



# CABINET

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**Monday 10 June 2024**

**10.00 a.m.**

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

**Cabinet Members:-**

Leader of the Council  
Deputy Leader of the Council,  
Social Inclusion & Neighbourhood Working Portfolio  
Housing Portfolio  
Children and Young People Portfolio  
Adult Social Care and Health Portfolio  
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy Portfolio  
Finance & Safe and Clean Communities Portfolio

Councillor Chris Read  
Councillor Dave Sheppard

Councillor Sarah Allen  
Councillor Victoria Cusworth  
Councillor Joanna Baker-Rogers  
Councillor Robert Taylor  
Councillor Saghir Alam

Rotherham  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council 

## **CABINET**

**Venue:** The Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.  
S60 2TH

**Date and Time:** Monday 10 June 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

**Agenda Contact** Governance Unit – [governance@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:governance@rotherham.gov.uk)

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view via the [Council's website](#). The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

## **A G E N D A**

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

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

### **2. 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.

### **3. Questions from Members of the Public**

To receive questions from members of the public who wish to ask a general question in respect of matters within the Council's area of responsibility or influence.

Subject to the Chair's discretion, members of the public may ask one question and one supplementary question, which should relate to the original question and answer received.

Councillors may also ask questions under this agenda item.

### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 9 - 32)**

To receive the record of proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 18 March, 2024.

## **5. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There are no exempt items on the agenda.

## **ADULT CARE AND HEALTH**

### **6. Housing Related Support Flexible Purchasing system (FPS) Progress Report (Pages 33 - 52)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the update on the establishment of the FPS for Housing Related Support Services as agreed by Cabinet in October 2022.
2. Note the success of the work undertaken to date with the establishment of the FPS and subsequent procurement and contract award activity.
3. Agree that a review will take place after the first 3 years of the Flexible Purchasing System, to establish that it remains fit for purpose, with recommendations brought to Cabinet in early 2027.

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **7. Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy (Pages 53 - 105)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approve consultation on the refreshed Rotherham SEND Strategy that has been co-produced with partners across the Borough.
2. Agree to the refreshed SEND Strategy being presented back to Cabinet in late 2024 for formal approval prior to implementation.

### **8. SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy for Rotherham 2024 - 2027 (Pages 107 - 245)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Cabinet approve the Rotherham SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy (2024 – 2027).

**FINANCE AND SAFE AND CLEAN COMMUNITIES**

**9. Finance Update (Pages 247 - 269)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Finance and Customer Services.

**Recommendations:**

1. That the update on the revenue budget financial outturn 2023/24 be noted.
2. That the Council's progress on the delivery of the Local Council Tax Support Top Up payment 2024/25 be noted.
3. That the Council's delivery of the Household Support Fund 2023/24 be noted.
4. That provisional allocations of the Household Support Fund Grant 2024/25 of £2.489m be agreed as detailed in Section 2.5 of this report.
5. That Cabinet delegate authority to the Assistant Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, to determine revised and final allocations for the Household Support Grant to include provision for other eligible actions within the use of Household Support Fund should it not be possible to achieve full spend of the grant through the approved provisional allocations.
6. That Cabinet approve the capital budget variations as detailed in Section 2.6 of the report.

**10. New Applications for Business Rates Discretionary Relief for Rotherham Crossroads - Caring for Carers, The Fun Hub Nursery and RNN Group (Pages 271 - 286)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Finance and Customer Services.

### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the application for Discretionary Business Rate Relief for Rotherham Crossroads – Caring for Carers.
2. Reject the application for Discretionary Business Rate Relief for The Fun Hub Nursery.
3. Reject the application for Discretionary Business Rate Relief for RNN Group.

## **HOUSING**

### **11. Review of the Housing Allocation Policy (Pages 287 - 368)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the proposal to commence a full review of the Council's Housing Allocation Policy.
2. Notes the proposed approach to undertaking the review.
3. Notes that a new Policy will be presented to Cabinet for their approval and recommendation to Council.

## **SOCIAL INCLUSION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING**

### **12. Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Nature Recovery (Pages 369 - 387)**

Report from the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment.

#### **Recommendations:**

1. That Cabinet receives the report and considers the following recommendations:
  - 1) Consider what resources are required to enable RMBC to lead on the Nature Emergency and co-ordinate its response to the Environment Act 2021, including the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Enhanced Biodiversity Net Gain, and other statutory reporting.
  - 2) In line with the RMBC Nature Crisis Motion (and the mandatory Enhanced Biodiversity Duty), consider how RMBC's response to the

nature crisis can be implemented, reported, and resourced (taking note of the response to climate action).

- 3) Consideration be given to the expansion of the Councillors' role as nature champions. This to include:
  - a. How member stewardship of natural assets and geodiversity can be enhanced.
  - b. How nature recovery and climate action can be built into ward plans.
  - c. The involvement in overview and scrutiny in future monitoring and steering of this work.
  - d. Support through the Member Development Programme to ensure Members are equipped with appropriate skills and knowledge to undertake this activity.
- 4) Contribute to the South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (including appropriate resourcing), detailing Rotherham's involvement in meeting South Yorkshire national and global targets of "30 x 30" as required by the Environment Act 2021.
- 5) Consider and plan for how the RMBC estate including all green and blue infrastructure such as allotments, cemeteries, parks and sports fields, amenity spaces, communal gardens, railway and highway verges, field margins and hedgerows, rights of way and access routes, woodlands and nature reserves canals, rivers and other water dependent habitats, can contribute to biodiversity strategies and targets, demonstrating compliance with the Council's obligations for the Enhanced Biodiversity Duty (taking external advice where necessary).
- 6) Prioritise Local Wildlife Sites and Woodlands - especially those in RMBC ownership to contribute to these targets, with a coordinated 'one council' programme to increase their positive conservation management with resourced management, monitoring and reporting.
- 7) Continue and expand the positive work already underway including tree planting, meadow management, changes in verge management, community engagement etc (as stated in the RMBC Nature Crisis motion).
- 8) Utilise appropriate evidence and information from the forthcoming Rotherham State of Nature report, alongside the forthcoming SYLNRS, and the agreed priority species lists, to set local species recovery targets and work plans, and ensure sufficient resources are secured to embed this approach in long term management opportunities.
- 9) Continue to apply robust planning policies and other policy tools to contribute to nature's recovery across the Borough, noting that Local Planning Authorities must have regard to the South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy once published.
- 10) Plan to work towards zero non-essential use of pesticides and zero

glyphosate by the Council.

- 11) Work with communities to support expansion of household composting, and supporting the development of nature rich gardens, including through awareness raising of the waste hierarchy and minimising the use of new and scarce resources and the associated impacts on the natural environment that these issues have; substantive resourcing and engagement plans will be essential.
  - 12) Work with partners, stakeholders, Town and Parish Councils, communities, schools and residents on the above where appropriate.
  - 13) That consideration be given to how the process for the adoption of community wildlife sites be streamlined.
2. That Cabinet formally consider its response to the above recommendations within two months of receipt, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

**13. Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (To Follow)**

To receive a report detailing the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in respect of the above items that were subject to pre-decision scrutiny on 5 June 2024.

**The next meeting of the Cabinet will be  
held on Monday 29 July 2024  
commencing at 10.00 a.m.  
in Rotherham Town Hall.**



**SHARON KEMP,  
Chief Executive.**