

Cabinet Decisions

18 November 2024

A record of decisions made at the Cabinet Meeting, which took place on Monday 14 October 2024

Cabinet Decision Making

The membership of the Cabinet is:

Leader of the Council	Councillor Chris Read
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion & Neighbourhood Working	Councillor Dave Sheppard
Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care and Health	Councillor Joanna Baker-Rogers
Cabinet Member – Children and Young People	Councillor Victoria Cusworth
Cabinet Member – Finance & Safe and Clean Communities	Councillor Saghir Alam
Cabinet Member – Housing	Councillor Sarah Allen
Cabinet Member – Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy	Councillor Robert Taylor

All Cabinet decisions are taken collectively at Cabinet Meetings. There are no decisions taken by individual Cabinet Members.

Decisions taken by Cabinet are detailed below and are subject to the Call-In Procedure set out at Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13. This rule provides for a period of seven working days from the date of the publication of the decision notice before any decision taken by the Cabinet can be implemented.

CABINET DECISIONS TAKEN ON 18 November 2024

Report Title	Portfolio	Directorate	Contact Officer	Decision / Recommendations agreed	Alternative Options Considered	Conflict of Interest Recorded	Dispensations Granted	Action Date
Looked After Children (LAC) Sufficiency Update (including the residential development progress update)	Children and Young People	Children and Young Peoples Services	Nicola Curley, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note the progress made to deliver the in-house children's residential development, the positive impact for Children in Care and financial efficiencies that will be achieved. Approve the Care Leavers addendum to the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy 2023 – 2028. Agree that the LAC and Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy Delivery Plan be updated to increase the appropriateness and number of available accommodation options for Care Leavers as per the Care Leaver addendum to the LAC sufficiency strategy (see 2 above). Note that on 16 October 2023 authority was delegated to the Assistant Director of Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to acquire up to 100 properties in line with the Housing Acquisitions Policy, which includes scope to acquire properties to meet the accommodation needs of Children and Young Peoples Services. Authorise the Councils Designated Property Officer, or relevant Strategic Director in their absence, to negotiate any additional accommodation required and complete necessary transactions, in consultation with the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Director Children's and Young Peoples Services, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services and the Assistant Director of Legal Services. That Cabinet give consideration to ensuring that the local neighbourhood teams and ward members were consulted when identifying properties within their localities. 	Report – LAC Sufficiency Update	N/A	N/A	28/11/24
Rotherham Leaving Care Strategy 2024-2027	Children and Young People	Children and Young Peoples Services	Nicola Curley, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services	That Cabinet approve the Leaving Care Strategy and approve the three-year plan as set out within the Strategy.	Report – Rotherham Leaving Care Strategy 2024-2027	N/A	N/A	28/11/24
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements	Children and Young People	Children and Young Peoples Services	Nicola Curley, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> That Cabinet endorse the South Yorkshire Multi Agency Safeguarding arrangements which include the place-based Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (RSCP) Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements. That Cabinet approve the Local Authority involvement in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements and receives appropriate reports on progress against the RSCP priorities and the Annual Report on impact of the RSCP in 	Report – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements	N/A	N/A	28/11/24

Report Title	Portfolio	Directorate	Contact Officer	Decision / Recommendations agreed	Alternative Options Considered	Conflict of Interest Recorded	Dispensations Granted	Action Date
				safeguarding children and young people.				
September 2024-25 Financial Monitoring Report	Finance and Clean and Safe Communities	Finance and Customer Services	Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services	That Cabinet: 1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast overspend of £5.3m. 2. Note that actions will continue to be taken to reduce the overspend position but that it is possible that the Council will need to draw on its reserves to balance the 2024/25 financial position. 3. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme, including proposed capital programme variations to expenditure profiles and funding. 4. Approve the adoption of the Department for Education's procedure to help local authorities financially assess Special Guardians as part of the process for setting up Special Guardianship Orders. 5. Approve the proposed debt write off detailed at 2.44	Report – September Financial Monitoring	N/A	N/A	28/11/24
Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy	Housing	Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	That Cabinet: 1. Approve the Housing Services Repairs and Maintenance Policy (Appendix 1) . 2. Approve the increase in decoration allowance from £25 to £50 per room, up to a maximum of £350 per property, as proposed in the Housing Services Repairs and Maintenance Policy (Appendix 1). 3. Note the ongoing work to scope the future repairs and maintenance delivery model for Rotherham and agrees to receive a further update on this work in 2025. 4. Approve the Housing Services Gas and Carbon Monoxide Safety Policy (Appendix 2) . 5. Approve the Housing Services Electrical Safety Policy (Appendix 3) . 6. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to make amendments to the following housing policies in line with operational, regulatory and legislative demands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Services Repairs and Maintenance Policy Housing Services Gas and Carbon Monoxide Safety Policy Housing Services Electrical Safety Policy Housing Services Fire Safety Policy Damp, Mould and Condensation Policy as it relates to housing assets. 7. That Cabinet supports the proposal that the	Report – Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy	N/A	N/A	28/11/24

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				sums awarded for the decorating allowance be increased in line with the corporate Fees and Charges annually.				
Temporary Accommodation Policy	Housing	Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	That Cabinet: 1. Note the increase in homelessness and growing demand for temporary accommodation and the work being undertaken by the Council to respond to this demand. 2. Approve the adoption of the new Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy (Appendix 1) . 3. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health for a 3-year period in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to make operational amendments to the Policy when the need is identified. 4. Note officers' intention to continue to pursue opportunities for a 3-year period to increase the portfolio of Council-owned temporary accommodation to meet service demands, subject to available budget and in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing.	Report – Temporary Accommodation Policy	N/A	N/A	28/11/24
Household Support Fund Update	Social Inclusion and Neighbourhood Working	Assistant Chief Executive	Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive	That Cabinet: 1. Note the provisional allocations of the Household Support Fund Grant of £2.489m have been made as follows: a. £1.028m for food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals for school holidays up to and including Easter 2025. b. £1.156m to support applications from households for assistance with energy costs, through the Council's Energy Crisis Support Scheme. c. £150k towards the costs of the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up Scheme. d. £45k to support care leavers, being young people leaving foster or local authority care and living independently in their own accommodation who are responsible for paying their own utility bills, providing additional financial support through the cost-of living increases. e. £60k to local voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations to support vulnerable households over Christmas / New Year through a supplement to the Crisis Support service level agreement. f. £50k to provide parcels of household items to be distributed through VCS community support including food banks, social supermarkets, and the Open Arms programme drop-in sessions. 2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Chief Executive in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Neighbourhood Working, to determine revised	Report – Household Support Fund Update	N/A	N/A	28/11/24

Report Title	Portfolio	Directorate	Contact Officer	Decision / Recommendations agreed	Alternative Options Considered	Conflict of Interest Recorded	Dispensations Granted	Action Date
				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 options.				

CABINET – 18 November 2024

REQUEST FOR CALL-IN			
Report Title:			
Cabinet Portfolio:			
Decision being called in for Scrutiny:			
Reason for call in:			
Alternative proposal for Scrutiny to consider			
Members requesting the decision be called-in:		PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
5			

To be completed by Statutory Scrutiny Officer:	
Date & Time received:	
Valid call in:	YES/NO
OSMB meeting referred to:	