago a USA company took over a large number of GP surgeries in London making it the biggest provider of GP services in the UK.

Coventry had also seen a takeover with a private healthcare company running its hospitals despite the fact it had been severely criticised. Currently 26% of NHS contracts were private. The NHS should be for people and not for profit, although of course the supply of drugs and equipment would have to be from private companies.

What was of concern was the long-term sustainability and focus needed to be given to workforce issues and pressures. A five-year plan for its nurses had been agreed, with them due to get 2.1% increase that was agreed by the present Tory Government yet only a couple of weeks ago they reduced this to 1%. This was shocking after all the country had been through.

There was a need for more work to support the NHS in preventative services and early intervention and in restoration of elective care following the pandemic. These health inequalities needed support in integrated fashion with CCG's and Councils. The White Paper had some positive and negative elements that would centralise some services, but it totally missed out and intervention in social care of adults and children.

A seminar on this topic was proposed in the near future. The Cabinet Member hoped all Members agreed with him that the NHS should not move to an American-style system and the NHS needed to be maintained as a public organisation free at the point of delivery.

In a supplementary question Councillor Fenwick-Green asked after last week's budget was it fair to assume the Government had no intention of saving the NHS and it was up for sale.

Councillor Roche confirmed the NHS was receiving extra money rightly for the pandemic, but in looking at the spending plans for the future these were going to reduce down again. The NHS would need support over a number of years with Long Covid which would be around for some time, along with clearing the backlog of elective surgery to reduce to pre-pandemic levels so reducing so soon would be a gross and absolute error and impact negatively on the NHS.

(2) Councillor B. Cutts' question would be responded to in writing.

(3) Councillor Cowles asked how many times had RMBC been accused of contempt of court in the past six years?

Councillor Alam explained that it was only once. This was in relation to a current matter alleging failure to comply with directions given by the First Tier Tribunal.

Councillor Cowles' supplementary question was not considered to be relevant.

(4) Councillor Hague's question would be responded to in writing.

(5) Councillor Carter's question would be responded to in writing.

(6) Councillor Albiston asked were the high rates of Covid infections in areas such as Valley, a demonstration of the Council's underinvestment in these localities?

Councillor Roche explained data showed that the whole of Rotherham had seen a significant impact from Covid-19 and fared worse than other areas of the country. Much of this relates to some of the underlying conditions and inequalities that the Borough has faced and would have impacted Valley along with all Rotherham Wards.

Areas like Waverley had higher rates. More recently Laughton, Anston, Harthill, Swallownest and parts of Swinton had recorded high rates. Whilst there may occasionally record high rates, much of this is related to underlying conditions and inequalities that may impact upon Valley along with other Wards.

The transmission of Covid-19 required close contact and that measures such as social distancing, regular hand washing, the use of face coverings and ventilation all reduced transmission. For areas like Rotherham with low wage economies, a higher proportion of manual and factory jobs and a lower proportion of people with suitable conditions to enable working from home, it was inevitable that more people have continued to mix. Despite all of the good work that individuals and employers have done to follow Covid safe guidance, this increased necessity to mix increases the transmission risk.

For those who do contract the virus it was known that the outcomes were worse amongst more vulnerable groups. Vulnerability for individuals related to age, underlying health conditions, risk factors such as smoking and obesity and individual factors such as ethnicity. Rotherham had a relatively elderly population compared to more urban boroughs, and that it also had higher rates of smoking, obesity and heart and lung disease than the national average. All of these factors increased the risk of poor Covid-19 outcomes in Rotherham.

The Council would continue to invest in its Covid response across the Borough to mitigate these risks and ensure that communications, testing, contact tracing and shielding and isolation support were available to all residents with specific focus in localities according to the latest data.

Investment also continued in economic development, Public Health services and Health services in the Borough to tackle the underlying issues that have impacted on Rotherham's Covid-19 outcomes.

In a supplementary question Councillor Albiston asked if the Cabinet Member agreed with her it was now time for the Council to target resources at areas such as Valley where there was experience of health inequalities.

Councillor Roche agreed there needed to be a greater look at health inequalities especially in the JSNA Ward Profiles on the website. It was necessary to understand further where concentrations of health inequalities were to make sure more resources and effort were put in. Hopefully the new Director of Public Health's vision would work towards this.

In addition, work was taking place in the Performance Team on health inequalities and the Cabinet Member would try to improve on the work in that area.

(7) Councillor Jepson explained that due to the loss this year of £1,483 from the Community Leadership Fund as a result of a Ward Councillor being removed from office, the Ward has been unable to support 2 local uniformed groups that have suffered financially as a result of the pandemic. The Leader was asked if he ensure that should this happen again the funding be still made available for its intended use.

The Leader explained the Community Leadership Fund was allocated to individual Elected Members and not the Ward. He shared the same regret that funds from former Members were being lost.

This had been discussed before when an Elected Member failed in their most basic responsibilities, sadly that funding was then lost to the community.

It would be of concern to allow one Member to spend another's Community Leadership Fund and where would this end and the line drawn. Simply re-designating it when someone had to stand down was not that simple. Of course, in normal circumstances when a Member had to stand down there would be a by-election and a new Councillor elected, which would resolve the problem that was described.

There would be a further look at neighbourhood working through scrutiny.

(8) Councillor B. Cutts asked why, when he requested to attend the Standards Board meeting on 18th January, 2021, in writing on 2 occasions, he was now advised after the meeting that he should have filled in a form? He could not understand why he was advised of this after the meeting had taken place when he wished to represent 5 members of the public?

Councillor McNeely responded by confirming there was no Standards and Ethics Committee on 18th January, 2021 which members of the public could attend. On the 18th January there was a Standards and Ethics Sub-

Committee hearing and to attend Councillor Cutts would needed to have been a complainant. Councillor Cutts did not make a complaint to the Standards and Ethics Committee on the matters subject to the hearing, so he would not have been invited to attend. The 2 complainants who were present were Party colleagues.

In a supplementary question, Councillor B. Cutts believed was it not simply courteous to answer a letter. He had asked how he could attend and on each occasion did not get any response at all. The only time he did receive a response was after the event. He had been asked by 5 members of the public to represent their views so this must account for something. Their questions to himself were fair and reasonable and they needed representing. He was professionally blocked from attending.

Councillor McNeely was aware the Monitoring Officer and Chief Executive would have replied to Councillor Cutts. If he believed officers were not dealing with him adequately he could send a letter to the Chair of Standards and she would reply.

(9) Councillor Cowles explained recently he had received, as had the Cabinet Member, but probably not as many as he had had, numerous photos showing dead rodents in Eastwood, which highlighted the explosion of these creatures in the area. For clarity these were the ones with fur, 4 legs, long tail, and sharp teeth. He asked, therefore, what did the Cabinet Member propose to do about this appalling situation?

Councillor Hoddinott explained that rats were attracted to food and the Service were acting to quickly clear away litter and fly-tipping, so she was surprised to see in the Advertiser that Councillor Cowles would prefer waste to be left in the street in Eastwood throughout the weekend – a situation which would undoubtedly encourage vermin even further.

The Council's Enforcement Team focused on increasing formal enforcement measures to address the causes of rats, including waste in gardens and fly tipping. Throughout this year, despite the impacts of Covid generating significant additional demand, the Enforcement Team had served more Fixed Penalty Notices and more Community Protection Notices than were served during 2019, which in turn had also increased from the previous year.

Despite the photos there had not been a big increase in reports for this time of year and in fact some of the photos showed some of the creatures next to pest control traps. Ward Councillors were active and at a meeting just last week were looking at individual actions that cause rats to be prevalent and the more strategic approaches that could be taken.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles referred to a recent letter from a local MP where it was highlighted the area had suffered serious problems with vermin as a consequence of longstanding problems with rubbish. A resident, taking matters into his own hands, had been quoted £100 to treat the problems that he had not encouraged.

Councillor Cowles himself had spoken to a pest control company who claimed the cause to be due to black bin rubbish and to dustbins left propped open exposing rubbish. Lids were designed to be shut to keep smells in during the summer and vermin out at all times. Treating a single property was pointless and as a minimum each side and the rear must also be treated in order to deal with the problem properly. In addition, the whole area needed to be treated at least twice. A fly tipping charter had been established so asked was the Cabinet Member prepared to treat the whole area to deal with the problem.

Councillor Hoddinott described the ongoing largescale treatment in Eastwood and how Councillor Cowles was often complaining about the amount of money spent. When hearing calls for action, action was taken so the complaints were being listened to about enforcement and clearing up. It was good practice to have the clearing away service to ensure rubbish was not left at a weekend thus reducing the amount of food for the vermin to feed on. There was a need for clearing rubbish and enforcement was taken and Fixed Penalty Notices issued as part of this. There was a clear need to do both.

(10) Councillor Hague's question would be responded to in writing.

(11) Councillor B. Cutts asked why was the Standards and Ethics Committee not serving the people of Rotherham in a form of justice and transparency and should the meeting not be open to the public or webcast?

The Leader explained the Standards and Ethic Committee was recorded.

Before the pandemic, Standards and Ethics Committee meetings were held in public and as such members of the public and members who were not part of the Committee could attend if they wished. At that time the meetings were not webcast.

Since the pandemic the Government had removed the requirement for local authorities to hold public meetings in person and as such the Standards and Ethics Committee meetings were now held remotely and webcast ensuring continued accessibility to the public and members who were not part of the Committee.

However, some items considered by the Standards and Ethics Committee were exempt as they related to unproven allegations, matters of a sensitive nature, and personal information which was protected under Data Protection legislation.

The Committee and relevant hearings were minuted and the minutes were published.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cutts believed the meetings were very selective and this was an illustration of such.

The Leader disagreed with the premise Councillor Cutts was saying.

(12) Councillor Albiston referred to Councillor Watson at the last meeting committing to developing a Child Anti-Poverty Strategy so asked what date did he expect this to be completed by?

Councillor Watson explained it was not possible to put a date on it as this was not a quick fix policy.

In a supplementary question, Councillor Albiston asked could Councillor Watson suggest when work might start and in what year and would it be completed in the next one or 2 years.

Councillor Watson confirmed the work had commenced and was looking at other Councils. It was likely this would take between 9 months and 2 years to complete.

(13) Councillor R. Elliott was pleased to note the Leader's correspondence with Grant Shapps opposing the Eastern leg of HS2 and asked, bearing this in mind would the Leader, therefore, challenge Mayor Jarvis to justify his reasons for still supporting HS2 which was contrary to the views of Rotherham and Doncaster Councils and contradicted the recent National Infrastructure Report?

The Leader confirmed he and the Mayor had a longstanding disagreement about HS2 and preference of the route. Discussions did take place in a civil way and the Leader would continue to press the case for the argument if HS2 was going to be built for this to be built on a different route thus causing minimum impact. He was supported by Members in making this argument. The Leader and the Mayor had struggled to find common ground on this, but nevertheless the Leader would continue to try.

In a supplementary question Councillor Elliott confirmed that he and several others had written to Mayor Jarvis and all received the same reply with inaccurate information. The reply actually beggared belief as it was technical and questioned whether Mayor Jarvis knew what he was talking about. He was still an M.P. as well as Mayor and appeared to be performing both jobs badly, in fact he split his working week between the 2 and alternated on a 2 weekly basis. Did the Leader agree that Mayor Jarvis should do everyone a favour and resign as Mayor and give 100% to his constituents as an M.P.

The Leader was unable to agree with Councillor Elliott. He was not aware of what days Mayor Jarvis was in his office. He did an exceptional job as Mayor and it was to South Yorkshire's advantage that he was able to get his points across in Westminster and maximise the leverage. The Leader was proud to work with Mayor Jarvis notwithstanding the disagreement on some matters.

(14) Councillor Napper referred to how the greatest number of complaints was to the Housing Department with regards to missed appointments and repeated repairs to the same complaint which was due to poor workmanship and asked what was the Council was doing to address this?

Councillor Beck explained that in relation to Missed Repair Appointments, all of the 28,727 non-emergency repairs were appointed with the customer and of these, 98.7% of the appointments made were kept. This exceeded the Council's target of 92%. However, the Council was aware that on some occasions the contract partners, Mears and Engie, were unable to keep to appointments. This was generally due to inclement weather (for external repairs such as roofing works) and high volumes of emergencies on some days which took priority over non-emergency repairs.

With regards to Repeat Repairs due to Poor Workmanship, this financial year to date, responsive repairs completed 'right first time' was at 87.3% against a target of 88%.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been a number of material supply issues over the last 12 months which have negatively impacted on the contract partner's performance. For example, it became very difficult to obtain plastering materials, roof tiles, electrical wiring to name but a few components last year due to a nationwide shortage. The availability of building materials appeared to have greatly improved over recent months.

The Service was trying to improve and working hard and overall doing well when benchmarked against other Councils.

In a supplementary question, Councillor Napper referred to a question he had raised in the January, 2021 Council meeting asking about the Elizabeth Parkin Centre and the problems with the heating. He had received a letter from Councillor Beck which indicated this was not currently identified as an essential centre and the repair was not prioritised as urgent or an emergency. Unfortunately, the repair that was reported back in June 2020 meant the only source of heating for the whole of the surrounding bungalows had not been working and only last week the heating had been restored. It was concerning that it was not known that this was part of a community heating system and pensioners were left without hot water and heating for months. Even worse, they were also receiving meter readings for heating they were not actually getting. How would this be addressed when the bills were issued.

Councillor Beck was unaware of this position and was surprised that it had been ongoing for so long. He was pleased the heating was now fixed, but would investigate the situation Councillor Napper was referring to further.

(15) Councillor Jones' question would be responded to in writing.

(16) Councillor Cowles referred to Hull recently announcing a zero-tolerance initiative to fly-tipping. Rotherham announced a 7 day a week collection service. What message did the Cabinet Member think this sent out to those responsible for this despicable behaviour and if Hull could implement zero tolerance why could Rotherham not?

Councillor Hoddinott explained Hull was a lovely city and had spoken to leads at Hull Council and learnt that their policies and strategies were aligned. Hull too was using enforcement and have a 7 day clearance team as part of this initiative.

There was simply no excuse for fly tipping and the Council had taken a zero tolerance approach to the enforcement of fly tipping offences for some time. In fact, action in the form of crushed cars, sending people to jail and issuing over 100 Fixed Penalty Notices for these offences this year totalled over 600 since the powers were introduced in 2018.

Focus had also been made to the wider offences to prevent fly tipping, including 41 legal actions to force waste carriers to produce waste carrier licences, resulting in 11 Fixed Penalty Notices for those who could not show appropriate documents. The Council had also seized and crushed 2 vehicles during 2020 for fly tipping offences.

The introduction of the Borough-wide Weekend Cleaning Service was to enhance the Council's cleaning arrangements at weekends. It gave the Council the ability to respond more rapidly to cleaning issues which arose at the weekends, but also gave more resources to do work such as cleaning high speed roads and other areas. It was not a collection service and was not focussed on any particular area of the Borough.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles pointed out it had taken 2 years to solve the problem. Despite the education people refused to listen during the intervening years with thousands of pounds being poured into the area without any improvement. Fly tipping was a Borough-wide problem and there were hotspots, but Eastwood was the worst affected area and had been for the last 3 years. A colleague understood the issue so if the results did not improve why did the Cabinet Member just not go.

Councillor Hoddinott reiterated Rotherham had taken more action and fly tipping was a blight across the country not just in Rotherham. The Service had been putting all the different strands together over last few years. The toughest of action would continue and a new campaign about

fly tipping was being worked through with the public and residents to tackle this.

(17) Councillor Carter asked how would the administration describe the progress of the new central library project?

Councillor Allen confirmed progress was steady, but slower than the Service would like. Submissions for the Future High Streets Funding had been included in the budget and it was at the stage of waiting for Government to confirm their offer of funding. The Service was ready to go.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter referred to the contingency funding from the Council's Capital Budget and asked what the Council's stance would be. Was it optimistic that this fund would not be needed and would the Cabinet Member agree with him that any shortfall should have been planned for further in advance than the last budget.

Councillor Allen reiterated the Council already had an indicative offer of funding of 69% from the original bid. What the Council agreed last week was to fund a revised scheme that would bring everything required and increase the amount of Council contribution, therefore, putting such importance on this scheme and a valuable contribution to this project.

(18) Councillor Hague's question would be responded to in writing.

(19) Councillor B. Cutts asked when there were 130 people with special needs using the Addison Road facility he could still not understand the reason why it was closing down? There was no mention of the reasons of closure on page 75 of the 260 page report, so what of the building itself?

Councillor Roche explained it had been 4 years now since the Council embarked on a consultation programme about Learning Disability Services. Many discussions had taken place in Council and the reasons in detail. The objective was to modernise services, obtain cost savings and co-design new arrangements along with the users, staff, and families.

People and families told us that they expected support and services to be more person-centred, flexible, available during the day, evening, and weekends, as close to where the person lived as possible, and community-based. People and families wanted more opportunity to contribute and be part of mainstream life, and fewer and fewer new Service users wanted to use the day centres, thus giving a more community-based approach. These were reasons for change.

Information had been provided through seminars, Scrutiny and Council and had been supported by the Opposition.

In May 2018, Cabinet approved the vision and strategy for people with a learning disability. Plans were laid out to show how we would improve people's lives, aspirations, and opportunities. A transformation delivery plan was presented to show how the Council would make sure all people with a learning disability had access to community-based services that promoted independence, wellbeing, and social inclusion. It would be the difference between "having a life rather than just a service."

On this basis we agreed to close 2 of the Council's day centres, subject to each person who used them having an assessment and drawing up a plan for what they individually wanted to do. Approximately 150 people have now been through this process, and the feedback from former day centre users had generally been very positive indeed. The Advertiser published very positive comments last year and similar reports had been received from parents and carers.

Changes were due to be completed last year, but due to factors out of the Council's control, largely the current pandemic, the Addison Day Centre currently remained open and in use until all those who attended have had a review of their care and support needs and have an agreed alternative support plan in place.

There were currently 14 people accessing the service at Addison Day Centre due to the Pandemic and it was anticipated a further 12e people would return after shielding. 42 clients have moved on from the Service so far.

In a supplementary Councillor Cutts asked had Members been to the site and been part of the Service. He himself had several times, had lunch there and the Service was unbelievably good. How anyone could assess the circumstances and confirm the building required closing was beyond him. It was cruel and disgusting. People at the time were enjoying themselves. One of the main reasons for people attending was not just for the people themselves, but for respite for the people doing the care full-time. He asked further about the building and the land.

Councillor Roche pointed out that until all the users had been assessed a decision could not be made about the building. That would come at a later stage by Asset Management. Details about changes were set out in detail as part of the report and given in detail at seminars and at full Council. It was necessary to read this in conjunction with the Care Act and how users who had made the move found their situations had improved.

(20) Councillor Cowles referred to a recent article in the local paper when the Council Tax increase was announced as 1.99% plus 1% increase for Adult Social Care. Considering what was absent from the increase announced compared to what residents would be required to pay. This was deceitful and disingenuous and asked did the Leader agree?

The Leader explained this related to only part of the Council Tax and was an inaccurate description that what was proposed did not include all the Parish and Police and Crime Commissioner precepts. Different people, living in different places, would see different cumulative bills as a result of the various different precepts. That was why a bill was sent.

The Council's proposed Council Tax increase referred to was the only element of the Council Tax charge/bill that was a Council decision and the only part that related to Council services.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles found the response disingenuous for the following reasons as his own Council Tax was collected by RMBC via direct debit in a single payment. Joe Public may look at the bottom line and decide whether or not they should refuse the increase, yet if he refused RMBC would chase for non-payment and not necessarily for the precept. Why could the bills not include the increase minus the charges so it was abundantly clear.

The Leader pointed out the different elements clearly set out in the bill were collected and received by the principal authority set out in law. Unlike most other places an increase from the primary authority was to be lower here than in 75% of the rest of the country. Rotherham should be congratulated for this and it was hoped it was well received, but unfortunately any charges from Parish Councils and the Fire and Rescue precept were not within the gift of the political leadership of this authority to challenge.

(21) Councillor Jones confirmed he had now been told that 21 housing hubs have been set up, with 81 members of the public to deliver Ward projects. He asked could the Cabinet Member tell him what the underspend was for the year, which 3 Wards have the largest underspend and what each one underspent by?

Councillor Beck explained the budget was fully committed. In common with the previous Area Housing Panels, each Ward Housing Hub received a projects budget, funded by the Housing Revenue Account. This funding was provided to support local environmental projects and other initiatives, to address issues related to housing and neighbourhoods.

In a supplementary question Councillor Jones referred to some of the Ward budgets being spent beyond the end of January closing date and there were still Wards with money outstanding, bearing in mind the only person who had a genuine excuse was Councillor Jepson. He asked if there had been any discussions taken forward about possibly penalising Wards for not spending complete budgets or if these could be shared out across Wards that managed to do it.

Councillor Beck confirmed Ward Housing Hub money was fully committed by the end of January, which was not a strong deadline. Most Wards had spent their budget. Work was still taking place with a few Wards who had experienced problems to ensure backfill on other projects. The position by the end of March would be that all monies would be committed.

In terms of moving forward and Wards losing money, this year would be the only year in the Municipal term where there would be no roll forward. This was due to the forthcoming elections and a new Council with new Ward boundaries. This would mean any underspends would be lost. However, in the future if there was some surplus for each Ward at the end of the year during the next 3 years this would be rolled forward into subsequent financial years. This would, however, only relate to Housing Hub money. Thriving Neighbourhood funding was dealt with differently and separately.

(22) Councillor Hague's question would be responded to in writing.

(23) Councillor B. Cutts' question would be responded to in writing.

(24) Councillor Napper referred to complaints from the elderly being usually by telephone, this was because they did not have access to the internet and had no way of getting online, but then an automatic recording directed them repeatedly to the internet. This could be incredibly frustrating when they could not access it. He asked what could R.M.B.C do to make it easier and more accessible in these cases?

The Leader recognised the issue and it had been discussed in Scrutiny. One common call into the Contact Centre was Council tenants checking outstanding rent balances. This was a straight forward call which could take up time. Over the last few months this had been moved online to enable tenants to check balances, which appeared to be helping with the pressure. Part of the answer was about making sure more staff were able to answer the telephones with allowing some temporary increase to address the issues and deal with more calls.

In the longer term once the country returns to normal and libraries were again open it was hoped to restore some face-to-face access based on an appointment basis for people to see face-to-face Customer Services representatives. The Council was adopting a whole range of measures to help people to engage with services in the way they chose and appropriate to them. People who wished to pursue queries over the telephone could continue to do so.

(25) Councillor Cowles asked, based on the last complete reporting period, 2019/20, how many of the new houses built were built by the Council as social housing, which was what was said to be needed and, how many jobs were created for Rotherham people?

COUNCIL MEETING - 10/03/21

Councillor Beck confirmed that in the last reporting period of 2019/20 there had been 556 new homes delivered and of those 177 were delivered as a direct result of the Council's intervention which was around 32%.

113 of properties would be Council properties either for Council rental shared ownership (retaining a year's state of ownership) of which there were approximately 20% of that global total of 508.

In terms of jobs created which preceded the introduction of the Council's Social Value Policy, which now ensured that companies recorded output and new jobs created, there were 18 people who benefitted from employment and training opportunities and the Council's Bellows Road development, together in partnership, saw a total of 7 new jobs.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cowles referred to 18 people benefitting and expanded to 25 in relation to house building. This was a staggeringly low number of Rotherham jobs. A Rotherham resident had applied to Wilmot Dixon and told because they were not on the national database they were not considered. From the outset it should have been made clear Rotherham jobs for Rotherham people and Rotherham tradespeople. This was depressing and asked the Cabinet Member if he agreed.

Councillor Beck did not agree. The Council had delivered a significant investment into the building and development of new Council properties across Rotherham supporting companies in the process. This had to be balanced with ambition and wanting to support businesses and Rotherham jobs. This Council had a good track record in doing that, but again this had to be balanced against best value and what was good for the Council and the Rotherham taxpayers. The Council believed it had done well over recent years.

(26) Councillor Carter referred to trees felled in his Ward in the past year that had not been replaced in at least a carbon neutral way. What was the Council's policy on this moving forward to combat the climate emergency?

Councillor Allen referred to approval of last week's budget discussion with the 2 proposals; one Revenue and one Capital around tree practice in Rotherham. Councillor Carter voted against the budget.

As well as investment tree practice in Rotherham, the Council was developing a Tree Management Policy which would set out its approach to managing its own tree stock including felling, pruning and proactive planting. It was expected that the policy would be available for consultation from July, 2021 and would include a commitment to ensure that there was a net gain in tree cover, taking into account new planting and the number of fells for that year. The ratio planned was for 3 trees for every one felled, but it must be pointed out that the replacement trees

would not necessarily go in the same places as the one felled, but it would be as close as possible.

The Council was also working hard with partners with the aim of 11,000 trees being planted this year and the expected investments and the Policy would help improve on the contribution to the climate claim agenda.

In a supplementary question Councillor Carter welcomed the net positive where trees were lost and the 3:1 strategy. He deemed it important for his Ward with the Clean Air Mandate around the Parkway and M1. He asked if there was a commitment for tree cover to be kept in that Ward to address pollution in areas that have a Clean Air Mandate and if there would be a research impact of tree felling and catch up programme for trees lost in recent years throughout the Borough.

Councillor Allen explained last year netted a gain of 100 trees across the Borough so the process was not starting from zero and part of the Revenue proposal was for a Tree Engagement Officer to work alongside an Ecologist given the diversity issues in the Borough to get the whole future planting programme right.

Trees may not go back to the Ward they were removed from, but like the Parkway, any scheme at all that progressed through the planning process, subject to the requirements of the Policy replacement ratio, would identify where the trees had been planted. However, where there was a clean air need then obviously the Council would look to replace using the tree planting policies.

(27) Councillor Jones' question would be responded to in writing.

(28) Councillor Hague's question would be responded to in writing.

(29) Councillor Cowles explained that since 1925 it had been a requirement to get the Secretary of State's approval for a change in the use of statutory allotment land i.e. 1925 allotment act - any land bought or appropriated for allotments is statutory. We have built houses on land that was previously allotments. He asked had the Council sought the Secretary of States approval in all cases?

Councillor Hoddinott explained approval could be sought for a change of use. The Council was not aware of any housing that had been built on statutory allotment land where the Council was the Statutory Allotments Authority that had that allocation.

(30) Councillor Napper referred to Firsby being a small hamlet, but was now being targeted by fly-tippers and off-road vehicles. Fly-tippers were dumping rubbish in the lane – quadbikes going up the side of the dam and around what was left of the reservoir. He asked what could R.M.B.C do to stop this with only one lane track into and out of the hamlet?

Councillor Hoddinott explained the Council would work with other partners to address this issue. The Service was aware of this location and there had previously been a CCTV camera in the area which had led to enforcement action being taken. An update on the CCTV was available and she would provide this outside of the meeting with Councillor Napper.

The Council was looking at different signs etc. and a Friends Group to take this forward thus empowering the neighbourhood work in order to respond at a local level.

In a supplementary question Councillor Napper referred to the overflow from the reservoir and how there was no fencing to stop anyone going across. This had suffered massively when the Council had removed half of the bank to release the water. He suggested the Council erect a fence or a hedgerow to stop further damage.

Councillor Hoddinott was not aware of all the details, but this may be something that could be considered under the capital budget through the Neighbourhoods Fund next year when again local projects could be looked at.

(31) Councillor Cowles referred to the recognition by gold standard councils where national guideline stated that for every 1,000 houses built there should be 20 allotment plots allocated. The Council was building upwards of 14,000 houses, which equalled 280 allotments, with roughly 1,000 houses in the Whiston area. Allotments should be near to the new houses. He had not seen on plans so asked where would the new allotments be in Whiston?

Councillor Hoddinott explained on average there were 13 per 1,000 nationally equating approximately 20/30 plots per 1,000 houses.

There was no statutory requirement to provide allotments associated with new homes. However, within the Policy SP37 of the Local Plan there was a requirement to ensure that new residential development provided 55 sq m of open space per dwelling, but this was not restricted to allotments as it would be public open space. Any new allotments would be managed by Rotherham Allotments Alliance and not the Council.

The Council did, however, have a statutory duty to provide enough allotments to meet demand and this could be demonstrated in Rotherham due to low numbers on waiting lists and some existing land held as allotments unused allowing for further increases in plot use.

Allotments were community spaces and afforded the opportunity for an active and healthy lifestyle with a future role for people to pursue a green career. There were legal and policy safeguards in place for disposal handled by the Secretary of State should there be any consideration for any consent and subject to this rigorous process.

(32) Councillor Jones' question would be responded to in writing.

(33) Councillor B. Cutts asked what dates and by whom was planning permission granted to:-

2 x Wilmott sites on Westgate
1 x Wilmot site on Wellgate,
And Guest and Chrimes site

Councillor Sheppard explained planning permission was granted by Planning Board Members on 31st October, 2019, for the 2 sites on Westgate and the one on Wellgate. The applicant for all 3 applications was the Council.

The wider Guest and Chrimes site had historically been the subject of numerous planning applications, including the building of the football stadium for Rotherham United Football Club. More recently planning permission had been granted to the Club to allow the stadium car park to be used as a public pay and display in January, 2012 and the erection of a single storey office block for Mears in July, 2020.

In a supplementary question Councillor Cutts referred particularly to the Guest and Chrimes office site that was protected and what application had been granted given that builders boards were being placed around to isolate it.

Councillor Sheppard confirmed no planning permissions have been granted for the Listed Buildings that remained on site.

484. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

COUNCIL MEETING
19th March, 2021

Present:- The Mayor (Councillor Jenny Andrews) (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Allen, Atkin, Beaumont, Bird, Buckley, Carter, Clark, Cowles, Elliot, Evans, Hoddinott, Jones, Keenan, McNeely, Mallinder, Marles, Pitchley, Read, Roche, Rushforth, Russell, Sansome, Steele, Taylor, John Turner, Vjestica, Walsh, Williams, Watson and Yasseen.

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

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

485. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Beck, Councillor Brookes, Councillor Cooksey, Councillor R Elliott, Councillor Sheppard, Councillor Short and Councillor Wyatt.

486. FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

In accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and Minute No. 341, it was before the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to admit Dame Julie Kenny CBE DL HonD FRSA as an Honorary Freewoman of the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham.

The Mayor began the meeting by introducing Dame Julie Kenny whilst confirming that it was her pleasure to confer the title of Freedom of the Borough on a woman as this had not happened for 50 years. The Mayor explained that, to be granted the title of Honorary Freeman/Freewoman of the Borough was a mark of distinction upon the person that the Council wished to honour.

It was confirmed that Dame Julie Kenny had been awarded the Freedom due to her distinctive work as a major employer, services to industry and charity works in the Borough. The Mayor explained that Dame Julie Kenny had helped those less fortunate within the Borough whilst also leading innovative and inspirational entrepreneurial projects such as the redevelopment of Wentworth Woodhouse. A video was played that gave further details of Dame Julie Kenny's work in the Borough.

Members joined the Mayor in congratulating Dame Julie Kenny on the award. Dame Kenny responded by stating that she was honoured to have the Freedom of the Borough bestowed upon her. She detailed her work in the Borough and expressed her pride in Rotherham.

The Mayor confirmed that a formal civic ceremonial event would take place when COVID-19 restrictions were removed in order to celebrate this achievement and present the Freedom of the Borough pendant.

Councillor Denise Lelliott – Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy

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Councillor Denise Lelliott

11th March 2021

Cllr B Cutts

4 St Albans Way

Wickersley

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S66 1AD

Dear Councillor Cutts

Council Meeting 3rd March and Reconvened 10th March 2021

Thank you for the question you submitted for the above meeting at which I was unfortunately not able to attend. Please find below a written response.

“The legally protected Guest and Crimes office having been demolished – can you tell me what construction is now underway on the same site?”

Following a fire in July 2018, part of the Guest and Chrimes listed building was deemed unsafe and subsequently demolished.

The construction works currently underway are situated on the land adjacent to the Guest and Chrimes building and are not to the Guest and Chrimes site itself.

The works now on site are required to meet a condition of the planning approval for New York Stadium and in order to mitigate flood risk associated with the site. This requires the construction of an outfall chamber and pump station, together with extensive drainage works in Don Street. The works also include the removal of the current bridge on Don Street, which has reached the end of its serviceable life, and which will allow for the new outfall chamber and reinstatement of the highway.

The council's contribution to these works was agreed by this meeting of full council last year when we set the budget, so all members had information about the work at that time.

Yours sincerely,

**Councillor Denise Lelliott - Cabinet Member – Jobs and the Local Economy**

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

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11th March 2021

Cllr P Hague

By email paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Hague

Thank you for the question which you submitted for the council meeting held on 3rd March and reconvened on 10th March. As you were unable to attend this week's meeting, I am providing a written response:

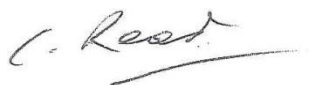
“In response to a letter to my constituent, Mr. Peter Cowen, dated 24th Feb this year, the Leader stated that the Council has no regulatory powers within the boundary of the Watson's tip site. Could he advise on what consultation/ information this statement was made?”

What we said in that letter is; “The Council has no regulatory powers in relation to operations within the site boundary, or any issues caused by operations on the site.” The operation of the tip is a regulatory matter for the Environment Agency.

Since Councillors voted to ask the Environment Agency to revoke the permit to tip on the site in 2017, the Council has explored numerous avenues to prevent operations from taking place on the site. This has included taking legal advice around the regulatory powers that are open to the Council.

The site is regulated by the Environment Agency through an Environmental Permit that is issued by them. The Council has no regulatory powers in relation to that Permit. Health and Safety on the site and on the access road, as at any industrial site of this nature, is regulated by the Health and Safety Executive.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Chris Read
Leader of Rotherham Council

**Councillor Denise Lelliott – Cabinet Member for Jobs
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Councillor Denise Lelliott

11th March 2021

Cllr A Carter

By email adam.carter@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Carter

Council Meeting 3rd March and Reconvened 10th March 2021

Thank you for the question you submitted for the above meeting at which I was unfortunately not able to attend. Please find below a written response.

“Residents have reported night-time disturbances from the changes to the Parkway. What is the Council’s policy regarding enforcement of disturbances to residents, particularly when the Council is the client?”

To ensure that traffic is not unduly disrupted there is a need for significant night working to progress the A630 Parkway scheme.

The Contractor has to seek to ensure their proposed methods of works, the plant and equipment to be used, the phasing of the operations and any other steps they propose minimises the noise impact complying with the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Any breaches would be enforced by the Council’s Environmental Health Department as with any other third party.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Denise Lelliott - Cabinet Member – Jobs and the Local Economy

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

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Councillor Chris Read

11th March 2021

Cllr P Hague

By email paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Hague

Thank you for the question which you submitted for the council meeting held on 3rd March and reconvened on 10th March. As you were unable to attend this week's meeting, I am providing a written response:

“Can the Leader confirm that an accommodation regarding finance has been reached between the Council and the EA regarding the river defence works at Forge Island?”

The Council is currently delivering flood reduction works on Forge Island including the new flood defence wall and a proposed Canal Barrier with funding contributions being made from the Environment Agency, Sheffield City Region and Network Rail. With a contribution of £320,000, the Environment Agency are a minority funder of the scheme.

I hope that the above information answers your question.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Chris Read
Leader of Rotherham Council

Councillor Saghir Alam – Cabinet Member Corporate Services and Finance

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Councillor Saghir Alam

Councillor Hague

11th March 2021

By email paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Hague

Council Meeting – 3rd March and Reconvened 10th March

Thank you for submitting your question to the council meeting held on 3rd March. It is unfortunate, that you were unable to attend the reconvened meeting on 10th March to ask the question but please note my written response below:

“Does the Council intend pursuing any legal avenues with regards to Watson’s tip?”

The Council is keeping the issues relating to Watson’s Tip under continual review and this includes any potential legal avenues available.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Saghir Alam - Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Finance

Councillor Saghir Alam – Cabinet Member Corporate Services and Finance

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Councillor Saghir Alam

Councillor Hague

11th March 2021

By email paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Hague

Council Meeting – 3rd March and Reconvened 10th March

Thank you for submitting your question to the council meeting held on 3rd March. It is unfortunate, that you were unable to attend the reconvened meeting on 10th March to ask the question but please note my written response below:

“How many QC briefs have been instructed regarding Watson’s tip?”

There has been eight pieces of legal advice, from four different legal advisors, two of which were QC briefs.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Saghir Alam - Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Finance

**Councillor Denise Lelliott – Cabinet Member for Jobs
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Councillor Denise Lelliott

11th March 2021

Cllr B Cutts

4 St Albans Way

Wickersley

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S66 1AD

Dear Councillor Cutts

Council Meeting 3rd March and Reconvened 10th March 2021

Thank you for the question you submitted for the above meeting at which I was unfortunately not able to attend. Please find below a written response.

“With an increasing population in Rotherham why are we building on agricultural land and allotments when it is illegal?”

The Council adopted the Sites and Policies section of the Local Plan in June 2018. This allocated land for Housing for the next 15 years and was subject to an examination in public in front of an independent Inspector. Some land was released from the Green Belt to accommodate the increasing population, but this is now allocated for housing and would not be illegal to build on.

Some of the land allocated for housing in the Local Plan is statutory allotment land and before planning permission is granted on any of these sites an assessment of the allotments on site and available allotments within the wider area will be essential to determine whether allotment holders can be re-located or must remain in situ in accordance with the Allotments Act 1950.

I hope that the above information is helpful in answering your question.

Yours sincerely,

**Councillor Denise Lelliott****Cabinet Member – Jobs and the Local Economy**

**Councillor Denise Lelliott – Cabinet Member for Jobs
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Councillor Denise Lelliott

11th March 2021

Cllr I Jones

By email ian.jones@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Jones

Council Meeting – Reconvened 10th March 2021

Thank you for the question you submitted for the above meeting at which I was unfortunately not able to attend. Please find below a written response.

“In several meetings Cllr Hoddinott has claimed that the Council has done everything in its power to stop the Droppingwell Tip going ahead and the only person that can stop it is the Secretary of State, do you agree?”

This is a simple answer, yes, I do believe that the only person that can stop this going ahead is the Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Denise Lelliott

Cabinet Member – Jobs and the Local Economy

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

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Councillor Chris Read

11th March 2021

Cllr P Hague

By email paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Hague

Thank you for the question which you submitted for the council meeting held on 3rd March and reconvened on 10th March. As you were unable to attend this week's meeting, I am providing a written response:

“Having myself been interviewed by a Detective Chief Inspector about issues around Watson’s tip and possible criminal proceedings therein against Councillors and or Council Officers, could he confirm if he is aware off any other Councillors or Officers who have also been interviewed with regards to Watson’s tip?”

No, I am not aware of any other Councillors or Officers being interviewed by the Detective Chief Inspector or other police officers.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Chris Read
Leader of Rotherham Council

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Councillor Denise Lelliott

11th March 2021

Cllr I Jones

By email ian.jones@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Jones

Council Meeting – Reconvened 10th March 2021

Thank you for the question you submitted for the above meeting at which I was unfortunately not able to attend. Please find below a written response.

“Can the Member explain what the final cost were of demolishing the old Kimberworth Infants School was back in January 2019 and why the land hasn’t been sold to a developer to re-coupe some of our costs?”

The demolition of the old Kimberworth Infants School, more recently known as the Psalters Lane Centre took place as it was no longer for purpose.

The demolition of the building has saved the Council around half a million pounds as there was a backlog of maintenance costing in excess of £600,000 and the demolition cost was £71,606.42

The site fronts existing Council owned land and buildings and therefore there is the long-term possibility of amalgamating the sites for a more comprehensive development that is currently being looked at.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Denise Lelliott

Cabinet Member – Jobs and the Local Economy

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Council – 26 May 2021

Report Title

Election of the Leader of the Council

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

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)

Craig Tyler, Head of Democratic Services
01709 822103 or craig.tyler@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to consider the election of the Leader of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Recommendations

1. That an appointment be made to the position of Leader of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

List of Appendices Included

None

Background Papers

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Election of the Leader of the Council

1. Background

- 1.1 In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, under the system of governance used by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, it is a requirement to elect an Executive Leader of the Council for a four-year term of office in alignment to election cycles.
- 1.2 The Council has adopted a “strong” Leader and Cabinet form of Executive. The Executive will carry out all of the Authority’s functions that are not the responsibility of any other part of the Authority, whether by law or under the Constitution.
- 1.3 At the Council meeting of 27th February 2019, it was resolved that the Leader will be a councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council at its annual meeting for a term of four years, to be coterminous with the electoral cycle of whole Council elections.
- 1.4 However, in 2020 as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Government postponed the elections until 2021 and extended the term of office for councillors by a year. In order to align with the previous four year cycle the current term of office will be for only three years. The cycle will then return to being every four years.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Authority’s Constitution further provides that the elected Leader will hold office until the day of the first annual meeting of the Council held after the expiry of their term of office as a councillor following the elections.
- 2.2 There is therefore a requirement at today’s Annual Council meeting that the office of Leader is filled for a three year period.
- 2.3 The political balance of the Council is presently:

Labour	32 Members
Conservative	20 Members
Liberal Democrats	3 Members
Rotherham Democratic Party	3 Members
Non-aligned (1 Independent)	1 Member

It is for the Council to decide who to appoint as the Leader from amongst its Members, but it is a legislative requirement that a Leader be appointed.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 The Council is required to appoint a Leader, in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the provisions of the Authority’s Constitution. It is recommended that an appointment be made to the position of Leader of the Council.

- 3.2 In adopting the provisions of this act in February 2019, the Constitution was amended to reflect the need to appoint a Leader of the Council at the first “Business” Annual Meeting after an election. The proposed wording for Article 7.3 agreed was:

The Leader will be a councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council at its annual meeting in 2021 for a term of three years, or until the day of the first annual meeting of the Council held after the expiry of their term of office as a councillor, if the latter is a shorter period. He or she will hold office until:

- *he or she resigns from the office; or*
- *he or she is no longer a councillor; or*
- *he or she is removed from office by resolution of the Council, whereupon his or her term of office as leader shall end on the day of that Council meeting.*

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

Subject to the decision of the Council, the appointment of a Leader will be effective immediately for a period of three years or until the date of the Annual Council meeting following the expiry of their term of office whichever is the shorter period.

5. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Legal Advice and Implications

- 6.1 The Council is required to comply with the provisions within its own constitution and those within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The recommendations to appoint a Leader and amend the Constitution ensure compliance in respect of both issues.

7. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 7.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

8. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 8.1 There are no implications for children and young people or vulnerable adults arising from this report.

9. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 9.1 There are no equalities or human rights implications arising from this report.

10. Implications for Partners

10.1 There are no implications for partners arising from this report.

11. Risks and Mitigation

11.1 The recommendations within this report are proposed to mitigate risks associated with governance.

12. Accountable Officer(s)

Craig Tyler, Head of Democratic Services

THE CABINET
22nd March, 2021

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

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

123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

124. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(1) Elizabeth started off by expressing concerns regarding a Stage 3 Complaint hearing she had observed the previous week. It was agreed that Elizabeth would email the Leader regarding the matter. Elizabeth then proceeded to ask her question which was, did the Leader feel current services for children at serious risk or currently involved in CSE were now fit for purpose?

The Leader responded by stating that he did think they were fit for purpose based on the information from OFSTED in terms of the inspections they undertake regarding CSE services. OFSTED had reviewed the work done by the Council in regards to Child Protection, with specific reference to CSE, over the past year and the Council had received positive feedback. The Leader stated that the Council was never complacent about the inspection outcomes and if people had specific concerns or thought things were going wrong, the Council would look into those matters.

In her supplementary question, Elizabeth stated that there was still clear evidence that children and parents were being failed and that children were being removed due to future risk. She asked if Rotherham Social Workers were able to see into the future. Elizabeth also explained that victims of CSE were being told that they were not able to identify inappropriate relationships with regards to their own children because they could not identify them when they were children. Elizabeth explained that this was not the case as the victims identified that the relationships were inappropriate but were let down by the authorities. She asked if this meant that Social Workers were unable to act on risk and if so, were their own families being scrutinised like the survivors in Rotherham? A further question was could a timetable be provided for when victims were going to be treated as victims instead of taking the blame for their own abuse?

The Leader explained that whenever a child had to come into the Council's care, that was based on an assessment of the current circumstances, not a future prediction. All of those decisions were made by the Court after an application from the Council. The Leader stated that if there was cases where children were being inappropriately put into care, particularly in relation to families of CSE survivors, then the Council would like more details on that to be able to scrutinise the situation. The Leader confirmed that he and the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services would be willing to have further conversations with Elizabeth on this matter.

125. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 February 2021 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

126. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair advised that Appendix 4 to Item 10, Annual Housing Development Report 2021/22, was exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. However, the Appendix was not discussed during the meeting and as such, the meeting remained open to the press and public throughout.

127. YEAR AHEAD PLAN PROGRESS REPORT (SECOND QUARTERLY UPDATE)

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on the progress made with the Year Ahead Plan activities since September 2020. The Plan was the Council's plan for operating in and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. It aimed to support residents, communities and business through the challenges and uncertainty of the pandemic, helping to build resilience whilst also continuing to drive ambitions plans for Rotherham.

The Leader explained that the Plan was essentially a big "to-do" list. As of 25th February, 2021, 26% of the activities within the Plan had been completed; 54% were on track; 16% were behind schedule and 4% were off track. The 4% that were off track were in that position due to Covid restrictions.

The report provided detail on the actions within the five themes which were thriving neighbourhoods; better health and wellbeing; economic recovery; new ways of working and hope and confidence in Rotherham. The two cross-cutting strands of equalities and social justice and climate impact were integral to each theme.

Cabinet Members highlighted paragraphs within the report that related to their portfolios. The Leader and Cabinet Members wished to record their thanks to the CCG, NHS and volunteers for their work on the vaccine roll-out.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendation and echoed the thanks to key workers.

Resolved:-

That the progress made with the Year Ahead activities is noted.

128. UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on how the Council was responding to the COVID-19 global pandemic. The report also sought approval for the allocation of an additional £350,218 allocation of COVID Winter Grant in accordance with the priorities agreed by Cabinet in December 2020.

The report provided details on the four-step roadmap that had been set out by Government on 22nd February, 2021. Appendix 1 to the report was an overview of the announcements through the pandemic and the Council's response to those announcements.

The Leader explained that Rotherham had been allocated an additional £350,218 as part of the COVID Winter Grant. In order to ensure that the additional grant was spent within the permitted timeframe and the benefits realised by Rotherham families, proposals had been developed to allocate the grant in accordance with the priorities previously agreed by Cabinet. It involved further provision allocation of:

- £315,000 to provide food vouchers for the Easter school holidays, and support for school uniforms, to children eligible for free school meals. The food vouchers were to the value of £15 per week for each eligible child. Support for school uniforms was £20 per eligible child.
- £35,318 to increase the funding available to support families struggling with utility costs/debts.

The Chief Executive explained that the infection rate in the Borough was falling and, at the time of the meeting was 140-150 cases per 100,000. This was, however, still very high compared to other areas in England and work was on-going to try and reduce the rate further. Targeted work was taking place and plans were in place for surge testing. The vaccine roll-out had been successful with over 90,000 residents receiving their first vaccination so far.

Work was on-going with private businesses with 5,000 businesses receiving support grants. Businesses were also contributing towards the "laptops for kids" charity scheme which aimed to provide school aged children with laptops so that they could continue learning remotely. Schools were also working hard with parents and children to ensure all needs were catered for and COVID regulations were followed. The Community Hub was continuing to support families. A new cohort of vulnerable residents had been announced by the Government which equated to an additional 6,669 residents being included on the Shielded Persons List. All residents within this cohort were being contacted via letter and/or text.

Cabinet Members expressed their support for the political decisions that they had made throughout the pandemic. They were especially proud of the food voucher scheme that had been put in place.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendations. It was noted that the Chair of OSMB and the Leader of the opposition had agreed to waive the call-in period for this item so that the much needed COVID Winter Grant funds could be allocated as soon as possible.

Resolved:-

1. That Cabinet agrees provisional allocations of the grant subject to final adjustments for the purposes of:
 - a) School holiday food vouchers and support for uniforms - £315,000
 - b) Struggling with utility costs / debt - £35,218
2. That final allocations be apportioned across the approved uses when the final costs of food vouchers and support for uniforms is known.
3. That Cabinet note the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, including local outbreaks.
4. That Cabinet note the arrangements in place to respond to COVID-19.

129. PUBLIC HEALTH PROPOSALS FOR RECOMMISSIONING CHILDREN'S PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES FOR THE 0-19 POPULATION

Consideration was given to the report regarding the Public Health Children's Nursing services in the Borough. The Local Authority was responsible for the commissioning of these services as described in the Health and Social Care Act 2012. These services contributed to a wide range of Public Health outcomes in infancy, childhood and adolescence including those relating to school readiness, mental wellbeing, child obesity, sexual health and education attainment. The Service was tendered in 2016 and awarded to The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) with the contract due to expire on 31st March, 2022.

An extended procurement timescale for the replacement contract had become necessary as the Public Health resource required to develop the specification had been unavailable as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. An extended timetable also allowed for more work on the shape and specification of a new service. This would allow the Council to undertake a collaborative commissioning exercise with NHS partners and market engagement with potential providers who had been engaged with during the COVID-19 pandemic. A report would be brought back to Cabinet for a decision on the tender once this exercise had been completed.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health confirmed that other options, such as the establishment of a Section 75 Partnership Agreement with the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group had been considered. However, it was expected that Section 75 would be replaced before the tender was published and as such open tender of the contract was the recommended option.

Resolved:-

That Cabinet:

1. Note the ongoing impact of the pandemic on NHS providers and Public Health in the Local Authority; in its role as commissioner of 0-19 Children's Nursing Services for Rotherham residents as set out in the report.
2. Agree the timeline for publication of the tender in April 2022 (subject to a further Cabinet decision confirming tender proposals at an appropriate stage prior to this date) for a period of 5 years with annual extension options after that for up to a further 5 years, making the total potential contract length 10 years. Extensions will only be utilised if performance is strong and there is evidence of continuous improvement.

3. Vary the current contract with The Rotherham Foundation Trust to allow for a further 12 months term until 31st March, 2023, to facilitate the tendering exercise.

130. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ANNUAL REPORT

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on the “Rotherham Council Responding to the Climate Emergency” Policy and Action Plan. Rotherham Council had declared a Climate Emergency on 20th October, 2019, which had led to the production of the Policy and Action Plan. At its meeting on 23rd March, 2020, Cabinet resolved to establish the targets of:

- Council’s carbon emissions to be net zero by 2030 (NZ30)
- Rotherham-wide carbon emissions to be at net zero by 2040 (NZ40)

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was a progress summary and the 2021/22 action plan. Highlights included the reduced energy consumption and CO² emissions in operational Council buildings by 54% and streetlighting by 73%. Rotherham was also one of only four local authorities in England and Wales to install over 2,500 energy efficiency measures through the Energy Company Obligation Scheme.

The Cabinet Member for Cleaner, Greener Communities advised that there were several key projects detailed in the 2021/22 Action Plan. These included implementing energy awareness training for the Council Workforce; developing a site decarbonisation plan and implementing energy efficiency upgrades; expanding the electronic vehicle charging infrastructure and developing a climate emergency communication and engagement plan. There was also scope in the 2021/22 Budget for the recruitment of a research officer and a Tree Planting Engagement Officer.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendations.

Resolved:-

1. That the progress to date towards NZ30 and NZ40 targets be noted
2. That the 2021/22 Carbon Action Plan appended be noted
3. That the report and action plan be forwarded to the next ordinary Council meeting.

131. ANNUAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2021/22

Consideration was given to the second annual housing development report under the new reporting arrangements agreed by Cabinet on 21st September, 2020. The report set out the housing growth progress made in 2020/21 and proposed projects for 2021/22. The proposed projects were aligned with the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan which had been approved by Council in January 2021. Appendix 3 to the report listed the sites proposed for development and Appendix 4 provided a list of potential strategic acquisition opportunities.

The Cabinet Member for Housing described the overall summary of housing growth progress over the past 12 months as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report. The Council were projected to achieve their year-end target of 175 homes. The Bellows scheme had been completed and yielded 58 homes and the Site Clusters scheme had also been completed resulting in 217 homes. The Rotherham Town Centre housing scheme had started and was expected to yield 171 homes. The Council were also onsite at the Chesterhill Avenue and Whinney Hill programme which was expected to result in another 237 homes.

Work was on-going on the garage site residential development which would be progressed in consultation with residents and Councillors. The Council would take a blended approach to developments, combining direct Council build, strategic acquisitions and housing association delivery for the 2021/22 programme. This would allow each site to be judged on its own merits and would subsequently lead to a significant number of new homes for the Council. The new homes were needed as there were around 6,800 applicants on the waiting list for Council housing in Rotherham.

The Leader expressed his support for the plan and celebrated the achievements of the previous year, specifically the Bellow development which had taken a long time to come to fruition.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendations. The Board also requested that relevant Ward Members be made formal consultees in the process for strategic acquisition opportunities and that consideration be given to the provision of financial support to enable vulnerable tenants to empty their garage or to clear their garage plot when a garage site was being developed for housing. Cabinet accepted the 2 additional recommendations.

Resolved:-

1. That Cabinet approves the release of the Council owned sites listed in Appendix 3 for residential development, subject to written confirmation of agreement by the relevant Ward Members.
2. That Cabinet approves the programme of strategic acquisition opportunities listed in Exempt Appendix 4, and that authority is delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport to purchase homes from private developers or the open market to add to the Council's stock with the agreement of the Assistant Director of Housing, Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Housing. This is subject to the budget parameters as set out in the Council's approved Capital Programme. This delegation is proposed to apply until April 2022 when the next annual programme will be reported to Cabinet.
3. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Section 151 Officer, to enter into an Affordable Homes Programme grant funding agreement with Homes England, for all eligible sites listed in Appendix 3.
4. That for the programme of strategic acquisition opportunities, that relevant Ward Members are made formal consultees in the process.
5. That consideration be given to the provision of financial support to enable vulnerable tenants to empty their garage or to clear their garage plot when a garage site was being developed for housing.

132. TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

Consideration was given to the report which outlined the Transport Capital Programme for 2021/22 and explained the sources of funding. Specific Transport Capital funding was provided to the Council via the Sheffield City Region's Integrated Transport Block allocation which is awarded to Local Transport Authorities each year from the Department of Transport. The year 2020/21 was the final year of the latest round of funding confirmed by the Government. The funds, totalling £1,053,750, supported a programme of infrastructure works across a range of schemes. The schemes focused on Local Safety Schemes, Connectivity, Traffic Management and Smarter travel. The breakdown of the figures was at paragraph 1.3 of the report.

Interim single-year arrangements were being put in place by the Government for the financial year 2021/22. It was proposed to maintain similar levels of funding to each of the themes to enable the Council to be better prepared for future funding bids. In addition to the aforementioned

programme, 3 structural schemes had also been identified for delivery in 2021-22. The Schemes are Manvers Footbridge structural painting, West Bawtry Road embankment collapse and Steadfolds Lane embankment collapse.

Local transport schemes included in the Transport Capital Programme were funded from a range of external grant funded wards totalling £81.97m. These schemes included the Parkway Widening Scheme; Greasbrough Coach Road; Get Britain Building Fund – The Whins; Transforming Cities Fund and Active Travel Fun – Broom Road.

Resolved:-

1. That Cabinet notes the funding, as stated in the report, that supports the delivery of major transport projects for the Council.
2. That Cabinet approves the content and scheme priorities for the 2021-22 Local Transport Plan Programme and 3 highway structures schemes referred to in section 1.10 to 1.11 and Appendix 2.
3. That, with the exception of Local Safety Schemes, decisions on any changes needed to the programme are 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.

133. ROTHERHAM CYCLING STRATEGY 2021

Consideration was given to the report which set out the development of a new Strategy, outlining the Council's ambition for cycling. The Strategy would deliver improvements to the Council's existing cycle network and also set out its ambitions and objectives for the investing in and expanding of Rotherham's cycling provision. The Strategy would promote the use of cycling to benefit health and well-being, the economy and the environment. Cabinet were asked to approve the draft Strategy attached to the report at Appendix 2 for public consultation.

The Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy reported that cycling was growing in popularity and the cycling infrastructure in Rotherham was not set to cope with the growing demand. More funding was become available for cycling and the Council had been fully involved with the Sheffield City Region Active Travel Implementation Plan and Transforming Cities Fund bids during round 1 with Fenton Road Cycleway being installed as a result of the scheme. Approval for future funding was pending, however, Round 2 of the Transforming Cities Fund had resulted in £166m for the city region. As a result of this funding, Rotherham had a number of projects totalling almost £30m over 3 years.

The Cycling Strategy would mean cycling would become more viable both as a leisure activity and as a mode of transport. It would also assist the Council in meeting its climate change objectives of reducing carbon emissions. The Cabinet Member encouraged residents to get involved with the consultation to ensure the Strategy reflected a wide range of views.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendations and requested that further consideration be given in the development of the Strategy as to how Council staff and Elected Members could be supported and encouraged to cycle more. The Board also requested that the Improving Places Select Commission continue to monitor the development of the Cycling Strategy and the development of cycling and related infrastructure in Rotherham. Cabinet accepted both of these requests.

Resolved:-

1. That the draft Rotherham Cycling Strategy 2021 attached at Appendix 2 be approved for public consultation.
2. That further consideration be given in the development of the Cycling Strategy to how Council staff and Elected Members can be supported and encouraged to cycle more.
3. That the Improving Places Select Commission continues to monitor the development of the Cycling Strategy and the development of cycling and related cycling infrastructure in Rotherham.

134. SCC/RMBC CLEAN AIR ZONE PROGRAMME - APPROVAL TO DELIVER ROTHERHAM'S AIR QUALITY MEASURES PROJECTS

Consideration was given to the report which sought approval for the commencement of 3 highways works projects to enable the Council to be in a position to achieve NO² compliant as soon as possible. The works were required as air quality was a major issue of growing interest and significance at a national and international level. Work had begun on this project in December 2018 with a report to Cabinet where it was agreed that a consultation on the proposed measures could begin in early 2019.

RMBC and Sheffield City Region were still undertaking work on the full business case for the Clean Air Zone prior to submission and full approval by Government. However, RMBC had assessed the Outline Business Case to identify which parts of the scheme could be delivered without Government approval. The 3 schemes identified were:

- Sheffield Parkway 50mph speed limit (to be delivered as part of Parkway Widening)
- Wortley Road Weight Restriction
- Rawmarsh Hill Bus Priority and Routing Changes.

Work was also ongoing in relation to Meadowbank Road. However current modelling suggested that it was not likely to be required to achieve air quality compliance. The Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety confirmed that the COVID-19 pandemic had delayed some of the work on projects.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process. The Board were fully supportive of the recommendation.

Resolved:-

That approval was given for commencement of 3 highways works projects detailed in paragraph 1.10 to enable the Council to be in a position to achieve NO₂ compliance as soon as possible and that these projects, fully funded by Government grant, be added to the Council's approved Capital Programme.

135. STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ROTHERHAM'S HIGHWAYS - INDICATIVE HIGHWAY REPAIR PROGRAMME FOR 2021/2022

Consideration was given to the report which described how Rotherham's highways were strategically managed and maintained; reviewed the current strategy for the management and maintenance of the highway network and described the current performance both in terms of the condition of the highways and the delivery of maintenance services.

The Council had a statutory duty to maintain its highways through Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980. The Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety confirmed that the Council had been investing in the highway network despite cuts from Central Government. It was also confirmed that the number of potholes throughout the Borough had reduced by one third. The aim was to reduce the number by a half by 2024. In 2020/21 the Council had repaired 271 roads, equating to 48.6 miles and an area of nearly 507,800 square metres.

The roads and footways included in the Indicative Highway Works Programme 2020/21 at Appendix 2 to the report were determined by a scoring matrix. The Programme showed that during 2021/22 the Council aimed to repair 154 roads with a total length of 22.5 miles covering an area of 252,000 square metres.

The Cabinet Member expressed her pride that all of the work was done by the in-house highways team and she thanked them for their hard work. The Leader confirmed that the indicative programme was a baseline and additional works would be added in the new Municipal Year.

Resolved:-

1. That Cabinet note the strategic approach to the management and maintenance of Rotherham's Highways.
2. That a period of consultation with Members, to collate local recommendations for inclusion in the indicative programme, is undertaken in May and June 2021.
3. That the intention for the Strategic Director Regeneration and Environment to subsequently approve the indicative Highway Repair Programme for 2021/2022 be noted.
4. That it be noted, where any additional in year funding to deliver highways repairs is allocated from Central Government, the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment may utilise that funding in accordance with the strategic approach to the Management and Maintenance of Rotherham's Highways laid out in this report.

136. 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 items and the details included accordingly.

Consideration was also given to the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Working Group on Building Use. The Chair of OSMB explained that the Working Party had been established in order to feed into the planned review relating to the return to and use of Council buildings following the reduction and removal of COVID-19 restrictions. The review took place over a period of time when 2 national lockdowns and local tiering arrangements were in place.

Resolved:-

1. That the recommendation of the Scrutiny Review of Building Use, as set out in paragraph 2.1 of the report, be received.
2. That the Cabinet formally respond to the recommendations from this review at tis meeting in June 2021, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 8(2).

137. NEW APPLICATION FOR BUSINESS RATES DISCRETIONARY RELIEF FOR SAFE HAVEN ROTHERHAM

An application for the award of Discretionary Business Rate Relief for Safe Haven Rotherham had been received. In accordance with the Council's Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy, Cabinet were asked to consider the application.

Safe Haven Rotherham was a charity that provided food and clothing to disadvantaged people and those in need from their premises in the centre of Rotherham. Service users can be in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantages such as long-term unemployment and homelessness. The application for discretionary relief was in line with the qualifying criteria as set out in the policy. As the organisation became a registered charity from 20th January, 2021, they were entitled to 80% mandatory relief which was not subject to a decision of the Council. As such Cabinet were being asked to consider the application for an award of 20% discretionary rate relief for the period 20th January, 2021, to 31st March, 2021.

Resolved:-

That Cabinet approve the application for Discretionary Business Rate Relief for Safe Haven Rotherham in accordance with the details set out in Section 6 to this report for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years.

138. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**Resolved:**

The next meeting of Cabinet would take place on Monday, 21st June at 10.00 a.m. The venue for the meeting was yet to be confirmed.

REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

To: The Chair and Members of the Council

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS

I can report that the persons indicated below were elected Members of the Council at the elections held on Thursday 6th May 2021.

The total local government electorate was 196,713 and the overall turnout was 29.87%

Appended to this report is a detailed breakdown by ward - including the number of votes polled per candidate, the numbers of rejected ballot papers and the turnout statistics.

Forename (s)	Surname	Ward	No of votes polled
Timothy James	BAUM-DIXON	Anston & Woodsetts	1,491
Emma Jane	McCLURE	Anston & Woodsetts	1,020
Tracey Helen	WILSON	Anston & Woodsetts	1,341
Joshua	BACON	Aston & Todwick	1,103
Aaron	BARKER	Aston & Todwick	1,025
Jack Christopher	AUSTIN	Aughton & Swallownest	666
Lyndsay	PITCHLEY	Aughton & Swallownest	817
Mohammed Saghir	ALAM	Boston Castle	1,567
Rose Margaret	McNEELY	Boston Castle	1,567
Taiba Khatoun	YASSEEN	Boston Castle	1,366
Lewis Lennard	MILLS	Bramley & Ravenfield	931
Henry Malcolm			
Gregory	REYNOLDS	Bramley & Ravenfield	1,155
Adam Jonathon	CARTER	Brinsworth	1,345
Charlotte Rachel	CARTER	Brinsworth	1,108
Joanna	BAKER-ROGERS	Dalton & Thrybergh	512
Michael Donald Paul	SYLVESTER	Dalton & Thrybergh	1,103
Sophie	CASTLEDINE-DACK	Dinnington	841
Benjamin John	WHOMERSLEY	Dinnington	916
Charlie Andrew	WOODING	Dinnington	1,137
Sarah Ann	ALLEN	Greasbrough	526
Robert William	ELLIOTT	Greasbrough	518
Jennifer Mary	ANDREWS	Hellaby & Maltby West	833
Simon Ashley	BALL	Hellaby & Maltby West	1,158
Emily Jill	BARLEY	Hoober	873
Denise	LELLIOTT	Hoober	1,084
David John	ROCHE	Hoober	1,008

Forename (s)	Surname	Ward	No of votes polled
Anthony Gerard	BROWNE	Keppel	1,117
Margaret	CLARK	Keppel	1,204
Paul	HAGUE	Keppel	993
Victoria	CUSWORTH	Kilnhurst & Swinton East	1,119
Stuart James	SANSOME	Kilnhurst & Swinton East	989
Lee James	HUNTER	Maltby East	630
Adam James	TINSLEY	Maltby East	648
Rachel Elizabeth Margaret	HUGHES	Rawmarsh East	604
David Roy	SHEPPARD	Rawmarsh East	703
Robert	BIRD	Rawmarsh West	724
Jill	THOMPSON	Rawmarsh West	583
Amy Caroline	BROOKES	Rother Vale	491
Firas	MIRO	Rother Vale	551
Wendy	COOKSEY	Rotherham East	1,366
Rukhsana Bibi	HALEEM	Rotherham East	1,024
Tajamal	KHAN	Rotherham East	1,097
Benjamin Luke	AVEYARD	Rotherham West	1,136
Ian Paul	JONES	Rotherham West	1,246
Eve	ROSE-KEENAN	Rotherham West	1,012
Simon Lee	BURNETT	Sitwell	1,471
David Frank	FISHER	Sitwell	1,425
Anthony	GRIFFIN	Sitwell	1,071
Georgina Elizabeth	MONK	Swinton Rockingham	1,009
Kenneth John	WYATT	Swinton Rockingham	1,118
Zachary Aron	COLLINGHAM	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	1,116
Thomas Ryan	SINGLETON	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	1,125
Dominic Edward	BECK	Wales	1,190
Marnie Anne	HAVARD	Wales	835
Alan	ATKIN	Wath	882
Sheila Anne	COWEN	Wath	804
Susan	ELLIS	Wickersley North	1,466
Emma Elizabeth	HODDINOTT	Wickersley North	1,337
Christopher	READ	Wickersley North	1,295

Sharon Kemp
Returning Officer
11 May 2021

Forename(s)	Surname	Party	Ward	Elected Candidates	Valid Votes	Rejected Ballot Papers	Total Ballots Papers	Electorate	Turnout %
Timothy James	BAUM-DIXON	Conservative Party	Anston & Woodsetts	Elected	1,491				
Joanne Helen	CARR	Labour Party	Anston & Woodsetts		906				
Thomas Lang	DARKSEN	Workers Party of Britain	Anston & Woodsetts		47				
Charles David Dowsing	FOULSTONE	The Green Party	Anston & Woodsetts		375				
Jonathan Charles	IRELAND	Independent	Anston & Woodsetts		535				
Clive Robert	JEPSON	Independent	Anston & Woodsetts		737				
Steven	MARLES	Labour Party	Anston & Woodsetts		461				
Emma Jane	McCLURE	Conservative Party	Anston & Woodsetts	Elected	1,020				
Matthew John	MEARS	Liberal Democrats	Anston & Woodsetts		522				
Drew Simon	TARMEY	Liberal Democrats	Anston & Woodsetts		1,005				
Beverley Ann	THORNLEY	Liberal Democrats	Anston & Woodsetts		786				
Simon Andrew	TWEED	Labour Party	Anston & Woodsetts		744				
Tracey Helen	WILSON	Conservative Party	Anston & Woodsetts	Elected	1,341				
Total valid votes					9,970	10	3,661	9,527	38.43%
Joshua	BACON	Conservative Party	Aston & Todwick	Elected	1,103				
Aaron	BARKER	Conservative Party	Aston & Todwick	Elected	1,025				
Louisa Kathryn	BARKER	The Green Party	Aston & Todwick		250				
Amanda Marie	CLARKE	Labour Party	Aston & Todwick		783				
Joshua Lennon	FIELDS	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Aston & Todwick		68				
Christopher John	HALLAM-WALL	Liberal Democrats	Aston & Todwick		141				
Harry	RATCLIFFE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Aston & Todwick		143				
Robert Paul	TAYLOR	Labour Party	Aston & Todwick		905				
Total valid votes					4,418	11	2,430	7,057	34.43%
Jack Christopher	AUSTIN	Conservative Party	Aughton & Swallownest	Elected	666				
Alexander William	DEAN	Conservative Party	Aughton & Swallownest		625				
Michael Stuart	ELLIOTT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Aughton & Swallownest		341				
Mark	LAMBERT	Liberal Democrats	Aughton & Swallownest		107				
Lyndsay	PITCHLEY	Labour Party	Aughton & Swallownest	Elected	817				
David Neil	SPENCE	Labour Party	Aughton & Swallownest		503				
David James	TILLERY	Workers Party of Britain	Aughton & Swallownest		136				
Total valid votes					3,195	16	1,810	6,663	27.16%
Mohammed Saghir	ALAM	Labour Party	Boston Castle	Elected	1,567				
Jack	BANNAN	Yorkshire Party	Boston Castle		497				
Ryan Alan	CARNEY	Conservative Party	Boston Castle		917				
Gary	HARDWICK	Rotherham Democratic Party	Boston Castle		487				
Martin David	HOWELLS	Rotherham Democratic Party	Boston Castle		386				
Lauren Jane	HOWIE	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Boston Castle		214				
Rose Margaret	McNEELY	Labour Party	Boston Castle	Elected	1,567				
Adam James	RODGERS	Rotherham Democratic Party	Boston Castle		286				
Michael David	SHAW	Liberal Democrats	Boston Castle		405				
Taiba Khatoon	YASSEEN	Labour Party	Boston Castle	Elected	1,366				
Total valid votes					7,692	10	3,253	9,955	32.68%

Andrew James	FENWICK-GREEN	Labour Party	Bramley & Ravenfield		551				
Deborah	FENWICK-GREEN	Labour Party	Bramley & Ravenfield		546				
Paul David	GARRETT	The Green Party	Bramley & Ravenfield		369				
John Richard	GELDER	Liberal Democrats	Bramley & Ravenfield		137				
Nigel	GELDER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Bramley & Ravenfield		227				
Luke David	JOHNSON	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Bramley & Ravenfield		47				
Lewis Lennard Henry Malcolm	MILLS	Conservative Party	Bramley & Ravenfield	Elected	931				
Alan Derek	NAPPER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Bramley & Ravenfield		277				
Gregory	REYNOLDS	Conservative Party	Bramley & Ravenfield	Elected	1,155				
Total valid votes					4,240	9	2,354	7,160	32.88%
Alan	BUCKLEY	Labour Party	Brinsworth		774				
Adam Jonathon	CARTER	Liberal Democrats	Brinsworth	Elected	1,345				
Charlotte Rachel	CARTER	Liberal Democrats	Brinsworth	Elected	1,108				
Andrew Matthew	GORMAN	Conservative Party	Brinsworth		351				
Nigel Gary	SIMPSON	Independent	Brinsworth		229				
Royce	SKELDING	Rotherham Democratic Party	Brinsworth		80				
Philippa	WILDIN	Labour Party	Brinsworth		424				
Total valid votes					4,311	12	2,419	7,546	32.06%
Joanna	BAKER-ROGERS	Labour Party	Dalton & Thrybergh	Elected	512				
Dianne	CASTER	Labour Party	Dalton & Thrybergh		432				
Jane Rosemary	SALT	Conservative Party	Dalton & Thrybergh		397				
Stephen Michael	SIMMONS	Liberal Democrats	Dalton & Thrybergh		117				
Michael Donald Paul	SYLVESTER	Independent	Dalton & Thrybergh	Elected	1,103				
Total valid votes					2,561	5	1,771	6,733	26.30%
Ian David	BARKLEY	The Green Party	Dinnington		316				
Philip John	BOWERS	Liberal Democrats	Dinnington		284				
Sophie	CASTLEDINE-DACK	Conservative Party	Dinnington	Elected	841				
Wendy	HAMILTON	The Green Party	Dinnington		308				
Jean	HART	Independent	Dinnington		389				
Janet Martin	MALLINDER	Labour Party	Dinnington		799				
David	SMITH	Independent	Dinnington		601				
John	VJESTICA	Labour Party	Dinnington		738				
Gordon	WATSON	Labour Party	Dinnington		712				
Benjamin John	WHOMERSLEY	Conservative Party	Dinnington	Elected	916				
Charlie Andrew	WOODING	Conservative Party	Dinnington	Elected	1,137				
Total valid votes					7,041	11	2,758	9,263	29.77%
Sarah Ann	ALLEN	Labour Party	Greasbrough	Elected	526				
Keith Gordon	COOPER	The Green Party	Greasbrough		210				
Robert William	ELLIOTT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Greasbrough	Elected	518				
Anthony	HANNAN	Liberal Democrats	Greasbrough		68				
Brian	LENG	Rotherham Democratic Party	Greasbrough		147				
Antony Paul	MABBOTT	The Green Party	Greasbrough		74				
Josephine Margaret	TAYLOR	Conservative Party	Greasbrough		430				
John Richard Henry	WILLIAMS	Labour Party	Greasbrough		385				
Total valid votes					2,358	6	1,461	6,027	24.24%

Jennifer Mary	ANDREWS	Labour Party	Hellaby & Maltby West	Elected	833				
Simon Ashley	BALL	Conservative Party	Hellaby & Maltby West	Elected	1,158				
Davey Glynn Stewart	HAMILTON	Conservative Party	Hellaby & Maltby West		798				
Richard John Thomas	HUNTER	Labour Party	Hellaby & Maltby West		558				
Mark Bennett	SCOTT	The Green Party	Hellaby & Maltby West		178				
Frances Jane	TAYLOR	Liberal Democrats	Hellaby & Maltby West		92				
Craig	WATHALL	Rotherham Democratic Party	Hellaby & Maltby West		85				
Total valid votes					3,702	6	2,092	6,321	33.10%
Emily Jill	BARLEY	Conservative Party	Hooper	Elected	873				
Suzanne	FLETCHER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Hooper		231				
Thomas Walter	HILL	The Green Party	Hooper		254				
Denise	LELLIOTT	Labour Party	Hooper	Elected	1,084				
Martin	NEEDHAM	Conservative Party	Hooper		784				
David John	ROCHE	Labour Party	Hooper	Elected	1,008				
Amanda	SALES-MCHALE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Hooper		198				
Patricia Elizabeth	SCHWALBE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Hooper		140				
Steven	SCUTT	Liberal Democrats	Hooper		137				
Brian	STEELE	Labour Party	Hooper		872				
Daniel	THOMPSON	Conservative Party	Hooper		720				
Total valid votes					6,301	9	2,411	9,662	24.95%
Anthony Gerard	BROWNE	Labour Party	Keppel	Elected	1,117				
Margaret	CLARK	Labour Party	Keppel	Elected	1,204				
Edward George	COATES-MADDEN	Labour Party	Keppel		754				
Paul	HAGUE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Keppel	Elected	993				
Peter Robert	KEY	Yorkshire Party	Keppel		448				
Sandra	MARRIOTT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Keppel		642				
Samantha Jane	REDDINGTON	Liberal Democrats	Keppel		264				
Alan William	SHERRIFF	Conservative Party	Keppel		917				
Lisa Sally	SILCOCK	Rotherham Democratic Party	Keppel		681				
Total valid votes					7,020	14	2,996	10,558	28.38%
Luke Anthony	BINNEY	Liberal Democrats	Kilnhurst & Swinton East		126				
Karly	BUFFON	Social Democratic Party	Kilnhurst & Swinton East		103				
Victoria	CUSWORTH	Labour Party	Kilnhurst & Swinton East	Elected	1,119				
Denise Helen	HALL	Conservative Party	Kilnhurst & Swinton East		597				
Stuart James	SANSOME	Labour Party	Kilnhurst & Swinton East	Elected	989				
David	TAYLOR	Conservative Party	Kilnhurst & Swinton East		84				
Total valid votes					3,018	16	1,876	6,291	29.82%
Sharon	BIGGIN	Independent	Maltby East		510				
Diann Bernadette	FITZGIBBONS	Labour Party	Maltby East		549				
Darren	HALLAM-WALL	Liberal Democrats	Maltby East		43				
Lee James	HUNTER	Conservative Party	Maltby East	Elected	630				
Janet	LAW	Labour Party	Maltby East		393				
Brett Harrison	MEESE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Maltby East		115				
Harrison James	MEESE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Maltby East		73				
Adam James	TINSLEY	Conservative Party	Maltby East	Elected	648				
Total valid votes					2,961	7	1,717	6,668	25.75%

Ben Wayne	EYRE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rawmarsh East		280
Rachel Elizabeth Margaret	HUGHES	Labour Party	Rawmarsh East	Elected	604
William	SALT	Conservative Party	Rawmarsh East		458
Sophie Louise	SHAW	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rawmarsh East		138
David Roy	SHEPPARD	Labour Party	Rawmarsh East	Elected	703
Margaret Eileen	TOWLER	Liberal Democrats	Rawmarsh East		115
Total valid votes					2,298
					7 1,476 6,891 21.42%
Philip James	AISTHORPE	Liberal Democrats	Rawmarsh West		124
Sean Anthony	ARDRON	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rawmarsh West		209
Robert	BIRD	Labour Party	Rawmarsh West	Elected	724
James John	CLEARY	The Green Party	Rawmarsh West		174
Bethany Jane	MARLES	Labour Party	Rawmarsh West		522
William Mark	PRICE	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Rawmarsh West		38
Thomas	SAWFORD	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rawmarsh West		218
Jill	THOMPSON	Conservative Party	Rawmarsh West	Elected	583
Total valid votes					2,592
					13 1,612 6,850 23.53%
Neil	ADSHEAD	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Rother Vale		58
Amy Caroline	BROOKES	Labour Party	Rother Vale	Elected	491
David	HAYTHORNE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rother Vale		88
Firas	MIRO	Liberal Democrats	Rother Vale	Elected	551
William Guy David	MORGAN	Conservative Party	Rother Vale		326
Natalie Thomas	STAFFORD	Conservative Party	Rother Vale		299
Carlie Louise	STANLEY	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rother Vale		37
John	WALKER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rother Vale		17
Robert John	WALSH	Labour Party	Rother Vale		411
David Edward	WILSON	Liberal Democrats	Rother Vale		418
Total valid votes					2,696
					5 1,456 6,057 24.04%
Wendy	COOKSEY	Labour Party	Rotherham East	Elected	1,366
Rukhsana Bibi	HALEEM	Labour Party	Rotherham East	Elected	1,024
Cheryl Lynn	JONES	Liberal Democrats	Rotherham East		284
Tajamal	KHAN	Labour Party	Rotherham East	Elected	1,097
Sheila	MARRIOTT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham East		296
Barrie	MARSH	Conservative Party	Rotherham East		641
Harry David	McKENZIE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham East		269
Richard William	PENYCATE	The Green Party	Rotherham East		457
Kathleen	REEDER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham East		354
Total valid votes					5,788
					14 2,512 10,409 24.13%

Ishtiaq	AHMAD	Independent	Rotherham West		248				
Benjamin Luke	AVEYARD	Labour Party	Rotherham West	Elected	1,136				
Kelly Marie	BRAMLEY	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham West		673				
Simon	CURRIE	Independent	Rotherham West		795				
Carole Ann	FOSTER	Labour Party	Rotherham West		1,004				
Ian Paul	JONES	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham West	Elected	1,246				
Ruth Pauline	MARSH	Conservative Party	Rotherham West		619				
Julie Elizabeth	READ	Liberal Democrats	Rotherham West		195				
Eve	ROSE-KEENAN	Labour Party	Rotherham West	Elected	1,012				
Roger	WAINWRIGHT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Rotherham West		769				
Total valid votes					7,697	14	3,155	10,058	31.37%
Michael Andrew	BOWER	Independent	Sitwell		1,054				
Barbara Carol	BROOKES	Labour Party	Sitwell		967				
Simon Lee	BURNETT	Conservative Party	Sitwell	Elected	1,471				
Tanya Veronica	CLEARY	The Green Party	Sitwell		453				
Allen	COWLES	Rotherham Democratic Party	Sitwell		746				
David Frank	FISHER	Conservative Party	Sitwell	Elected	1,425				
Anthony	GRIFFIN	Labour Party	Sitwell	Elected	1,071				
Haroon	RASHID	Labour Party	Sitwell		941				
Gavin Peter	SHAWCROFT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Sitwell		364				
Peter Gerard John	SHORT	Rotherham Democratic Party	Sitwell		372				
Mohammed Osman	SULEMAN	Conservative Party	Sitwell		1,045				
Colin David	TAYLOR	Liberal Democrats	Sitwell		476				
Total valid votes					10,385	16	4,041	9,886	40.88%
Duran Rowen	BATH	Social Democratic Party	Swinton Rockingham		59				
Christopher James Edward	BINGHAM	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	Swinton Rockingham		115				
Patricia Anita	COLLINS	Conservative Party	Swinton Rockingham		596				
Toni	GARNETT	Social Democratic Party	Swinton Rockingham		50				
Kay Lesley	HOLLIS	Liberal Democrats	Swinton Rockingham		117				
Georgina Elizabeth	MONK	Labour Party	Swinton Rockingham	Elected	1,009				
Kenneth John	WYATT	Labour Party	Swinton Rockingham	Elected	1,118				
Total valid votes					3,064	8	1,845	6,259	29.48%
Angham Saleh Taher	AHMED	Labour Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South		540				
Zachary Aron	COLLINGHAM	Conservative Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	Elected	1,116				
Brian	CUTTS	Rotherham Democratic Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South		450				
James Jonathon	MAULT	Labour Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South		634				
Thomas Ryan	SINGLETON	Conservative Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	Elected	1,125				
Patrick Leonard	TARMEY	Liberal Democrats	Thurcroft & Wickersley South		131				
Richard Arthur John	TURNER	Rotherham Democratic Party	Thurcroft & Wickersley South		510				
Total valid votes					4,506	8	2,459	7,524	32.68%

Dominic Edward	BECK	Labour Party	Wales	Elected	1,190				
Oliver Tatton	BODDYE	Liberal Democrats	Wales		81				
Marnie Anne	HAVARD	Labour Party	Wales	Elected	835				
Paul Neville	MARTIN	The Green Party	Wales		432				
Barbara Mary	MORRIS	Conservative Party	Wales		793				
Gary	SMITH	Conservative Party	Wales		786				
Steven Benjamin	WEBSTER	Independent	Wales		125				
Emily Rose	WEST	The Green Party	Wales		241				
Total valid votes					4,483	13	2,447	7,187	34.05%
Alan	ATKIN	Labour Party	Wath	Elected	882				
Tyrrell Jane	BINGHAM	Conservative Party	Wath		490				
Sheila Anne	COWEN	Labour Party	Wath	Elected	804				
Ingrid Mary Frances	HOUSE	Liberal Democrats	Wath		176				
Michael	NEWMAN	Social Democratic Party	Wath		261				
Wayne Anthony Roger	PIKE	Social Democratic Party	Wath		110				
Total valid votes					2,723	13	1,711	6,734	25.41%
Susan	ELLIS	Labour Party	Wickerlsey North	Elected	1,466				
Robert Leslie	FELSTEAD	Rotherham Democratic Party	Wickerlsey North		726				
Tracy Louise	GREEN	Rotherham Democratic Party	Wickerlsey North		486				
Leslie James	HINCE	Rotherham Democratic Party	Wickerlsey North		361				
Emma Elizabeth	HODDINOTT	Labour Party	Wickerlsey North	Elected	1,337				
Martyn Lawton	PARKER	Conservative Party	Wickerlsey North		1,042				
Christopher	READ	Labour Party	Wickerlsey North	Elected	1,295				
Linda	READ	Liberal Democrats	Wickerlsey North		281				
Mohammed	SULEMAN	Conservative Party	Wickerlsey North		547				
Total valid votes					7,541	17	3,041	9,427	32.26%
						Total	58,764	196,713	29.87%

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Council – 26 May 2021

Report Title

Outcome of the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Development Plan
Referendum

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

Yes

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

Rachel Overfield, Planning Officer

01709 254746 or rachel.overfield@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Anston and Woodsetts

Dinnington

Report Summary

Neighbourhood Planning was introduced by the Localism Act (2011). It gave parish councils and local communities the power to write their own plans and take more control of planning for their areas.

Dinnington St John's Town Council has produced a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish area, which has subsequently undergone a successful independent examination and referendum. In accordance with Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) the Council is required to 'make' (adopt) the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Statutory Development Plan following a successful referendum. The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations also require Local Authorities to make a Neighbourhood Plan within eight weeks of the date of the referendum, which was held on 6 May 2021.

Recommendations

1. That the outcome of the Dinnington St. John's Neighbourhood Plan Referendum as set out at para 1.5 of the report is noted.
2. That the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Development Plan is adopted as part of the Statutory Development Plan for Rotherham Borough

Background Papers

Equality Part A – Screening

Equality Part B – Analysis

Carbon Impact Assessment

Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan referendum version

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/2266/dinnington-st-johns-neighbourhood-plan-referendum>

Dinnington Town Centre Design Support document

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/2267/dinnington-town-centre-design-support-document>

National Planning Policy Framework

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>

Planning Practice Guidance: Neighbourhood planning

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/contents/made>

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/2031/contents/made>

Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan web page (RMBC)

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/planning-development/neighbourhood-plan/2>

Independent Examiner's report on the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1616/dinnington-st-johns-report-27th-march-2020>

Decision Statement confirming the Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and other legislative requirements

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/2264/dinnington-neighbourhood-planning-regulation-18-decision-statement>

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

N/A

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Outcome of the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum

1. Background

- 1.1 The Localism Act (2011) allows for local communities to prepare plans and strategies for development in their area called Neighbourhood Plans. Draft plans must go through several stages as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 before they can be adopted (referred to in the legislation as being 'made'). The Council has a statutory duty to advise and assist during the preparation of a Plan, as well as fulfil certain requirements to comply with the Regulations.
- 1.2 Dinnington St John's Town Council has produced a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish area, and this is the first Neighbourhood Plan in the borough to have undergone a referendum.
- 1.3 There are a number of legally prescribed stages that need to be undertaken in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan:
- Designation of the Neighbourhood Area (in this case the designated area is Dinnington St John's parish)
 - Publication of the draft Plan
 - Submission of the Plan to the Local Planning Authority
 - Examination by an independent examiner
 - Referendum
- 1.4 Where a Neighbourhood Plan is subject to a successful referendum (where more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan), and the Local Planning Authority is satisfied that retained EU and human rights obligations have been met, it is a requirement to 'make' the Plan and adopt it as part of the Development Plan. Once adopted, a Neighbourhood Plan forms part of the Statutory Development Plan for Rotherham Borough and sits alongside the Core Strategy (2014), the Sites and Policies Document (2018), and the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan (2012). Any planning applications for development within Dinnington St John's parish must be determined in accordance with these documents and the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.5 The question asked in the referendum was "Do you want Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Dinnington St. John's Parish Neighbourhood Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?". The referendum was held on 6 May 2021 and the results for Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan are set out below:

The number of votes cast in favour of a 'Yes'	1,651
The number of votes cast in favour of a 'No'	210
Rejected ballot papers	18
Electorate (persons eligible to vote)	6,662

Turnout	28.2%
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Having achieved a majority in favour, the Plan was successful at referendum.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 In accordance with Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) the Council is required to 'make' a Neighbourhood Plans following a successful referendum, providing that the Local Planning Authority is satisfied that retained EU and human rights obligations (the basic conditions) have been met.
- 2.2 The Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan was successful at referendum and in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority it has met the basic conditions, so in accordance with the Act the Neighbourhood Plan should now be adopted as part of the Statutory Development Plan for Rotherham Borough. Regulation 18A of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 requires that the Council adopt the Neighbourhood Plan within eight weeks of the date of the referendum. In this case, adoption is required by 1 July 2021.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 The recommendation as set out above is that the Council adopt the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan.

Having passed independent examination and referendum, and there being no conflict with retained EU and human rights obligations, it is recommended that the Council adopts the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Statutory Development Plan for Rotherham Borough.

- 3.2 Having passed independent examination and referendum there is no good reason not to adopt the Plan and if the Council did so it would be in breach of its statutory duty under the Town and County Planning Act 1990.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 All Neighbourhood Plans are subject to consultation at various stages of their preparation. For example, the neighbourhood area boundary is consulted on at a very early stage, and the draft plan is subject to formal consultation for a minimum of six weeks before being submitted to the Council. The Local Planning Authority is then required to carry out its own consultation on the plan before it can be submitted to examination stage. The Neighbourhood Plan is examined by an independent examiner and must be accompanied by a Consultation Statement demonstrating that the legal requirements of consultation have been met.
- 4.2 This process has been followed in preparing the Dinnington St John's

Neighbourhood Plan, providing ample opportunity for input and influence from any interested stakeholder including statutory consultees. Ultimately the Neighbourhood Plan is voted for by the local community at a referendum. In this case, a majority of those voting supported the use of the Dinnington Neighbourhood Plan when making decisions on planning applications in Dinnington St John's parish.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations require Local Authorities to 'make' (adopt) a Neighbourhood Plan within eight weeks of the date of the referendum, which was held on 6 May 2021. In this case, adoption of the Plan is required by 1 July 2021.

5.2 Under the Council's Constitution, the Development Plan for Rotherham Borough is part of the policy framework. As such, the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Statutory Development Plan must be considered by a meeting of the Council.

5.3 Prior to publication, the Dinnington Neighbourhood Plan document cover and relevant text will be amended to reflect its adopted status.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)

6.1 The Council has received £25,000 Neighbourhood Planning Grant from the Government in respect of Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan. Of this money, £5,000 relates to the original Neighbourhood Area designation and £20,000 to the referendum stage. The grant is being used to cover the costs of independent examination, referendum, advertising and printing. It is anticipated that the grant will be utilised in full.

6.2 After utilisation of the grant, any additional costs will be contained within the Service's approved revenue budget.

6.3 Procurement are satisfied with this approach as there are no costs to be factored in at this stage. Any chargeable goods or services required by the Council should be sought in accordance with section 52 of the financial and procurement procedure rules.

7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)

7.1 As set out in the body of the report the prescribed stages for the completion of a Neighbourhood Plan pursuant to 61 F and 61 G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations have been complied with. Following a positive referendum result the Council must now adopt the plan within a period of eight weeks from the date of the referendum.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct Human Resource implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 The Plan seeks to reflect the needs and aspirations of the community. It includes supportive housing policies for people with a disability and smaller homes for young families, young people and older people. It has a hot food takeaways policy, seeking to restrict takeaways close to schools or colleges to help tackle obesity and promote a healthier environment.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 Planning applications for new developments in Dinnington St John's parish will be determined in accordance with the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan that have been developed in consultation with the local community. The plan has subsequently been examined by an independent examiner and modified in accordance with the examiner's recommendations to ensure that it met all the required legal tests.

11. Implications for Partners

- 11.1 Relevant partners have been consulted at key stages of developing the Neighbourhood Plan.

12. Risks and Mitigation

- 12.1. The Local Planning Authority considers the Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan has met the basic conditions and it has been successful at referendum. As such, the Council would be in breach of its statutory duty under the Town and County Planning Act 1990 if the Plan is not adopted. As the legislation concerning the recommendation is quite explicit there is no way of mitigating this risk.

13. Accountable Officers

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author: Rachel Overfield, Planning Officer
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This report is published on the Council's [website](#).

Summary

Name of Committee and Date of Committee Meeting

Council – 26 May 2021

Report Title

Membership of Political Groups on the Council, Political Balance and Entitlement to Seats

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

Not applicable

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author

Craig Tyler, Head of Democratic Services
01709 822103 craig.tyler@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-wide

Executive Summary

Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 places on local authorities the duty to allocate seats to political groups and set out the principles to be followed when determining such allocation following formal notification of the establishment of political groups in operation on the council.

There is a requirement to annually review the entitlement of the political groups to seats on the committees of the council.

The allocation of seats must follow two principles:

- (a) Balance must be achieved across the total number of available seats on committees; and
- (b) Balance must be achieved on each individual committee or body where seats are available

There are presently 4 political groups in operation on the council – the Labour Group (majority), Conservative Group (opposition), Liberal Democrat (LibDem) Group and Rotherham Democratic Party (RDP) Group – with 1 non-aligned councillor (members who are not in a political group).

There are 149 seats available on committees, boards and panels and under the calculation the Labour Group is entitled to 82 seats, the opposition Group 51 seats, the LibDem Group 7 seats, the RDP Group 7 seats. 2 seats are allocated to the non-aligned councillor.

Recommendations:

1. That the operation of 4 political groups on the Council and the detail of their designated Leaders be noted:
 - (a) Labour Group – Councillor Chris Read (Leader of the Majority Group)
 - (b) Conservative Group – Councillor Emily Barley (Leader of the Majority Opposition Group)
 - (c) Liberal Democrat Group – Councillor Adam Carter (Group Leader)
 - (d) Rotherham Democratic Party Group – Councillor Rob Elliott (Group Leader)
2. That the entitlement of the membership of the political groups be agreed and such entitlements be reflected in Council's appointments of members to committees.
3. That approval be given to the appointment of Members to committees, boards and panels, and the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs, as set out on the schedule to be tabled at the meeting.
4. That approval be given to the appointment of Members to joint committees, as set out on the schedule to be tabled at the meeting.

Background Papers

The Council's Constitution

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Membership of Political Groups on the Council, Political Balance and Entitlement to Seats

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 places on local authorities the duty to allocate seats to political groups and sets out the principles to be followed when determining such allocation. The main principles, which must be satisfied sequentially, include:
- (a) That the number of seats on ordinary Committees/Bodies ... which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority, as is borne by the Members of that group to the membership of the Authority (i.e. the allocation of the **total** number of seats available must mirror the political composition of the council).
 - (b) That the number of seats on the Body (Committee, etc.), which are allocated to each political group, bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that Body as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the membership of the Authority (i.e. the allocation of seats on **individual** committees must mirror the political composition of the council).
- 1.2 Local authorities are able to depart from the statutory provisions where there is unanimous agreement to do so.
- 1.3 Those members not in a political group may still in the discretion of the Council be allocated a due share of seats, although the Council will decide how to allocate seats to non-aligned councillors.
- 1.4 In line with the provisions of the Council's Constitution, appointments will be made to committees of the Council at this annual meeting. This report confirms the entitlement to seats on committees.

2. Political Groups

- 2.1 The Proper Officer has received formal notification, under the provisions of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, of the establishment of four political groups in operation on the council, namely:

Name of Group	Designated Leader & Deputy Leader (number of Members)
Labour	Leader – Councillor Chris Read Deputy Leader – Councillor Sarah Allen (32 Members)
Conservative	Leader – Councillor Emily Barley Deputy Leader – Councillor Zachary Collingham (20 Members)

Liberal Democrat	Leader – Councillor Adam Carter (3 Members)
Rotherham Democratic Party	Leader – Councillor Rob Elliott (3 Members)

- 2.2 Councillor Sylvester is unaffiliated to a political party. For the purposes of this report, Councillor Sylvester is regarded as a non-aligned councillor.

3. Allocation of Seats

- 3.1 The allocation process must be applied 'so far as is reasonably practicable' to achieve a balanced outcome. The allocation of the 149 seats to the political groups is determined by the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of Members of Political Group}}{\text{Total Number of Members of Council}} \times \text{Number of Seats to be allocated}$$

For the 149 seats available in applying principle (a) in paragraph 1.1, this gives:

Political Group	Seat Entitlement
Labour	82
Conservative	51
Liberal Democrat	7
Rotherham Democratic Party	7
(balance)	2
TOTAL	149

- 3.2 Application of principle (b) in paragraph 1.1 of this report, relating to the number of seats on individual committees, gives the following:

	Seats Available	L	C	LD	RDP	NA
Regulatory Committees/Boards						
Audit Committee	5	3	2	0	0	0
Licensing Board	21	11	7	1	1	1
Licensing Committee	15	8	5	1	1	0
Planning Board	15	8	5	1	1	0
Staffing Committee	5	3	2	0	0	0
Standards and Ethics Committee	8	4	3	0	0	1
Overview and Scrutiny						
Overview & Scrutiny Management Board	12	7	3	1	1	0
Health Select Commission	18	10	6	1	1	0
Improving Lives Select Commission	18	10	6	1	1	0
Improving Places Select Commission	18	10	6	1	1	0

	Seats Available	L	C	LD	RDP	NA
Other Bodies						
Corporate Parenting Group	5	3	2	0	0	0
Introductory Tenancy Review Panel	4	2	2	0	0	0
Joint Consultative Committee	5	3	2	0	0	0
TOTAL	149	82	51	7	7	2

- 3.3 In the table in paragraph 3.2 above, the committees and panels listed have locally agreed provisions in respect of their membership which were determined by the Council at its annual meeting in May 2018. In the case of the pool of membership of the Employment Appeals Panel this was increased to 13 Members. For ease of reference additional information relating to appointments is set out below:

Panel	Description of Role and Function
Employment Appeals Panel	Appeal Panels shall comprise three members of the Council selected from a pool of 13 members (four of whom shall be Cabinet members, and nine of whom shall be Scrutiny Panel members and three of whom shall be members of the opposition party), who have received appropriate training on employment related issues.
Corporate Parenting Group	The Panel, in addition to the Members appointed by the Council, shall comprise of two representatives of the Adoption Panel and one representative of the Fostering Panel.
Introductory Tenancy Review Panel	The Panel shall comprise of at least three elected members from the Improving Lives Scrutiny Commission or Improving Places Scrutiny Commission and a housing policy advisor.
Joint Consultative Committee	The Committee shall comprise of the Deputy Leader, three Cabinet Members and one member of an opposition group.

- 3.5 Political Groups are invited to submit their nominations to the Head of Democratic Services in order for Council to consider a schedule of nominations and confirm appointments to committees, board and panels at its meeting on 26 May 2021.

4. Appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs – Overview & Scrutiny

- 4.1 The recommendations of the Governance Working Group (approved 2016) introduced a provision for the Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to be a member of the main opposition party and for the

allocation of the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair on the Select Commissions to be according to the political balance of the council.

- 4.2 Applying the principles of political balance to the positions available on the council's Overview and Scrutiny bodies, the entitlement is set out in the table below:

	Chairs	Vice-Chairs	Total
Majority	4	1	5
Opposition	0	3	3
TOTAL	4	4	

- 4.3 It is a matter for the political groups to nominate Members as Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny bodies, however the appointments must be made by the individual committees.
- 4.4 There is no provision in law or within the Constitution for the other bodies of the Council which specifically requires the appointment of Chairs or Vice-Chairs to reflect the balance of the representation of Political Groups on the Council.
- 4.5 Political Groups are invited to submit their nominations for the positions, detailed in paragraph 4.2 ahead of this meeting on 26 May 2021.

5. Appointments to Joint Bodies

- 5.1 The council also appoints to a number of joint authorities and representation on those bodies must also the balance of the representation of Political Groups on the Council.
- 5.2 The entitlement in respect of the political groups in operation in Rotherham is set out below:

Joint Committee	Membership	Entitlement
Sheffield City Region – Mayoral Combined Authority	1 Member plus 1 substitute	Leader of the Council (Deputy Leader of the Council – substitute member)
Sheffield City Region - Combined Authority Audit Committee *	2	Labour = 1 seat Conservative = 1 seat
Sheffield City Region - Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee *	2	Labour = 1 seat Conservative = 1 seat
Sheffield City Region - Combined Authority Transport and Environment Board	1	Relevant Cabinet Member

Joint Committee	Membership	Entitlement
Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Housing and Infrastructure Board	1	Relevant Cabinet Member
Sheffield City Region Education, Skills and Employability Board	1	Relevant Cabinet Member
Sheffield City Region Business Growth and Recovery Board	1	Relevant Cabinet Member
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority *	2	Labour = 1 seat Conservative = 1 seat
South Yorkshire Pensions Authority *	2	Labour = 1 seat Conservative = 1 seat
South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel *	2	Labour = 1 seat Conservative = 1 seat

*The entitlement to seats on these bodies marked with an asterisk * is calculated to reflect political balance across the four South Yorkshire local authorities.

- 5.3 Nominations will be required as appropriate from the political groups in operation on the Council in respect of the seats available.

6. Other Bodies

- 6.1 The authority to appoint councillors to serve on external organisations and partnerships (outside bodies) is a matter for Cabinet and a report will be submitted to the June Cabinet meeting recommending appointments.
- 6.2 The bodies listed in the table below require the appointment of Members according to local conventions (those appointments required by Select Commissions will be made at those commissions' first meeting of the new municipal year). There is no requirement for political balance to be applied in respect of appointment to these bodies.

Body	Membership requirement
Adoption Panel	Two Members of the Council
Complaints Panel	Three non-Executive councillors

Body	Membership requirement
Education Consultative Committee	Cabinet Member – Children and Young People Representative of Improving Lives Select Commission
Education School Transport Appeals	Panel of six non-Executive Members from a pool
Emergency Planning Shared Service Joint Committee	Cabinet Member – Jobs & the Local Economy Cabinet Member – Corporate Services, Community Safety and Finance
Fostering Panel	Two Members of the Council
Health, Welfare and Safety Panel	To be appointed by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Community Safety and Finance
Local Admissions Forum	Deputy Leader of the Council, along with two councillors appointed within the 'Community Representative' category of the Forum's membership
Parish Councils – Liaison Meetings	Deputy Leaders
Rotherham Schools Forum	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and one other Member
Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE)	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and two other Members
Transport Liaison Group	To comprise of : (a) the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, (b) the two representatives appointed to the Sheffield City Region Transport Committee (c) one representative of each electoral ward (d) two representatives of the parish councils in the authority area

- 6.3 Political Groups are invited to submit their nominations for the bodies set out in the table at paragraph 6.2 to the Head of Democratic Services by 10.00am on 26 May 2021.

7. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 7.1 The law and the authority's Constitution provide for the appointment of members to serve on committees and other bodies as a power reserved to the Council.

- 7.2 The Council may determine not to appoint to the committees at this meeting, however this will delay the conduct of the authority's business until the next available council meeting. This option is not recommended.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 Political groups have been advised of the requirement for political balance and have been requested to provide nominations to the Head of Democratic Services for the available seats ahead of this meeting.

9. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 9.1 There is a requirement for the Council to make appointments to committees, boards and panels at its meeting on 26 May 2021.

10. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 10.1 There are no financial and procurement implications directly arising from this report

11. Legal Implications

- 11.1 The legislative requirements are set out at paragraph 1.1 above.

12. Human Resources Implications

- 12.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

13. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 13.1 The appointment of members to serve on committees and other bodies of the council will indirectly impact on children and young people and vulnerable adults through the activities and decisions of those bodies. There are no apparent direct implications at the time of writing this report.

14. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

- 14.1 There are no equalities implications arising from the report. Political groups are required to have regard to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 when nominating Member appointments to committees and other offices.

15. Implications for Partners

- 15.1 The appointment of councillors to serve on external bodies and partnerships is designed to have a positive impact on the council's relationship with those organisations and enhance the relationship through the presence of accountable and elected representatives.

16. Risks and Mitigation

- 16.1 By having regard to the detail of the report above in respect of meeting statutory requirements, any risk implications will have been mitigated.

Consequently there are no risks to be borne in mind in respect of the recommendations.

17. Accountable Officer(s)

Craig Tyler, Head of Democratic Services

Report Author: Craig Tyler, Head of Democratic Services
01709 822 103 craig.tyler@rotherham.gov.uk

AUDIT COMMITTEE
23rd March, 2021

Present:- Councillor Wyatt (in the Chair), The Mayor (Councillor Jenny Andrews); Councillors Cowles, Vjestica and Walsh together with Mr. J. Barber (Independent Person).

Messrs. G. Mills and T. De Zoysa (Grant Thornton) were also in attendance.

150. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

151. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR THE PRESS

There were no members of the press or public present at the meeting.

152. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 19TH JANUARY, 2021

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit Committee held on 19th January, 2021.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit Committee be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

153. EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT AGAINST THE PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS.

The Chair welcomed Lisa Hinchliffe, Head of Internal Audit, Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council to the meeting who, together with David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, presented the external assessment of Internal Audit against the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS).

All Local Government Internal Audit departments must comply with the PSIAS which included the need for an annual self-assessment to confirm compliance, with an external assessment at least every 5 years. An external assessment agreed by the Audit Committee had had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, it was completed in late 2020.

The external assessment was completed by Lisa who had found the department to Generally Conform to the standards, the highest level rating that could be achieved. This meant that the Internal Audit activity had a Charter, policies and processes and judged to be in conformance with the standards. There were some individual areas where further improvements could be made and would become action points in the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme for 2021/22. The full report was attached as Appendix 1 to the report submitted.

The Chair thanked Lisa for her work on the external assessment.

Resolved:- That the result of the external assessment against the PSIAS be noted.

154. INTERNAL AUDIT QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (QAIP)

Consideration was given to a report presented by David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, which detailed how Internal Audit was a major source of assurance to the Council on the framework of control, risk management and governance. It was, therefore, important that it operated in conformance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

The current position against the 2020 Improvement Action Plan was set out in Appendix A of the report submitted. Many actions had been completed during the year, but implementation of the plan had been affected by Covid-19 and audit resources being used in other areas. Those actions not completed related to the use of Computer Aided Audit Techniques and did not affect the standard of work carried out by the team.

An updated QAIP has been produced using the results of the external assessment and the resultant actions see (Minute No. 153). Although General Conformance had been achieved, suggestions had been made where appropriate to drive further improvements. Implementation of the actions would be progressed throughout the year.

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The impact of Covid-19 could not be underestimated on the work planned for 2020/21. This had been rolled forward into 2021/22
- Ongoing actions to ensure the quality of work had continued during the year

Resolved:- The production and ongoing implementation of the QAIP based on the internal self-assessment be noted.

155. PROCUREMENT UPDATE

In accordance with Minute No. 131(3) of 24th November, 2020, Karen Middlebrook, Head of Procurement, presented an update on procurement in particular some of the more recent changes to processes and procedures implemented by the Corporate Procurement Team to improve governance and transparency in relation to the awarding of contracts.

The report included:-

- Exemptions from Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules
- Procurement Business Case and Tender Evaluation Reports
- Contracts Register
- Category Plans/Forward Plans

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- It was stated throughout all the documents that any declarations of interest should be made at the outset before any possible awarding of contracts
- Trends in purchasing were observed with the aim of establishing the correct process instead of regular one-off spending for the same item
- Regular reporting to the Strategic Leadership Team on certain aspects of procurement as it developed to ensure the momentum of change was retained and that there was a wider understanding across the Council

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That a procurement update be submitted to the Committee on an annual basis.

156. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT - CENTRAL RESERVE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Neil Hardwick, Head of Finance CYPS, outlining the current and projected overspend on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the recovery plans in place to enable Rotherham to operate within its annual allocation and reduce the deficit over future years. It also outlined the national picture on the High Needs Block as part of the overall Dedicated Schools Grant and the additional funding going into education.

Rotherham had been a relatively low funded authority and had seen significant pressures on the High Needs Block for many years and even though the High Needs Budget (HNB) allocation had increased year on year, partly due to Rotherham's low funding baseline compared to neighbouring boroughs and nationally, the budget uplifts had not been sufficient to match the acceleration in demand and increased cost of provision.

Rotherham had seen year on year deficits due to the growing pressure on HNB culminating in a total deficit of £20.4M and an overall DSG deficit of £19.9M after taking account of DSG balances across the various blocks e.g. Early Years. The projected overspend was as a result of a number of factors including an overall increase in Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) as well as an increase in the number of young people aged 16 to 25 with an EHCP who were now the responsibility of the local authority to fund, an increase in the number of children accessing higher cost provision and an increase in the number of pupils in Alternative Provisions (Pupil Referral Units).

The DfE had recently acknowledged the need to review the national funding formula for allocations of High Needs Funding to local authorities by launching a consultation on 10th February 2021. It proposed changes to the historical spend element for 2022/23 as well as looking at other funding factors in future years.

The report detailed how local authorities had the ability to transfer monies (0.5%) from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block and how the Authority had taken up this opportunity and successfully submitted disapplication requests to the Secretary of State. However, despite the transfer of funding, there was still a projected overspend of £1.9M in the High Needs Block for 2020/21 and estimated overall DSG deficit of £22.1M.

To monitor the DSG central reserve, the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) launched the DSG Management Plan Template on 16th September, 2020, to replace last year's DfE DSG Deficit Recovery Plan.

The template has been completed by Rotherham to support its recovery plan and submitted to the Schools Forum for approval and to support the 2021/22 School Block consultations.

Clarification was provided on the following points:-

- The DfE was investing £14Bn from 2021-22 and 2022-23 in the Schools Block and the High Needs Block. Rotherham would be receiving an additional £5.5M for Schools and £5.3M for the High Needs Block for 2021/22. The specific allocations for 2022/23 was not known as yet
- In the past Rotherham had had an in year deficit of circa £5M; this year the expected deficit was £2.2M - £1.9M on the High Needs Block and would normally expect Early Years to balance. However, due to Covid-19 and the protection of Early Years settings, in certain circumstances, the Authority has had to double fund where protecting Early Years setting on last year census' rates and some young children had had to go elsewhere and those places having to be funded as well
- In recognition of the national issue in terms of DSG deficits, the Government had introduced regulations during 2020 specifying the deficit must be ringfenced to School resources and must not seek to fund it from General Fund resources

- Most local authorities were taking the same actions as Rotherham i.e. looking at resource centres linked to mainstream schools. Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) was the key issue across most authorities. Rotherham had not had a SEMH special school which meant that the young had been supported in the Pupil Referral Units or, in certain instances, it had led to high cost expensive independent sector placements
- Rotherham had had a high number of out of authority placements which were very costly and received a contribution from the DSG, therefore, had a significant impact on the High Needs Block
- The SEND Sufficiency Phase 2 had started to embed. Most provisions had not opened until September 2020 and would fill as the year progressed. Year on year there would be more effective and value for money placements
- There were financial projections going forward, however, it was difficult to estimate the number of EHCPs and demand on the High Needs Block. Assumptions had been made in terms of year on year growth and the recovery plan and expecting to move to balanced position next year

Gareth Mills, Grant Thornton, stated that regular meetings were held with Neil and Finance representatives to monitor the position of the DSG deficit and the actions the Council had taken. Additional guidance had been issued by NAO last year for auditors in terms of how they should assess and conclude on significant DSG deficits. One of the key areas of the guidance was evidence that the Audit Committee and Members were being appropriately informed of the Council's actions and arrangements in place to deal with DSG. The report submitted and attendance by the officer fulfilled that criteria from an external auditor's point of view.

Resolved:- (1) That the actions being taken to manage the Dedicated School Grant deficit in Rotherham be noted.

(2) That the additional funding allocated in the Government Spending Review and the outstanding Department for Education (DfE) consultation on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) funding be noted.

(3) That an annual update on the Dedicated Schools Grant be submitted to the Audit Committee.

157. CLOSURE OF THE ACCOUNTS 2020/21

Consideration was given to a report presented by Rob Mahon, Head of Corporate Finance, on the closure of the accounts 2020/21.

The Council had successfully met the 2018/19 timeframes in closing its accounts after the decision to bring forward the timetable for the publication of local authorities' financial statements. However, due to the unprecedented circumstances, last year's closure of accounts deadlines had been extended for 2019/20.

It should also be noted that the volume of audit review, challenge and testing that the external auditors now had to carry out also placed additional strain on the Council's resources. This additional strain would be further exacerbated by the continuing challenge that the Covid-19 pandemic placed on the resources of the Council's Finance function. However, the timescales for the publication of the financial statements had now been extended for the next 2 years. The Accounts and Audit (amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI no 2021/263) would come into force on 31st March 2021 and would revise the statutory deadline for publishing the unaudited financial statements to 31st July, followed by the statutory deadline for publishing the audited financial statements by 30th September.

Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, local electors could only exercise their rights of inspection and to question the auditor or make formal objections for a single period of 30 working days commencing the day after the unaudited accounts had been published. In order for the inspection period to commence, the Annual Governance Statement and Narrative Report (introduced by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015) would need to be published alongside the Council's unaudited financial statements on the Council's website. The timetable for preparing the Annual Governance Statement and Narrative Report was, therefore, being co-ordinated with the publication of the draft unaudited Statement of Accounts to meet this requirement.

The report also set out changes to the Local Authority Accounting Framework:-

- Delaying of the implementation of IFRS16 for a further year. This disclosure, which would see the removal of operational leases, with lessees expected to recognise all leases on their balance sheet as a right of use asset and a liability to make the lease payments, would now be reflected in the accounts for 2021/22
- Schools converting to Academy. A further 8 primary schools were expected to convert during 2020/21. The impact on the Council's balance sheet and income and expenditure had yet to be determined but was likely to be material

- Covid-19 grants. The Council had received a high number of high value Government grants throughout the financial year in recognition of the financial consequences of the pandemic. The accounting treatment of the grants would vary depending on their purpose, however, a number would need to be flagged as exceptional items due to their value otherwise distorting the understanding of the accounts.

The external auditor, Grant Thornton, had issued their own opinion on how Covid-19 grants should be treated within the Council's accounts. This would be reviewed and agreement reached on the way forward.

The Council's Statement of Accounting Policies (Appendix B) were reviewed and updated where necessary.

Clarification was provided on the following issues:-

- A number of the Covid-19 grants were reported through the Council's financial monitoring reports i.e. emergency funding the Council received to support its general Covid-19 related impact costs, sale, fees and charges grant, a number of Public Health grants where providing grants through Council to Public Health providers and care providers and a number of business grants and test and trace grants
- Covid-19 update report submitted to Cabinet bi-monthly
- The Narrative report would identify the quantum of Covid grants

Resolved:- (1) That the key accounting issues and main changes to the accounts in 2020/21, as listed in Appendix A submitted, be noted.

(2) That consideration be given to inclusion of a statement in the Narrative Report with regard to Covid-19 grants in order to provide a full picture setting out the scale and value in total.

158. CLOSURE OF THE ACCOUNTS 2020/21 - TIMETABLE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Rob Mahon, Head of Corporate Finance, setting out the timetable for the production of the financial statements which had to be approved by the Audit Committee by 30th September, 2021, based on the revised regulations to be implemented for 2 years.

The amended regulations required:-

- Publication of unaudited accounts by 31st July, 2021
- Public inspection of draft accounts – 1st-10th August, 2021
- Unaudited accounts submitted to Audit Committee along with Narrative Report and Annual Government Statement – date to be confirmed

- External audit of accounts – August and September, 2021
- Audited accounts submitted to Audit Committee together with Narrative Report and Annual Government Statement – 28th September, 2021
- Publication of audited accounts – 30th September, 2021

Gareth Mills, Grant Thornton, informed the Committee that a guarantee could not be provided that Rotherham's audit would be concluded by the end of September. This was due to the significant overrun across the country on the 2020 audits which in turn had pushed back Housing Benefit and then 2021 audit planning for the NHS and local government.

This was a similar situation for all external audit companies nationally and the reason why there had been a push back quite heavily on the suggested 30th September audit deadline for local authorities this year.

The NHS audits would be completed first due to their end of June deadline. This was the same message being conveyed to other authorities that Grant Thornton was the external auditor for and not just Rotherham.

It would be extremely challenging to conclude the audit within the 2 months window stated but hoped to provide an update to the next Committee meeting.

The Strategic Director, Finance and Customer Services, reported that close work would continue with Grant Thornton. However, if the audit was delayed it would coincide with the Council's budget setting period and would present resource challenges for the Authority. However, close work would continue with the external auditor.

Resolved:- That the timetable for the production of the Council's financial statements be noted.

159. GRANT THORNTON UPDATE

Gareth Mill, Grant Thornton, gave the following verbal update:-

- Continued regular engagement with the Strategic Director, Finance and Customer Services, and the Chief Executive
- Further to Minute No.158, the delay was also due to the National Regulator (Financial Reporting Council) review of Grant Thornton's audit file which was taking up considerable time for the external auditor resources. There was an increased in expectations of the audit documentation and audit quality from the Regulator

- The FRC reviewed a sample of audit files of audit firms who carried out audit work of local authorities. In the middle of January Grant Thornton was informed that Rotherham had been selected for review and had commenced in February. It was expected to continue until the middle of May. It was a very detailed assessment at the end of which there would be a report and grading
- Attempts were being made to increase the number of public sector auditors within Grant Thornton to CIPFA trainee level but it took time to develop into experienced auditors. In the short term the resource position remained a problem

Resolved:- That the update noted.

160. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 1ST JANUARY-28TH FEBRUARY, 2021

Consideration was given to a report presented by David Webster, Head of Internal Audit, which provided a summary of Internal Audit work completed during 1st January to 28th February, 2021, and the key issues that had arisen therefrom. The current position of the plan was outlined in Appendix A to the report. The plan had to remain flexible and consultation would be ongoing throughout the rest of 2020/21 as the Covid-19 situation changed, with detailed scopes and timing agreed on an ongoing basis. The changes made to the Plan are set out in Appendix B to the report.

Three audits had been finalised since the last Committee meeting including 2 with Substantial Assurance and one Reasonable Assurance. Audit opinions and a brief summary of all audit work concluded since the last meeting was set out in Appendix C to the report.

Internal Audit's performance against a number of indicators was summarised in Appendix D. Target performance was not achieved for productive time. This was affected by the need to work from home and the time spent on Business Support Grants. No client satisfaction surveys had been received during the period in question.

Appendix E showed the number of outstanding recommendations that have passed their original due date, age rated. The number of aged outstanding actions had decreased to 26 from 39. Provided that the new realistic dates were achieved and new actions were completed on time, this will reduce over the next 6 months.

Resolved:-

- (1) That the Internal Audit work undertaken between 1st January and 28th February, 2021, and the key issues arising be noted.

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(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.

161. INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL PLAN 2021/22

Consideration was given to the Internal Audit Plan for 2021/22 presented by David Webster, Head of Internal Audit. The report explained Internal Audit's approach to the development of the plan, as well as detailing the specific activities Internal Audit planned to review during the year. It reflected a comprehensive risk assessment process including discussions with Strategic Directors and Assistant Directors to obtain their views of key risks and areas for audit coverage as well as a contingency to allow for the impact of Covid-19. It would need to remain flexible to respond to future developments.

Resolved:- That the Internal Audit Plan for 2021/22 be approved.

162. AUDIT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the proposed forward work plan for the Audit Committee covering the period June, 2021 to March, 2022.

Gareth Mills, Grant Thornton, commented that the forward plan stated that the annual audit letter would be submitted to the September meeting and final audited accounts in November, but as stated earlier in the meeting, there may be a delay.

It was noted that once discussions had taken place with Grant Thornton and assurances with regard to the dates, they would be reflected in the Forward Plan and as to whether any amended/additional Committee dates were required.

Resolved:- That the Audit Committee forward plan, now submitted, be supported with the comments above taken into account.

163. ITEMS FOR REFERRAL FOR SCRUTINY

There were no items for referral to Scrutiny.

164. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involves 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).

165. FINANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICES RISK REGISTER

Judith Badger, Strategic Director Finance and Customer Services, , presented a report providing details of the Risk Register and risk management activity within the Finance and Customer Services Directorate.

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 Member
- How risks were included on and removed from the Register
- Anti-fraud activity in the Directorate

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- There were 10 items on the risk register one of which was also included on the Corporate Risk Register
- Only one risk was rated “red”, 6 “Amber” and 3 “Green”
- IT infrastructure and generalised cyber threat

Resolved:- That the progress and current position in relation to risk management activity in the Finance and Customer Services Directorate, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

166. 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

As it was the last meeting of the 2020/21 Municipal Year the Chair thanked Members of the Audit Committee and officers for their work and commitment during the last year.

167. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved:- That meetings of the Audit Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year be held as follows:-

Tuesday, 22nd June, 2021
29th July
28th September
30th November
11th January, 2022
15th March all commencing at 2.00 p.m.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
10th March, 2021

Present:-

Councillor David Roche	Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and Health (in the Chair)
Ben Anderson	Director of Public Health
Steve Chapman	Temporary Chief Superintendent/District Commander, South Yorkshire Police
Dr. Richard Cullen	Strategic Clinical Executive, Rotherham CCG
Chris Edwards	Chief Operating Officer, Rotherham CCG
Councillor R. Elliott	Health Select Commission
Shafiq Hussain	Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Rotherham
Suzanne Joyner	Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services, RMBC
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive, RMBC
Councillor J. Mallinder	Improving Places Select Commission
Dr. Jason Page	Governance Lead, Rotherham CCG
Kathryn Singh	Chief Executive, RDaSH
Paul Woodcock	Strategic Director, Environment and Regeneration, RMBC
Michael Wright	Deputy Chief Executive, Rotherham Foundation Trust (representing Richard Jenkins)

Report Presenters:-

Iain Cloke	Engagement Lead, Age UK Rotherham
Lesley Dabell	Age UK Rotherham
Jenny Lingrell	Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion
David Vickers	Chair, Rotherham Older People's Forum

Also Present:-

Gavin Jones	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
Becky Woolley	Policy Officer, RMBC
Dawn Mitchell	Governance Advisor, RMBC
Jacqueline Wiltschinsky	Head of Service, Public Health

Guests

Ben Aveyard, Barbara Booton, Maxine Dennis and Rod Kersh.

Apologies for absence were received from Lesley Cooper (Healthwatch Rotherham), Gill Hunt (NHS England), Anne Marie Lubanski (Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, RMBC) and Richard Jenkins (The Rotherham Foundation Trust).

144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

145. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no questions from members of the public or press.

146. COMMUNICATIONS

(1) The Chair reported that ,on 11th February, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) had published a White Paper setting out legislative proposals for a Health and Care Bill. This included proposals around integrated care systems that could have a significant impact on the way of working.

The final details were expected to be released mid/end of April.

The Chairs of the South Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Boards were to send a joint letter to Sir Andrew Cash, Chief Executive of the Regional ICS.

(2) The dates of the Health and Wellbeing Board for the 2021/22 Municipal Year had now been agreed. Diary invitations would be sent out shortly for these meetings.

147. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board were considered.

Arising from Minute No. 135 (Aim 1: All children get the best start in life and go on to achieve their full potential), Suzanne Joyner, Strategic Director CYPS, advised that a report had been submitted to the Health Select Commission on the findings of the Children's and Young People Mental Wellbeing survey.

Resolved:- (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th January, 2021, be approved as a correct record.

(2) That the Governance Advisor ascertain if Minute No. 133(2) (5 Ways to Wellbeing video) had been actioned.

Action:- Dawn Mitchell

(3) That the report submitted to the Health Select Commission be circulated to Board members.

Action:- Suzanne Joyner/Becky Woolley

148. SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND DISABILITIES STRATEGY

Jenny Lingrell, Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning Performance and Inclusion, presented the Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy for approval.

The Strategy set out the key outcomes for children and young people (up to the age of 25) and identified the key priorities and objectives that would deliver them. It identified how the work would be organised and the oversight and accountability that was in place.

The previous version of the SEND Strategy was only ever produced in draft form and was criticised for not reflecting the voices of children, young people or families due to a lack of co-production activity. In order to provide the strategic direction for the joint Strategy, a co-produced 'Voices' day had been held in November 2019 where young people, parents, carers and practitioners came together to reflect on Rotherham's journey in relation to inclusion and agree the next steps and priorities.

The 'Voices' Day had agreed a specific set of outcomes for children with SEND in Rotherham. The outcomes were originally formulated by the SEND Strategic Board via an outcomes-based accountability process. These were shared with attendees at the 'Voices' day and it was agreed that they did reflect the priorities of children, young people and their families. A scorecard and strategic action plan had also been developed.

Oversight for the Strategy was the responsibility of the SEND Strategic Board which would meet bi-monthly. The SEND Strategic Board reported to the Rotherham Place Board.

It was also noted:-

- Strong element of parent/care input
- There was a suite of indicators that sat under the Voice outcome on the performance scorecard, which was considered by the SEND Board, that enabled agencies to look at whether they were continuing to consult and co-produce against the agenda; there were specific measures related to Voice and consultation
- Parents and carers were embedded throughout the governance arrangements for SEND and represented on the SEND Board
- A piece of deep dive work was to be undertaken to hold agencies to account in terms of outcomes and use the experience of families to evidence that
- For each of the 4 outcomes, a scorecard had been developed which would report to the SEND Strategic Board. A refined set of headline measures would be reported quarterly to the Place Board which would also receive a detailed spotlight update 3 times a year

Resolved:- That the SEND Strategy and the SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy be approved.

149. DEVELOPING A PREVENTION LED SYSTEM IN ROTHERHAM

Ben Anderson, Director of Public Health, gave the following powerpoint presentation:-

Why Prevention

- 95% of liver disease was attributable to 3 preventable causes – alcohol, obesity and viral hepatitis
- 90% of first heart attacks related to 1 of 9 modifiable factors
- 80% of diabetes spend was treating avoidable illness and complications
- 2/3s of premature deaths could be avoided through improved prevention, early detection and better treatment
- 42% of cancers in the UK were preventable
- 17% of deaths in adults over 35 were attributable to smoking

Twin Paradigms for Sustainable Care Systems

Managing Demand	Preventing Demand
Increasing supply	Improved lifestyles and tackling the wider determinants of health
Waiting targets	Prevention services
Service flow and efficiency	Health checks
Improving discharge	Screening and immunisation
Changing skill mix	DPP
New models of care	Tackling variations
Drives expectation, increases throughput, creates demand and cost	Supports empowerment, reduces throughput, stems demand and costs
Extends life expectancy and prolongs health and care service need	Extends healthy life expectancy, reduces inequalities, delays health and care service need

Prevention and Health Inequalities

- Demonstrating the gaps in Rotherham males and females – treatment and care effect/prevention effect
- Obese children Year 6 (2015/16-2017/18)
- Hospital stays for alcohol-relating harm (2013/14-2017/18)
- Incidence of lung cancer (2012-16)
- Emergency hospital admissions for all causes (2013/14-2017/18)
- Emergency hospital admissions for CHD (2013/14-2017/18)
- Emergency hospital admissions for COPD (2013/14-2017/18)
- Hospital admission rates

A Whole System Approach to Prevention

- Joint report “Meeting the Prevention Challenge in the East Midlands: A Call to Action” supporting a direct response to the NHS 5YFV
- Practical recommendations for Providers and Commissioners across Health and Care covering:-
 - Leadership and Governance
 - Commissioning and Delivery Services
 - Staff Wellbeing
 - Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility

Leadership and Governance

- Embed prevention within NHS leadership with an identified broad level prevention champion
- Create the governance structures required to deliver on prevention from policies to performance management including the use of health Impact Assessment and Health Equity Audit tools
- Ensure strategic level Public Health input to NHS planning and delivery through the 'Core Offer' from the local authority
- Working through the health and Wellbeing Board to deliver system level prevention
- Advocate for prevention within the wider system

Commissioning and Delivery Services

- Adopt a whole pathway approach considering opportunities for Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention across services
- Ensure that prevention was systematic and delivered at the required scale to deliver a population level impact
- Embed Making Everything Count within services, maximising support for lifestyle change with clear pathways to support
- Rigorously challenge clinical variation raising the bar for all in the management of risk factors and chronic conditions
- Adopt the 'Proportionate Universalism' approach to target investment to maximise impact on the 'window of need'

Staff Wellbeing

- NHS staff and their families make up a significant proportion of our local populations. Supporting them to achieve and maintain good health delivered business and population health benefits
- Develop policies to support good health in relation to active travel, workplace food and drink offers, smoking and alcohol use, work/life balance
- Ensure good quality management of staff absence and ill health adopting policies that supported staff to manage long term conditions and balanced their health needs with their work
- Consider sign up to the Workplace Wellbeing Charter

Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility

- Develop a Corporate Responsibility Strategy that considered how NHS organisation's impacted upon population level prevention
- Consider the impact of estates, transport, commissioning and procurement policies and activities on the local population and economy
- Consider the food and beverage retail offer within NHS buildings promoting healthy options and working to remove sugary snacks and beverages from the offer
- Consider how NHS organisations can support employability within the local population through placement and apprenticeship options to support the local worklessness agenda

Discussion

- Rotherham's four Health and Wellbeing aims were prevention focussed:-
 - Children getting the best start in life
 - Rotherham people enjoying the best possible mental health and wellbeing and having a good quality of life
 - Rotherham people living well for longer
 - Rotherham people living in healthy, safe and resilient communities
- Prevention and reducing inequalities were our strategic principles
- But do we have the systematic approach to prevention across our organisations to maximise our delivery?

Michael Wright, Assistant Chief Executive, TRFT, stated that the Trust was keen to work collectively and interrogate the data that underpinned emergency admissions in an effort to understand why some patients were not getting earlier intervention and thereby came through on a more planned elective pathway rather than as an emergency admission.

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Further work was required to understand the different pathways and what was happening in different Wards of the Borough
- There was a need to build expectation and aspiration to enable people to come forward at an early stage when at a preventable level of taking therapy rather than higher level treatments. It was a massive piece of work to raise that aspiration and understanding of the health literacy in the population
- Prevention and early intervention had been discussed for some time. The Board would need to explore this over the coming months. Developing local matrix and through the population health management workstream would assist
- The driver should be to extend healthy good life and delay people joining a disease register
- Nationally the focus would always be on access to treatment

Resolved:- (1) That the presentation be noted.

(2) That if any Board member had any further comments, they should email Ben directly.

Action:- All Board members/Ben Anderson

(3) That the presentation slides be provided to all Board members.

Action:- Ben Anderson/Becky Woolley/Dawn Mitchell

150. UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL OUTBREAK ENGAGEMENT BOARD

Sharon Kemp, Chief Executive RMBC, gave the following verbal update on behalf of the Local Engagement Board:-

- Since the last Board meeting, on 22nd February the Government had announced its Roadmap out of lockdown which set out the various stages/dates of the relaxation of lockdown
- Rotherham had seen a reduction in case rates – 145 positive cases per 100,000 on the 7 day rate. However, it was still one of the higher areas in the country. This was likely to be related to the fact that a lot of Rotherham's employment required people to go into and work from a workplace
- The testing centres at Midland Road, Herringthorpe Stadium, Maltby and Dinnington were still using the PCR tests. In the afternoons they were becoming collection sites for lateral flow kits for families and bubbles of school children
- Riverside House was and would continue to be a testing centre
- Businesses with under 50 employees could now register for lateral flow tests
- The Council had established a Self-Isolation Payment Scheme in January in light of the success of the 2 national schemes. 78 applications had been received of which 76 had been approved
- Rotherham would continue to increase its local contact tracing offer where information was received directly from the national Test and Trace system of those individuals they had not been able to contact. The team, which had had its number of team members increased, contacted individuals by telephone/email or knocking on doors
- Letters had been sent out in January to those that fell within the new criteria for the clinical extremely vulnerable cohort. These individuals had been supported by the Community Hub. This classification was until 31st March with further information awaited from Government
- There had been significant communications activity including support of the local vaccination take up

The success of vaccination programme was illustrated in the case rate data by age group and a clear line could now be seen between the 65+ age groups where case rates were down to 49 per 100,000 in the 65-69 age group, 34 per 100,000 in 70-74 age group and 44 per 100,000 in 80+ age group as opposed to higher rates in the working age population. There was a clear distance in case rates between those vaccinated and those not showing the impact of the programme.

Resolved:- That the update be noted.

151. UPDATE ON AIM 4: ALL ROTHERHAM PEOPLE LIVE IN HEALTHY, SAFE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment, and Steve Chapman, Temporary Chief Superintendent and District Commander, South Yorkshire Police, gave the following powerpoint presentation on Aim 4: All Rotherham people live in healthy, safe and resilient communities

Priority 1 – Delivery of a loneliness plan for Rotherham – What’s working well

- Befriending support continued to be in place for local people via the Rotherham Community Hub and the voluntary and community sector
- A promotional video was produced and shared via social media sharing positive stories about befriending
- Work continued to reach out to ‘at risk’ groups
- The loneliness Making Every Contact Count training had been updated to reflect referral routes and the impact of Covid-19
- The Board Chair had been asked to present on work taking place around loneliness as an example of good practice

Issues to address

- There had been an increase in younger people reporting that they were feeling lonely all the time or sometimes (according to the second mental health survey)
- Parents were reporting their children were suffering from being in the home for too long leading to increased anger, frustration, loneliness and mental health deterioration
- Carers had reported loneliness, isolation, reduced contact/no contact with other family members and not feeling connected to the outside world
- There had been an increase in local people requesting support with loneliness through the Rotherham Community Hub

Next Steps

- Continue to operate the Rotherham Community Hub to provide support to local people
- Take forward learning from the Rotherham Community Hub and the Rotherham Heroes approach
- Rollout of Making Every Contact Count training as from March 2021
- Continue with the Place Communications and Engagement planned activity
- Evaluate Year 3 Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Small Grants Scheme and take learning forward

Priority 2 – Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural activities – What’s working well

- Around 200,000 people had engaged in online activities and targeted events as part of the Rotherham Together Creative Programme

- Activities had included:-
 - Wildflower Park land art commissioned at Clifton Park
 - Light and Hope projection onto the side of the Rotherham Minster
 - Two partnerships with Women of the World
 - 'No Leotards Necessary' programme of physical activity through guided exercises, self-led walks and activities in parks
 - Online Story Time with Rotherham libraries
 - Virtual celebrations for the Chinese New Year
- The Library Service had actively contacted more vulnerable users and were offering click and collect and e-books/e-magazines etc.

Issues to address

- The joint workshop between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Cultural Partnership Board had been delayed due to workforce capacity
- Library buildings had been mainly closed during the pandemic meaning it had not been possible to hold activities and events as planned
- Many Culture, Sport and Tourism staff were currently redeployed on essential Covid work i.e. testing
- Parks and open spaces had been busy particularly during periods of good weather

Next Steps

- The Rotherham Together Programme would culminate in March 2021 with the opening of a memorial garden at Thrybergh Country Park – Hope Fields
- Work was ongoing to prepare for the re-opening of libraries (no earlier than 12th April)
- The joint workshop for the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Cultural Partnership Board had been rescheduled for the summer

Priority 3 – Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm – What's working well

- The Council and South Yorkshire Police were undertaking joint patrols around Covid-19 hotspots and problematic areas
- A dedicated Mental Health nurse was in place within Community Safety and referrals were increasing
- Successful partnership working was taking place around domestic abuse
- There had been investment in Neighbourhood Policing Teams who were leading work to respond to district organised crime
- A campaign had been launched to encourage everyone to 'Spot the Signs' of CSE
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue had had positive engagement with local housing associations regarding the Home Safety Partnership Referral Scheme

Issues to address

- Continuing to address Covid hotspots and supporting outbreak control work from an enforcement perspective
- Challenges around the visibility of safeguarding issues
- Temporary pause to the Victim Perpetrator programme due to CRC being absorbed by the Probation Service
- Level of acuity and complexity of the referrals made to the Mental Health nurse
- Current uncertainty relating to the ongoing funding of the Mental Health nurse

Next Steps

- A joint safeguarding partnership development session would be taking place in March
- Continuing to enforce the lockdown rules particularly as schools and businesses gradually re-opened
- Resolving funding options for the Mental Health nurse role

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Befriending Guidance produced by Public Health and supplied to volunteers and the community as well as information regarding suicide prevention and free online training from Zero Suicide Alliance
- Rotherham Together Creative Programme specifically developed to respond and support Covid-19 – 3 key themes – Joy, Gratitude and Hope
- 736 Covid-19 Enforcement related actions to date including warnings to business premises and to individuals
- 73 Closure of Prohibition Notices served on premises
- Over 400 Fixed Penalty Notices served to date
- A lot of work ongoing around domestic abuse with people and key messages in place around how Covid-19 might have affected demand for services. Although demand for services may feel reduced, would there be historic domestic abuse reports in the future. It was known that the referrals going into MARAC were becoming more complex in nature
- South Yorkshire Police had set up an initiative called Multi-Agency Tactical and Co-ordination Group which focussed on perpetrators. The top 4 perpetrators based on risk were discussed every month, in a similar way to which victims were discussed at MARAC, with the aim of reducing the risk posed to victims by such
- Joint Co-Located Teams in the 3 localities had worked on organised crime disruption identifying where crime groups were, the vehicles they used, who was visiting the houses and Gang Injunctions issued where appropriate. It had resulted in significant arrests and warrants being obtained

- Although there had not been an increase in CSE referrals, it was acknowledged that there may be a delay in the reporting of/responding to concerns. It was important that partners and members of the public were able to spot the signs of CSE
- CRC was now absorbed by the Probation Service and the service was no longer available. The Safer Rotherham Partnership had the funding to commission the Victim Perpetrator Programme but no service to accept the tender. The work continued and it was hoped to have an agency in place soon
- Work was ongoing to find a funding solution for the Mental Health nurse

Paul and Steve were thanked for their presentation.

152. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

Becky Woolley, Policy Officer, presented the latest update on the Health and Wellbeing Board's priorities and action plan.

It was noted that a further update on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment was to be submitted to the May meeting. The content had been updated to increase the focus on the health inequalities and also include Covid-19.

Pre-pandemic, there had been a bid submitted to the Shaping Places Fund around Green Spaces and the use of Green Spaces for physical activity in Rotherham (Aim 3). That work had been paused during the height of the pandemic but had now re-started. The bid had now passed through to the Discovery Phase which brought a small amount of funding for engagement work with communities and system mapping to inform the final submission. An update would be submitted in due course.

Resolved:- That the update be noted.

153. ROTHERHAM'S OLDER PEOPLE AND THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

The Board received the following presentation by David Vickers, Chair of the Rotherham Older People's Forum, and Iain Cloke and Lesley Dabell, Age UK Rotherham:-

Why is this important?

- Everyone has been affected by the impact of Covid-19
- Some have been affected more than others
- Older people have been disproportionately affected
- It was time for change – a moment to focus on what matters the most
- We want older people and the whole community to have the best possible recovery they could have : "Age Friendly"
- As part of this, need to involve older people and support them to have the best possible recovery

- Important to listen to what older people were saying and involve them in finding the solutions needed
- Working together on a 'Year of Reconditioning'

Covid-19 has disproportionately impacted older people

- Almost 1.8M people over the age of 50 had been advised to shield* whilst everyone over the age of 70 had been advised to take extra precautions
 - 28% of people 50-69 and 24% of people 70+ said their exercise routine was being affected**
 - 26% of people 50-69 and 33% of over 70s said their access to non-Covid related healthcare was being affected
 - 42% of adults aged 70+ were reporting high levels of anxiety
- *NHS Digital Shielded Patient List Data Access on 19th January 2021
**ONS Data Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain published 15th January

Physical Health

- “I seem to have become less able in many ways. I think the less you use it the more you lose it”

Physical deconditioning

- Older people were finding it harder to walk and were more reliant on aids
- They were also finding every day activities around the house harder to complete
- Reductions in mobility were having a knock-on effect on older people's weight, mood and energy
- Some older people had said they were falling more frequently than before

Mental Health

- “I just feel so scared to go out, my depression has a knock on effect on my pain, not being able to go outside means my mind keeps going round in circles making me more depressed, no conversations, no laughter, in debt and overweight from takeaways. I feel unloved and unwanted” (females 55-59)

Seeing through the eyes of older people in Rotherham

- What were older people in Rotherham saying about their journey through Covid-19?

Positive outcomes during Covid-19

- Digital inclusion
- Wisdom of age leads to resilience
- Older people were carers too
- Supporting each other informally and through volunteering

What were the best things you had done or were doing to help get through the crisis?

- Sticking to a routine
- Staying in touch with others
- Being active
- Creativity in later life
- Mindfulness
- Helping others

How are you coping with the impact of Covid-19

- 2/3 said they were coping okay
- 1/3 were not coping
- A few were really struggling

Our needs in later life

- Self-actualisation – desire to become the most that one can be
- Esteem – respect, self-esteem, status, recognition, strength, freedom
- Love and belonging – friendship, intimacy, family, sense of connection
- Safety needs – personal security, employment, resources, health, property
- Physiological needs – air, water, food, shelter, sleep, clothing, reproduction

What were the best things other people or organisations had done or were doing to help you?

- Mostly not services
- Practical help from family and neighbours
- Local people, organisations, churches, other faith groups and community hubs
- Health Services

Thinking about “the next 6 months” what are you not able to manage?
What feels impossible to deal with?

- Separation from family and friends
- The unrelenting demands on unpaid family carers
- Anxiety, worry about the world
- Solitary grief
- Coping with loss - of all kinds

Summary – Covid has affected everybody but how well you have weathered the storm depends on ‘the boat’ you were in

- Seize the moment
- Person-centred tailored solutions
- Celebrate wisdom of age
- Prevent, recover, recondition
- Building on resilience of age
- Whole community
- Enable not care

- Informal not formal
- Support not services
- Positive thinking
- People actively involved
- Recover and develop assets
- Beware unintended outcomes
- Create the environment to encourage people to create solutions

How must we continue and develop our support for older people so they can make the best possible recovery from the impact of Covid-19

- How will it happen?
- Where will the conversations happen?
- Who are the right people to involve?
- Where will the actions be planned?
- Who will make sure they are implemented?
- How will they be monitored and evaluated?
- What already works?
- What is the structure for partnership?
- Where are the resources?

It was noted that Ian Spicer, Assistant Director, Adult Care and Integration, and the Chair was to meet with Lesley and her team in March to discuss this issue further.

Should any Board member have any questions, they should email either Ian or the Chair and they would be raised in the meeting with Age UK Rotherham.

Lesley, David and Iain were thanked for their presentation.

154. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved:- That meetings take place during the 2021/22 Municipal Year as follows:-

Wednesday, 26th May, 2021
21st July
22nd September
24th November
26th January, 2022
16th March
22nd June

all commencing at 9.00 a.m. venue to be confirmed.

PLANNING BOARD
25th February, 2021

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Atkin, Bird, D. Cutts, M. Elliott, McNeely, Rushforth, Sansome, Steele, John Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Williams.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Short and Tweed.

The webcast of the Planning Meeting can be viewed at:-
<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

152. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda to warrant exclusion of the press and public.

153. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency for consideration.

154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

155. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board held on Thursday, 4th February, 2021, be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

156. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS

There were no site visits nor deferments recommended.

157. 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 attended the meeting and spoke about the application:-

PLANNING BOARD - 25/02/21

- Demolition of outbuilding and erection of two storey and first floor side and rear extensions, incorporating dormer window, and single storey rear extension at Clyde Cottage, Doncaster Road, Eastwood for Mr. N. Yunus (RB2020/1990)

Ms. L. West (Objector)

A statement was also read out on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Dearing (Objectors).

(2) That, application RB2020/1990 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting, subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report.

158. UPDATES

There were no updates to report.

159. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 18th March, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

**PLANNING BOARD
18th March, 2021**

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Bird, Cowles, D. Cutts, Khan, McNeely, Sansome, Short, Steele, John Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Williams.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Atkin, M. Elliott and Tweed.

The webcast of the Planning Meeting can be viewed at:-
<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

160. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda to warrant exclusion of the press and public.

161. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency for consideration.

162. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sheppard declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in application RB2020/1655 (erection of 8 No. apartments at Former Sports and Social Club Rockcliffe Road Rawmarsh for AHS Properties) on the grounds that he had previously provided advice to local residents and left the meeting when this application was discussed.

163. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board held on Thursday, 25th February, 2021, be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

164. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS (INFORMATION ATTACHED)

There were no site visits nor deferments recommended.

165. 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, a number of people attended the meeting and spoke about the following applications:-

- Erection of 116 No. dwellinghouses, landscaping, public open space & associated infrastructure at Pitches Sports Club Wickersley Road Broom for Newett Homes Limited (RB2019/0539)

Ms. E. Lancaster (on behalf of the Applicant)

Mr. A. Fellows (Objector)

Mr. P. Woodward (Objector)

Mr. Alexander Stafford M.P. (Objector)

Mr. S. Gillatt (Objector)

Ms. R. Moss (Objector)

Statements were also read out on behalf of Councillor B. Cutts (Objector) and Councillor K. Reeder (Objector).

- Erection of 285 No. dwellinghouses with public open space, landscaping & construction of new access road at land at Oldcotes Road Dinnington for Harron Homes (RB2020/1346)

Mr. A. Van Vliet (Applicant)

Ms. V. Horner (Objector)

Mr. M. Kent (Objector)

Mr. A. Elliot (Objector)

Mr. Alexander Stafford M.P. (Objector)

Councillor J. Vjestica (Objector)

Mr. L. Sadler (Objector)

A statement was read out on behalf of Ms. K. Middleton (Objector).

- Erection of 8 No. apartments at Former Sports and Social Club Rockcliffe Road Rawmarsh for AHS Properties (RB2020/1655)

A statement was read out on behalf of Mr. M. Smith (Applicant).

(2) That the Planning Board declare that it was not favourably disposed towards application RB2019/0539 and that it be refused for the following reasons:-

01

The Local Planning Authority considers that the site represents an irreplaceable amenity and as such its loss cannot be compensated for. Accordingly the proposal is contrary to Local Plan Policy SP38 'Protecting Green Space' which indicates that such sites will be protected from future development.

02

The Local Planning Authority also considers that in the absence of an up to date Playing Pitch Strategy there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the proposed mitigation is sufficient to provide replacement sporting facilities of an equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in accordance with Local Plan Policy SP38 'Protecting Green Space' and paragraph 97 of the NPPF.

(3) That, application RB2020/1346 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting, subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report, an amendment to Condition 25 to now read:-

“The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation by PCAS Archaeology dated February 2021 unless otherwise agreed by the Local Planning Authority, and the development shall not be brought into use until the Local Planning Authority has confirmed in writing that the requirements of the WSI have been fulfilled or alternative timescales agreed.”

(4) That, application RB2020/1655 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting.

(Councillor Sheppard vacated the Chair and left the meeting prior to application RB2020/1655 was discussed and Councillor Williams (Vice-Chair) assumed the Chair for that application until the end of the meeting)

166. UPDATES

There were no updates to report.

167. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 8th April, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

PLANNING BOARD
8th April, 2021

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Atkin, Bird, M. Elliott, McNeely, Sansome, Short, Steele, John Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Williams.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D. Cutts.

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

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

168. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda to warrant exclusion of the press and public.

169. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency for consideration.

170. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

171. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board held on Thursday, 18th March, 2021, be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

172. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS

There were no site visits nor deferments recommended.

173. 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 attended the meeting and spoke about the application below:-

- Outline application for the demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 6 No. dwellinghouses with all matters reserved at 13 Quarry Lane, North Anston for Mr. K. Littlewood (RB2020/1783)

Mr. K. Littlewood (Applicant)
Mrs. D. Broad (Objector)
Mrs. D. Graham (Objector)
Councillor C. Jepson (Objector)

(2) That, application RB2020/1783 be granted for the reasons adopted by Members at the meeting, subject to the relevant conditions listed in the submitted report and an additional condition relating to the submission of a Construction Traffic Management Plan and an informative about surplus materials being reused within the site.

(3) That, with regards to application RB2021/0060:-

(a) subject to a legal agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the purposes of securing the following:-

- Financial contribution of £500 per dwelling towards sustainable travel measures to support the development
- Affordable Housing in line with policy CS7 'Housing Mix and Affordability' (25% of final units to be affordable)
- Financial contribution of £2,369 towards improvement to bus stop 35841 controlled by South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to support the development.
- Financial contribution of £750 towards the installation of a kissing gate on adjacent footpath (Dinnington Footpath No. 13)
- Financial contribution of £390.69 per dwelling in respect of the installation of equipped play on the adjacent green space (Swinston Hill Recreation Ground) and £2,450 towards ongoing maintenance costs.
- Establishment of a Management Company to manage and maintain the areas of Greenspace on site.

(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.

174. UPDATES

There were no updates to report.

175. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 29th April, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

PLANNING BOARD
29th April, 2021

Present:- Councillor Sheppard (in the Chair); Councillors Atkin, Bird, Cowles, McNeely, Sansome, Short, John Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Williams.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors D. Cutts, M. Elliott, Steele and Tweed.

The webcast of the Planning Meeting can be viewed at:-
<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

176. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda to warrant exclusion of the press and public.

177. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were no matters of urgency for consideration.

178. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

179. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8TH APRIL, 2021

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board held on Thursday, 8th April, 2021, be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

180. DEFERMENTS/SITE VISITS

There were no site visits recommended.

Application RB2021/0097 - Change of Use to drinking establishment (Use Class Sui Generis) with decking area to front for seating pods at 129 Bawtry Road, Wickersley for The Garrison was withdrawn from the agenda prior to the meeting.

181. 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 attended the meeting and spoke about the applications below:-

- Erection of 7 No. dwellinghouses with associated access & landscaping at land rear of 91-95 Worksop Road Aston for Jaguar Estates Ltd (RB2019/0061)

Mr. M. Boyd (on behalf of the Applicant)
Mr. M. Bassett (on behalf of Objectors)
Mrs. J. Foers (Objector)
Mr. E. Foers (Objector)
Mrs. J. Shimwell (Objector)
Mr. P. Maxfield (Objector)
Mrs. A. Ash (Objector)
Councillor R. Taylor (Objector)
Mr. B. Mears (Objector)

- Demolition of unlisted buildings and erection of 170 no. dwellinghouses and conversion of 4 no. existing buildings to create 27 No. dwellinghouses with associated landscaping and works at former Swinden Technology Centre Moorgate Road Moorgate for Keepmoat Homes (RB2020/1591)

Mr. M. Pruce (on behalf of the Applicant)
Mr. R. Schofield (Objector)

(2) That, with regards to application RB2019/0061:-

(a) subject to a legal agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the purposes of securing the following:-

- a commuted sum of £70,000 towards affordable housing in the area.
- Establishment of a Management Company to manage and maintain all communal landscaped/open space areas and woodland buffer zone as shown on the Proposed Layout Plan.

(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.

(3) That, with regards to application RB2020/1591:-

(a) subject to a legal agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the purposes of securing the following:-

- 8 affordable housing units on site.
- Financial contribution of £98,500 towards sustainable travel measures to support the development.
- Financial contribution of £454,347 towards secondary education provision in the area.

- Financial Contribution of £35,685 towards bus stop improvements at Moorgate Road/ Sitwell Drive – Southbound and Moorgate Road / Sitwell Vale – Northbound.
- Establishment of a Management Company to manage and maintain the areas of Greenspace on site.

(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.

(c) That further discussion take place with the Applicant with regards to the removal of the trees on the boundary with the Objector.

(Councillors Short and Turner spoke on the first application, resigned and withdrew from the meeting and did not vote)

(Councillor Cowles spoke and voted on the first application and then withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of the second application)

182. UPDATES

The following update information was provided:-

End to Virtual Meetings

The Board noted that the powers given to Councils in April, 2020 arising from Covid-19 pandemic, allowing them to meet and make decisions virtually, would expire on 7th May, 2021.

Preparations were now in hand for the return of face to face meetings at the Town Hall.

183. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Planning Board take place on Thursday, 20th May, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE
22nd February, 2021

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Marriott, McNeely and Russell.

98. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

99. 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 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).

100. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCE

The Sub-Committee, considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the review of the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. Z.M.

Mr. Z.M. was in attendance at the meeting.

Resolved:- That the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. Z.M. be revoked.

LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE
8th March, 2021

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Napper, Steele and Taylor.

101. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

102. 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).

103. HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION PERMIT APPLICATIONS

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
Clothes Collection Ltd. on behalf of World Cancer Care	Whole of the Borough	1 st November, 2020 - 30 th November, 2021
Unicare Ltd. on behalf of Childhood Cancer Parent's Alliance	Whole of the Borough	1 st January - 31 st December, 2021
Unicare Ltd. on behalf of Yorkshire Children's Trust	Whole of the Borough	1 st January - 31 st December, 2021
Recycle Proline on behalf of Children's Hope Foundation	Whole of the Borough	1 st January, 2021 - 31 st December, 2022
Recycling and Management Services Ltd. on behalf of Beads of Courage	Whole of the Borough	1 st January - 31 st May, 2021
Real Fundraising Ltd. on behalf of Centerpoint	Whole of the Borough	3 rd December, 2020 - 31 st March, 2021

Giving Support Ltd. on behalf of Combat Cancer	As allocated by Licensing Office	1 st March, 2021 – 28 th February, 2022
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Resolved:- (1) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by Clothes Collection Ltd. (on behalf of World Cancer Care), be refused due to the lack of financial information provided.

(2) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1938, the applications by Unicare Ltd. (on behalf of Childhood Cancer Patient's Alliance and Yorkshire Children's Trust) be refused as it did not meet Policy requirements i.e. at least 80% of the total proceeds from a collection.

(3) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the applications by Recycling Proline (on behalf of Children's Hope Foundation), Recycling and Management Services Ltd. (on behalf of Beads of Courage) and Giving Support Ltd. (on behalf of Combat Cancer) be refused.

(4) That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the application by Real Fundraising Ltd. (on behalf of Centerpoint) be refused on the grounds that there was no letter of authority submitted or clarity with regard to the Council's Policy requirement with regard to the 80% of the total proceeds from a collection threshold.

104. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES

Due to technical difficulties, the driver (Mr. K.C.) was unable to join the meeting.

Resolved:- That consideration of the application for the renewal of the hackney carriage and private hire licence in respect of Mr. K.C. be re-arranged to a future date.

**LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE
8th March 2021**

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Clark, Napper and Steele.

105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

106. 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 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).

107. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCE

The Sub-Committee, considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the renewal of the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. T.D.

Mr. T.D. was in attendance at the meeting together with his brother.

Resolved:- That the application to renew the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. T.D. be refused.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
11th March, 2021

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont and Jones.

17. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 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 relating to an individual).

18. CONSIDERATION OF A REVIEW OF A PERSONAL LICENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 138 OF THE POLICING AND CRIME ACT 2017 WHICH AMENDED THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Consideration was given to a review of a personal licence in accordance with Section 138 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017 which amended the Licensing Act 2003.

The Authority had been made aware that the Personal Licence Holder had been convicted of 2 offences for which he had received a prison sentence. He had also accepted a Police Caution following a further incident.

Section 128 of the Licensing Act 2003 required Personal Licence Holders to notify the Court that they were the holder of a Personal Licence. The appellant had not done so nor had he disclosed the offence to Rotherham's Licensing Service, the Authority where the Personal Licence had been granted, as required by Section 132 of the Licensing Act 2003.

A letter had been received from Avon and Somerset Police advising the Licensing Service of the offences as listed under Schedule 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 which would undermine the prevention of crime and disorder.

Although the appellant was no longer the Designated Premise Supervisor where he was employed, he still retained his role as a Personal Licence Holder for the premises.

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 provided that the appellant's rehabilitation period was current and did not expire until 21st May, 2021.

The Personal Licence Holder, with the assistance of an interpreter, presented an explanation for the offences.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE – 11/03/21

The Sub-Committee gave due consideration to the review of the Personal Licence and the written submission from Avon and Somerset Police.

Resolved:- That the Personal Licence be revoked.

**LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE
17th March, 2021**

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Elliot and Sheppard.

111. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Sheppard declared a Personal Interest in Minute No. 113 as he had contact with the hackney carriage/private hire driver's representative on social media.

112. 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 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).

113. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCE

Further to Minute No. 110 of 15th March, 2021, the Sub-Committee, considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the renewal of the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. R.A.

Mr. R.A. was in attendance at the meeting together with his representative.

Resolved:- That the renewal application of the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. R.A. be refused.

(Councillor Sheppard declared a Personal Interest in the above item as he was in contact with the driver's representative through social media)

LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE
12th April, 2021

Present:- Councillor Ellis (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Elliot, Marriott and Russell.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

121. 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 1, 3 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to an individual, business affairs and prevention of crime).

122. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT/RENEWAL/REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES

The Sub-Committee, considered a report of the Licensing Manager relating to an application for the review of the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. M.N.A.

Mr. M.N.A. was in attendance at the meeting.

Resolved:- That the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence in respect of Mr. M.N.A. be revoked.

123. REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING POLICY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VEHICLE AGE

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a verbal report, presented by the Licensing Manager, relating to an application from Mr. A. for an exemption from the Licensed Vehicle Age Policy (Appendix I to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy) as the vehicle, XXX ASF, was now more than 10 years old.

Mr. A. attended the meeting and explained his reasons for making this application for exemption.

Resolved:- That the request for an exemption from the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy in respect of vehicle XXX ASF be approved for 4 months to enable the purchase of a new vehicle.

124. REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING POLICY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VEHICLE AGE

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a verbal report, presented by the Licensing Manager, relating to an application from Mr. J. for an exemption from the Licensed Vehicle Age Policy (Appendix I to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy) as the vehicle, XXX CLV, was more than 5 years old.

Mr. J. attended the meeting and explained his reasons for making this application for exemption.

Resolved:- That the request for an exemption from the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy in respect of vehicle XXX CLV be approved and the vehicle be presented for testing at the Council's Hellaby Depot as soon as possible.

125. REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING POLICY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VEHICLE AGE

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a verbal report, presented by the Licensing Manager, relating to an application from Mr. J. for an exemption from the Licensed Vehicle Age Policy (Appendix I to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy) as the vehicle, XXX NCD, was more than 10 years old.

The Sub-Committee considered the reasons for the request in detail.

Resolved:- That the request for an exemption from the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy in respect of vehicle XXX NCD be approved for 4 months.

126. REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING POLICY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VEHICLE AGE

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a verbal report, presented by the Licensing Manager, relating to an application from Mr. P. for an exemption from the Licensed Vehicle Age Policy (Appendix I to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy) as the vehicle, XXX DLU, was more than 10 years old.

The Sub-Committee considered the reasons for the request in detail.

Resolved:- That the request for an exemption from the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy in respect of vehicle XXX DLU be approved for 4 months.

127. REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING POLICY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VEHICLE AGE

The Sub-Committee of the Licensing Board considered a verbal report, presented by the Licensing Manager, relating to an application from Mr. P. for an exemption from the Licensed Vehicle Age Policy (Appendix I to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy).

The previous licence had expired on 18th March, 2020, at which time the vehicle had been 9 years 8 months old. Due to the age of the vehicle it had been brought to the Sub-Committee for consideration.

The Sub-Committee considered the reasons for the request in detail.

Resolved:- That the request for an exemption from the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy in respect of vehicle XXX 8565 be approved until 17th March, 2022, the date which if applied for on time, the licence would expire.

128. HOUSE TO HOUSE APPLICATIONS

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
Clothes Collection Ltd. on behalf of World Cancer Care	Whole of the Borough	1st May – 31st December, 2021
Recycle Proline on behalf of Cancer Research and Genetic UK	Whole of the Borough	26th April, 2021 – 25th April, 2022

Resolved:- That, in accordance with the provisions of the House to House Collections Act 1939, the applications by Clothes Collection Ltd. (on behalf of World Cancer Care) and Recycle Proline Ltd. (on behalf of Cancer Research and Genetics UK) be refused as they did not meet Policy requirements i.e. at least 80% of the total proceeds from a collection.