



Council

Wednesday 12 January 2022
2.00 p.m.

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.

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

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.

FACILITIES

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

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

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

Contact:- Emma Hill, Acting Head of Democratic Services
governance@rotherham.gov.uk

Date of Publication:- **4th January, 2022**

COUNCIL

Wednesday 12 January 2022 at 2.00 p.m.

THE MAYOR (Councillor Jenny Andrews)
DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Tajamal Khan)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Sharon Kemp)

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

ANSTON AND WOODSETTS

BAUM-DIXON, Timothy J.
WILSON, Tracey H
TARMEY, Drew Simon

ASTON AND TODWICK

BACON, Joshua
BARKER, Aaron

AUGHTON AND SWALLOWNEST

PITCHLEY, Lyndsay
TAYLOR, Robert Paul

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
BENNETT-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 12 January 2022 at 2.00 p.m.

Venue:-

Magna, Magna Way, Rotherham. S60 1TD

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

3. COMMUNICATIONS

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

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING (Pages 14 - 41)

To receive the record of proceedings of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 10th November, 2021, and to approve the accuracy thereof.

5. PETITIONS

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

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

leave the meeting for the consideration of the item.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

9. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT

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

10. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS (Pages 42 - 59)

To note the minutes of the Cabinet Meetings held on 22nd November and 20th December, 2021.

11. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - HRA BUSINESS PLAN 2022-23 (Pages 60 - 84)

To consider the proposed 2022-23 Base Case Option 1 for the HRA Business Plan.

12. RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RENTS AND SERVICE CHARGES 2022-23 (Pages 85 - 103)

To consider and approve the Housing Revenue Account Rents and Service Charges 2022-23.

13. COUNCIL PLAN 2022-2025 AND YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN (Pages 104 - 222)

To consider the Council Plan 2022-2025 and the Year Ahead Delivery Plan.

14. FREEMAN TO THE BOROUGH NOMINATION (Pages 223 - 227)

To consider a nomination to create an Honorary Freeman to the Borough.

15. MEMBERSHIP OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON THE COUNCIL, POLITICAL BALANCE AND ENTITLEMENT TO SEATS (Pages 228 - 234)

To inform Council of amendments to the nomination of Members to serve on Committees, Boards and Panels.

16. EXTERNAL AUDIT RE-PROCUREMENT (Pages 235 - 240)

To consider the recommendation to opt-in to the PSAA re-procurement of the external audit function.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION - HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

This Council recognises:-

- The significant impact the Coronavirus pandemic has had on the country and the world.
- The excellent work of health and social care workers, especially during these unprecedented times.

This Council notes:-

- The under-funding of the NHS.
- The failure to train enough doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals for future careers in the NHS, and increased pressures pushing large numbers of experienced senior healthcare workers into early retirement.
- That in the context of a pandemic, the latest nationwide wholesale introduction of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) is poorly timed.
- The latest plans revert to a structure that was in place over a decade ago.
- That a postcode lottery on specialised services (such as IVF treatment) has sadly emerged throughout the country.
- That regular reorganisation of NHS services at the whim of the Health Secretary of the day harms good patient care.
- That arbitrary Government target-setting, diktats, and regulatory changes create a culture of instability, which can result in worse outcomes for patients.
- That a progressive reduction in inpatient beds has left the country ill-equipped to deal with current pressures and this has resulted in record waiting times to access essential services, including Emergency Departments across the region.
- That it can make improvements to the commissioning and delivery of high-quality social care.
- The systematic undervaluing and underpaying of social care workers and that there are no new funding proposals for existing pressures.

- That the Government's new health and social care levy proposes no new funding towards existing funding pressures, demographic growth or inflation, with the expectation that these will be funded by council tax, social care precept and efficiencies.
- That the Government has failed to take account of the impact of their social care proposals on employee and provider costs.

Therefore this Council resolves:-

- To review the commissioning of social care services within the Borough at the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Board within three months, placing particular focus on its intermediate care, respite care and locality-based providers of home care.
- To review the working conditions of social care providers in the Borough, with the aspiration that all social care staff in the Borough are paid a fair wage.
- To improve communication and collaboration with health and social care providers and focus on providing a comprehensive community hospital that focuses on rehabilitation and easing hospital bed pressures.

This Council also resolves to request that the Government:-

- Delays the proposed introduction of the ICS by two years, given the current pressures of the pandemic.
- Better addresses existing funding pressures, demographic growth and inflation within the new health and social care levy.
- Remove the punitive tax structures which force experienced health professionals into early retirement, to incentivise these health professionals to remain within the service.
- Removes immigration barriers from healthcare professionals from the European Union.
- Increase the number of healthcare professionals being trained within the country.
- Incentivise those taking healthcare degrees by improving the grant and bursary packages to make studying these courses more affordable.
- Better recognises comparative qualifications from abroad with established healthcare education, such as Australia, Singapore, and Canada.

Mover:- Councillor Miro

Seconder:- Councillor Tarmey

18. NOTICE OF MOTION - BETTER BUSES FOR ROTHERHAM

That this Council:-

- a. Notes that the extent of the South Yorkshire bus network has been cut by over 12 million kilometres since 2014 and understands that Rotherham residents on the lowest incomes have been therefore been deprived of travel opportunities for the purposes of education, employment and social contact with their families.

- b. Notes the regional imbalances in funding for public transport services which prioritise the South of England and believes these to be unacceptable.
- c. Believes that a good public transport system should run where people need it, when people need it and at a price that is affordable.
- d. Understands that the Government's impact assessment of the *Bus Service Act (2017)* highlighted that public control would better address six out of seven Local Transport Authority objectives compared to an enhanced partnership and was the only method likely to deliver a "significant increase in patronage".
- e. Welcomes the outcomes of the *South Yorkshire Bus Review (2020)*, including the recommendation to immediately explore the legal and financial aspects of franchising in South Yorkshire.
- f. Believes that the Mayor of South Yorkshire must exercise powers to bring bus services back under local control (via franchising), at the earliest practicable date, and central government must do more to provide significant funding to revitalise local transport in the North.
- g. Acknowledges that the costs of franchising cannot be estimated accurately until a "notice of intent" has been released and the associated statutory powers to access bus operators' commercial data employed.

Therefore, this Council requests that the Administration:-

- (i) Inform the South Yorkshire Combined Authority of its support for conducting a statutory assessment of franchising at the earliest possible opportunity in 2022.
- (ii) Request a Combined Authority vote to release a notice of intent to prepare a franchising assessment within 6 months.

Mover:- Councillor Tarmey

Seconder:- Councillor A. Carter

19. NOTICE OF MOTION - CURRENT CONCERNS OVER THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE RESPONSE TO CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

This Council notes:-

- On 23rd November 2021, the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) published a report titled 'Operation Linden – Learning and Recommendations' in which it compared complaints around South Yorkshire Police's (SYP) handling of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) cases in Rotherham between 1997 and 2013 to current practice, highlighted a number of continuing problems in SYP's handling of CSE investigations, and made a series of recommendations to SYP.

- The IOPC said *“there is more work to be done to build on and maintain the knowledge and skills of South Yorkshire Police officers and staff”* and recommended *“South Yorkshire Police ensures knowledge and skills of those involved in child sexual exploitation work are kept up to date as part of their continuous improvement cycle.”*
- The IOPC also pointed to a 2014 inspection of SYP police which found *“a cause for concern about crimes involving vulnerable adults and children reported directly to South Yorkshire Police’s public protection department (mostly through professional third-party reports) were not all being recorded”* and noted that a 2020 re-inspection found *“significant under-recording of crimes committed against vulnerable children.”* As a result, in its November 2021 report the IOPC recommended that: *“South Yorkshire Police takes steps to ensure that crime recording practice in its public protection departments is compliant with the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime.”*
- The IOPC report highlighted continuing failings in the way SYP deals with victims of child sexual exploitation, including noting a lack of monitoring of compliance with The Victims’ Code, failing to regularly update victims on progress in contravention of SYP’s own policies, and a lack of understanding of the role of local independent sexual violence advisors (ISVAs) in supporting victims. As a result, the IOPC made a series of recommendations for SYP to:-
 - *“ensure it has a way of effectively monitoring compliance with the Victims’ Code. This should include the quality of interactions between itself and others and not just a ‘tick box exercise’ of the various entitlements being made available.”*
 - *“take steps to ensure that victims are regularly updated, and at least once every 28 days, in line with expectations.”*
 - And *“continues to work with the local ISVA service to improve its working arrangements. This should include:-*
 - *“a named point of contact at South Yorkshire Police for use by the ISVA service*
 - *“ensuring that South Yorkshire Police representatives who have contact with victims and survivors fully understand the ISVA service’s role and can explain this to others when needed*
 - *“agreement on how updates are provided to victims and survivors*
 - *“how the ISVA service could be involved in South Yorkshire Police training to help raise awareness about its role and responsibilities and how they can work together.”*
- In addition to these recommendations, the IOPC report contained a series of concerning statements, including:-
 - *“South Yorkshire Police has told us about many changes it has made since the matters we investigated took place. We have not*

assessed whether these changes have led to improvements in practice but remain worried that despite multiple reports and recommendations, there are still areas of concern.”

- *“Additionally, the ISVA service manager told us that although they had seen some improvement in 2015-16, there had been some deterioration since then.”*
- In an article published on 23rd November 2021 on the IOPC’s website introducing the ‘Operation Linden – Learning and Recommendations’ report, IOPC Director of Major Investigations, Steve Noonan said: *“Survivors of abuse will no doubt be deeply concerned, as are we, that some of these problems still exist today and we urge the police to act on these recommendations urgently to provide much needed reassurance to the public.”*

This Council also notes:-

- On 30th December 2021, *The Times* published an article titled ‘Rotherham grooming scandal: Priti Patel says police must record ethnicity of child abuse suspects’, containing information taken from SYP’s internal document ‘Child Exploitation Strategic Profile’, from December 2019.
- According to *The Times*, the newspaper had originally requested a copy of the strategic profile in August 2020 under a Freedom of Information request and had been denied. Following appeals to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO), SYP was forced to share the profile.
- *The Times* also reports that: *“The force admitted in internal emails that it was trying to block disclosure, freedom of information requests show. One officer said: “I think we need to stick to our guns as to do anything else would create an unwelcome precedent”.*
- SYP’s own Child Exploitation Strategic Profile contains concerning admissions that SYP:-
 - Failed to record the ethnicity of suspects in 67% of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) non-cyber enabled cases in the Rotherham District in 2019, with this being worse than Doncaster (54%), Sheffield (52%), and Barnsley (47%).
 - Saw a 30% reduction in CSE offences reported despite a rising national trend. The report said: *“It is difficult to ascertain the reason why offending has reduced. However, PVP are dealing with competing demands with CCE, which in turn may have led to a reduction in proactively identifying CSE.”*
 - Did not have access to a series of data/information that may indicate that a child or young person is being exploited. These indicators included: children who have attended sexual health clinics with sexually transmitted infections, children requesting contraception at

an early age, pregnancy or requesting terminations, children absent from school, children excluded from education, and children displaying sexually inappropriate behaviour.

- Identifies children repeatedly missing from home as a possible indicator of CSE, but says that: "*Currently the Missing from Home System is impacting on the Force's ability to deal with missing persons effectively as analytical opportunities are limited.*"
- Identified Rotherham as a 'hotspot' for Child Sexual Exploitation in December 2019. The report states: "*Rotherham continues to be a 'hotspot' for CSE offending in South Yorkshire.*"

This Council, therefore, resolves to:-

- Regularly monitor South Yorkshire Police's progress against recommendations made by the IOPC in its November 2021 report, with scrutiny arrangements to be determined by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board as a matter of urgency.
- Ask the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to give consideration to including scrutiny of the issues raised in South Yorkshire Police's 2019 Child Exploitation Strategic Profile and by *The Times'* investigation in the above scrutiny arrangements.
- Ask the Leader of the Council and other Group Leaders to, individually or collectively, write to South Yorkshire Police Chief Constable Lauren Poultney and South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Dr Alan Billings:-
 - Expressing concerns in line with the IOPC that "*despite multiple reports and recommendations, there are still areas of concern*" in the way South Yorkshire Police handles CSE investigations;
 - Calling for urgent action to fully adopt all of the IOPC's recommendations and for SYP to cooperate with this Council's scrutiny arrangements to monitor progress; and
 - Urging the force to be more transparent with members of the public and press, including readily complying with Freedom of Information requests and establishing a regular publishing schedule of materials related to Child Sexual Exploitation and other matters – including publishing updates to the Child Exploitation Strategic Profile as they are produced internally – in order to avoid a repeat of the circumstances leading up to the article published by *The Times* referenced in this motion.

Mover:- Councillor Barley

Seconder: Councillor Baum-Dixon

20. STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (Pages 241 - 242)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

21. AUDIT COMMITTEE (Pages 243 - 252)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

22. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (Pages 253 - 259)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

23. PLANNING BOARD (Pages 260 - 266)

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

To confirm the minutes as a true record.

24. LICENSING BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE AND LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (Pages 267 - 272)

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.

25. 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).

26. 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).

27. URGENT ITEMS

Any other public items which the Mayor determines are urgent.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Kemp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

SHARON KEMP,
Chief Executive.

**The next meeting of the Council will be on
2nd March, 2022 at 2.00 p.m.**