CABINET

Monday 7 July 2025
10.00 a.m.
Council Chamber, Rotherham Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

Cabinet Members:-

Leader of the Council	Councillor Chris Read
Deputy Leader & Children and Young People Portfolio	Councillor Victoria Cusworth
Adult Social Care and Health Portfolio	Councillor Joanna Baker-Rogers
Housing Portfolio	Councillor Linda Beresford
Finance & Community Safety Portfolio	Councillor Saghir Alam
Street Scene and Green Spaces Portfolio	Councillor Lynda Marshall
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy Portfolio	Councillor John Williams

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

CABINET

Venue:	**The Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH**
Date and Time:	**Monday 7 July 2025 at 10.00 a.m.**
Agenda Contact	**Governance Unit – 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 11 - 24)

To receive the record of proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 June 2025.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Agenda Item(s) 13, 17, 18 , 19 and 20 have exempt appendices. Therefore, if necessary when considering those items, the Chair will move the following resolution:-

That under Section 100(A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it/they involve(s) 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.

DEPUTY LEADER & CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

6. The Local Offer for Kinship Carers (Pages 25 - 72)

Report from the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Service.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet agree and approve the content and publication of the Kinship Local Offer.

7. SEND Sufficiency Aspire Pupil Referral Unit (Pages 73 - 90)

Report from the Strategic Director of Children & Young Peoples Service.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the update on the progress made against the Special School Capital Accessibility Funding programme and approve the programme of capital work at Kelford School.

2. Approve the programme of capital work at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit to support sufficiency requirements.

FINANCE & COMMUNITY SAFETY

8. May 2025-26 Financial Monitoring Report (Pages 91 - 108)

Report by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast underspend of £0.1m.

2. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.

9. Treasury Management Outturn 2024-25 (Pages 109 - 128)

Report by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet note the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators outturn position as set out in Section 2 and Appendix 1.

10. Financial Outturn 2024-25 (Pages 129 - 174)

Report by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the revenue outturn position for 2024/25.

2. Note the budgeted transfer to HRA reserves increased by £4.4m following the revenue and capital outturn positions.

3. Note the carry forward of the combined surplus schools balance of £2.3m in accordance with the Department for Education regulations.

4. Note the reserves position set out in paragraphs 2.52 to 2.57.

5. Note the capital outturn, funding position and programme variations as set out in paragraphs 2.58 to 2.91.

6. Approve the capital budget variations as detailed in section 2.79 to 2.82 of the report.

7. Note the position on CRSTS Revenue Grant as set out in paragraphs 2.92 to 2.94 and delegate the decision to allocate and spend the remaining grant to the Assistant Director Planning Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Member.

11. Ethical Procurement Policy (Pages 175 - 216)

Report by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Formalise the support of the UK Steel Charter as the successor to the Sustainable British Steel Charter.

2. Approve the updated Ethical Procurement Policy for 2025.

12. Fitzwilliam Road Public Space Protection Order (Pages 217 - 266)

Report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet approves the renewal of the Fitzwilliam Road Order (Appendix 1) for a period of three years upon expiry of the current Order in July 2025.

HOUSING

13. Housing Delivery Programme Report 2025-26 Update (Pages 267 - 317)

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

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the continued progress made in delivering the Council's Housing Delivery Programme, including the delivery of 57 new homes in the period covered by this report, and the ongoing work to deliver 1,000 new Council homes by Summer 2027.

2. Approves the purchase of homes from any of the schemes identified in Exempt Appendix 2.

3. Approves the programme changes outlined in this report to facilitate the delivery of 1,000 new homes 'on time' (by Summer 2027) and 'on budget' (within the financial resources allocated to the Programme from the Housing Revenue Account). This includes the removal and addition of specific schemes as outlined in Section 2, paragraphs 2.10 to 2.20 of the report.

4. Approves the disposal of the four sites listed in Table 4, subject to Cabinet approval of Recommendation 3 (above), and following the usual Council disposal process. The receipts to be ringfenced to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Housing Delivery Programme.

5. Approves the appropriation of 19 Cranworth Road into the Housing Revenue Account, and its refurbishment for use as a Council home via the Market Acquisitions workstream (see Section 2, paragraph 2.19 and Section 6, paragraph 6.7 of the report).

6. Agrees to continue to receive an update on the housing development programme every six months.

14. Denman Road Housing Development, Wath (Pages 319 - 355)

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

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Approves development of the Denman Road site, to build an estimated 18 new Council homes, with the final number subject to planning permission and further design work.

2. Delegates authority to the Interim Assistant Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to optimise design of the sites according to strategic need, site constraints, and any requirements resulting from both stakeholder feedback and the planning application process.

15. Tenant Satisfaction Measures and Housing Regulatory Compliance Update (Pages 357 - 387)

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

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the contents of the report.

2. Agrees to receive a further update in six months' time.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

16. Council Plan 2022-2025 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update 2024-25 (Pages 389 - 562)

Report from the Assistant Chief Executive.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the overall position in relation to the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities.

2. Note the Quarter 4 data for the Council Plan performance measures.

3. Note that the Council has been using a new Council Plan from June 2025 with this being the final report for the 2022-25 Council Plan.

STREET SCENE AND GREEN SPACES

17. Land Acquisition for Flood Alleviation Schemes (Pages 563 - 589)

Report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the acquisition of approximately 20.04 acres from land title SYK345249 together with associated costs.

2. Approve the acquisition of approximately 15.12 acres from land title SYK648291 together with associated costs.

3. Approve the acquisition of approximately 0.17 acres from land title SYK229346 together with associated costs.

4. Approve the acquisition of approximately 0.12 acres from land title SYK129461 together with associated costs.

5. Approve the lease of approximately 1.11 acres from land title SYK550557 together with associated costs.

6. Approve the acquisition of approximately 12.02 acres from land title SYK156703

TRANSPORT, JOBS AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

18. Effingham Street Public Realm (Pages 591 - 617)

Report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approve:

1. Reallocation of funding identified in the exempt Appendix 2 from Town Centre Investment Fund (TCIF) to the proposed Effingham Street public realm improvements.

2. The delivery of the Effingham Street public realm improvements project as detailed at Appendix 1 and the budget as detailed at exempt Appendix 2.

19. Health Hub Development (Pages 619 - 643)

Report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approve delivery of Phase 1 of the Town Centre Health Hub project within the scope and budget as detailed at Appendix 1 and Exempt Appendix 2.

2. Approve the allocation of funding from the Pathfinder programme to progress to final design and implementation of Phase 1 and feasibility work for Phase 2.

3. Note the intentions for Phase 2 of the Town Centre Health Hub and approve the commencement of negotiations with interested parties for the provision of General Practice or other walk-in health services.

4. Note the intentions for the Town Centre Music Venue project.

20. Mainline Station and Strategic Acquisition (Pages 645 - 745)

Report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Endorses the Rotherham Gateway Station (Mainline and Tram-Train) Masterplan, attached at Appendix 1.

2. Approves undertaking public engagement on the Masterplan in the autumn of 2025.

3. Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy to prepare and submit a Strategic Programme Business Case for the Masterplan to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA).

4. Authorises the Assistant Director of Property and Facilities Services to agree the acquisition of properties in exempt Appendix 2 in consultation with the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment, Cabinet Member for Jobs & the Local Economy and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety.

5. Approves the allocation of the Strategic Acquisitions Fund agreed at the March 2025 Budget Council to progress the acquisition of the sites as outlined in exempt Appendix 2, including potential holding costs that the Council may incur.

6. Grants a Resolution in Principle to investigate the use of powers, under a Compulsory Purchase Order or Transport and Works Act Order.

21. 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 2nd July 2025.

22. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Monday 15 September 2025 commencing at 10.00am in Rotherham Town Hall.



John Edwards,
Chief Executive.

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THE CABINET
9th June, 2025

Present:- Councillor Read (in the Chair); Councillors Alam, Baker-Rogers, Beresford, Cusworth and Williams.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Marshall.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There was one public question from Mr Azam. He asked for confirmation regarding which Cabinet Member now had responsibility for bereavement services and he offered to take them for a tour of the cemeteries like he had previous Cabinet Members. Mr Azam also asked for a progress update on the negotiations between the Council and Dignity. He was very concerned that burial space was running out but there were no confirmed plans for further development. Phase 1 of the development had been expected in 2025, but no plans had yet been approved. He asked how the matter could be moved forward.

The Leader confirmed that Councillor Beresford now had responsibility for Bereavement Services. Councillor Beresford confirmed that she would like to accept Mr Azam's offer of a tour.

Phil Horsfield, the Assistant Director of Legal, Elections and Registration Services, confirmed that negotiations were still ongoing and that the discussions being held were robust. The outcome of the negotiations would impact the plan for future development which was why those plans had not yet been confirmed. Mr Horsfield reiterated what had been said in previous meetings, explaining that the Council would ensure that there was always land available for burials.

Mr Azam confirmed he would contact Councillor Beresford. He also referenced the Independent Equalities Review of Bereavement Services Provision that had been undertaken by Kaushar Tai. This report was due to be discussed at the Improving Places Select Commission on 10 June 2025. Mr Azam stated that he believed the report was a missed opportunity and asked if it would be presented to Cabinet along with costs and actions regarding what needed to be done and what commitments the Council would make.

Mr Horsfield explained that an action plan would be developed as a result of the report. Any future investment would be subject to the usual procedure rules that the Council operated under.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19 May 2025 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair advised that there were no items of business on the agenda that would require the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting.

5. UPDATE ON THE FAMILY HELP STRATEGY IN RELATION TO THE FAMILIES FIRST PARTNERSHIP (FFP) PROGRAMME GUIDE

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on the published guidance relating to the Families First Partnership Programme. Approval was requested for the governance structure for the management, oversight and scrutiny of the Families First Partnership Transformation Programme, in accordance with the requirements of the Families First Partnership Programme Guide, Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill 2024, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 and the Children's Social Care: national framework.

Agreement was also sought to delegate authority to the Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services in consultation with the Lead Member, Children and Young People and the Assistant Director Financial Services to determine the use of the new Children's Social Care Prevention Grant in line with the expectations set out in the Families First Partnership Programme Guide.

The Families First Partnership (FFP) programme guide published in March 2025 provided clear expectations for safeguarding partners to transform how support and protection were provided to families, focusing on early intervention and prevention to avoid crisis situations. It emphasised a whole-family approach, bringing together multi-disciplinary professionals to support families in overcoming challenges and remaining together. The programme also involved greater family network engagement and stronger multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

The programme guide was not statutory guidance and did not replace existing statutory guidance, including Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023: or the Children's social care: national framework. Four chapters set out the vision for transformation in family support, to rebalance the system away from crisis intervention and toward earlier help and support; delivery expectations for Family Help, multi-agency child

protection and Family Group Decision Making and key principles and system enablers and the national delivery support offer.

The Council had been allocated £2.083m children social care prevention grant in 2025/26. The grant was ringfenced for direct investment in additional prevention activity for children and families through the implementation of Family Help and Child Protection reforms. The grant was to be used alongside the existing Children and Families grants (inclusive of Supporting Families funding), which would enable continuation of existing prevention services.

In accordance with the draft grant determination letter, the £2.083m funding was to be used for the following activities:

1. Transformation – the Council was allowed to spend (as one-off and/or set up costs) a proportion of the funding (maximum of 30%) on transformation activity to increase readiness for system change, which would include the following: (1) establishing a transformation team including but not limited to a strategic lead, a senior project transformation lead, a project manager, secondment opportunities for key partners and commissioning, finance, HR and performance resource. (2) Buy-in dedicated resource from partners e.g. health, police, education, voluntary sector, such as secondment arrangements, to support the development of the delivery plan.

2. Service Design – the grant funding was allowed to be used for (1) undertaking a joint family help needs analysis to inform new service delivery models; (2) stakeholder engagement (with local partners) to co-produce and design new service delivery models and strengthen multi-agency working and safeguarding arrangements. A diverse range of service users and practitioners were expected to be engaged in the co-design process.

3. Service Delivery - the grant was expected to be used across the full breadth of preventative services, including Early Help, Family Help, Family Networks, and child protection. Service delivery costs were expected to include additional workforce and commissioned services to enable the Council to offer new and updated services for families and children, which met the policy principles set out in the Programme Guidance. Paragraphs 2.7 to 2.12 provided an indication of some of the key service changes expected from April 2025 to March 2026 and beyond.

A further update on the delivery of Phase 2 of the Early Help Strategy: Family Help including the Families First Programme Transformation, would be brought to Cabinet in November 2025.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the expectations outlined in the Families First Partnership Programme Guide issued in March 2025.

2. Agree to the establishment of the governance structure for the management, oversight, and scrutiny of the Families First Partnership Transformation Programme and delegate approval of Terms of Reference to the Chief Executive in Consultation with the Leader and the Lead Safeguarding Partners.

3. Approve the use of the new Children's Social Care prevention grant to deliver transformation activity (30%), increased direct delivery of family help (50%), practice development, workforce development and ICT development (15%) and children and family voice (5%) as described in 2.15.

4. Delegate authority in line with recommendation 3 (above) to the Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services in consultation with the Lead Member for, Children and Young People and the Assistant Director Financial Services.

5. Agree to receive a further update in November 2025 detailing the progress towards the expectations outlined in the Families First Partnership Programme Guide and expenditure of the Children's Social Care Prevention Grant.

6. FINANCE UPDATE - JUNE 2025

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update to Cabinet on a number of financial matters. The report was provided as an interim update for Cabinet, following on from the approval of the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report at Council on 5 March 2025 and in advance of the Financial Outturn 2024/25 report and May Financial Monitoring 2025/26 report to be submitted to Cabinet in July 2025. An update was also provided on the Council's administration of the Local Council Tax Support Top-Up payments.

The Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25 submitted to Cabinet on 10 February 2025 was based on the financial monitoring position as at December 2024, which outlined that the Council anticipated an overspend of £3.1m. This forecast position was also outlined in the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report which was submitted to the same Cabinet meeting and to Council on 5 March 2025. The overspend was to be funded from Reserves as approved at Council as part of the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report. However, the report noted that the Council's intention was to further improve that outturn position in the remainder of the financial year, if possible, to help reduce the call on reserves.

The actual financial outturn position reflected an overspend of £0.3m for the financial year 2024/25. This position included a final overspend of £12.8m across the core directorates services, however, the directorate overspend was partially offset by the planned £6.9m corporate budget risk contingency within Central Services approved within the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25. Taken with savings delivered from the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, the final underspend in Central Services was £12.5m, which reduced the Council's overall outturn to a £0.3m overspend. This was an improvement of £2.8m from the December Financial Monitoring reported to February Cabinet, as service areas delivered savings ahead of year-end, maximised grant allocations, improvements in income were recognised and the Council generated further savings in Treasury Management. The main reasons for the improvements in the Directorate outturn position were set out in paragraph 2.1.4 of the report.

Council approved, as part of the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report on 5 March 2025, continuation of Local Council Tax Support Top Up Scheme to run during 2025/26. The scheme would provide an additional award during 2025/26 of up to £126.12 additional support to low income households most vulnerable to rising household costs, through reduced Council Tax bills. The application of the scheme included all those becoming eligible up to and including 31 March 2026. The 2025/26 scheme had commenced and at the time the report was written, a total of £1.486m had been awarded across 14,632 accounts, with 12,681 of these accounts being reduced to nil. Those bill payers in receipt of this award had been provided with a Council Tax bill that showed the top up support from the Council along with a letter explaining the reason for the award.

The estimated scheme costs were between £1.7m and £1.9m. As agreed in the Budget Report to Council 5 March 2025, this would be funded by a combination of the Household Support Fund for 2025/26 and the Local Council Tax Support Grant Reserve. The 2024/25 Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme provided additional support of up to £121.96 to low income households most vulnerable to rising household costs, through reduced Council Tax bills. A total of £1.696m had been awarded across 17,422 accounts with 10,684 being reduced to nil in 2024/25.

The report was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB), who advised that the recommendations be supported.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:-

1. Note the update on the revenue budget financial outturn 2024/25.

2. Note the Council's progress on the delivery of the Local Council Tax Support Top Up payment.

7. STREET SAFE TEAM

Consideration was given to the report which outlined the progress and plans for the new Street Safe Team in Rotherham Town Centre and the principal towns. This initiative aimed to provide a welcoming presence for visitors to the area. The team would undertake a broad range of duties which would include signposting or providing information to the public as well as identifying and addressing issues in relation to the general street scene, such as littering, by enhancing the existing enforcement presence. The service was also aimed at enhancing community safety and improving perceptions of safety in town centres. The report highlighted the importance of collaboration, continuous training, and community engagement in achieving the goals of the Street Safe initiative.

In March 2025, as part of the 2025/26 Budget, Council approved the revenue investment to create a new Street Safe Team. The new team represented a significant investment with 10 new front-line officers fulfilling brand new roles alongside the required management resources. This would be embedded within the Community Protection and Environmental Health Team, working in partnership with a range of internal and external partners across Rotherham Town Centre and the principal towns of Maltby, Dinnington, Wath and Swinton.

In addition to the proactive visible and engaging presence, the Team would also support directly the delivery of a range of Community Protection and Environmental Health services within specific neighbourhoods, including enforcement and regulation, providing regulatory advice and guidance while supporting the delivery of projects aimed at prevention and early intervention, specifically:

- Provide a dedicated resource which will enforce Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) and wider relevant legislation including the Environmental Protection Act.
- Contribute towards the improvement of efforts to address anti-social behaviour and feelings of safety in and around the town centres.
- Proactively network, support and intelligence gather from partners and other RMBC town centre services and resources.
- Provide a visible presence in the target locations, focus upon priorities and determine a working pattern to ensure appropriate coverage for daytime, evening and weekend issues.
- Identify and report issues in the areas the Team are deployed.
- Provide advice and guidance when approached by members of the public.
- Contribute to the delivery of the Town Centre Strategy.

Paragraphs 2.9 to 2.15 of the report detailed the recruitment and training proposals. The induction programme for new enforcement officers was designed to ensure thorough preparation, integration, and support for the new Team members who would be delivering new functions. The induction would span seven weeks, covering essential training, practical experience, partner collaboration, advanced skills, legal and technical training, and independent patrols. The programme aimed to equip officers with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to perform their duties effectively and learning and development would continue to be reviewed and delivered as part of continuous professional development.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the proposed implementation plan.

2. Commit to receiving a further update in March 2026 once the Team has had time to be established and operational.

8. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Consideration was given to the report which presented the nominations received for appointments to outside bodies. Outside bodies were external organisations which had requested that the Council appoint a representative to them. Outside bodies had separate governance structures to the Council. Appointments to outside bodies could be an important mechanism for community leadership, partnership and joint working and knowledge and information sharing.

The Council's Constitution stated that Cabinet was responsible for the appointments to Outside Bodies. This report presented the nominations received and recommended the appointment of the nominees to the various organisations and partnerships. Details of the appointments were attached in Appendix 1 to the report.

During the meeting the Leader confirmed the following:

- Councillor Sheppard was to be appointed to the vacancy on Rotherham Allotment Alliance.
- Councillor Baker-Rogers was to be appointed to the vacancy on the Local Government Association – General Assembly.
- Councillor McKiernan was to be appointed to the vacant role of Director at the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

1. Agree that councillors be appointed to serve on outside bodies, as detailed on the schedule in Appendix 1 and as updated at the meeting.

2. Agree that any in year changes are delegated to the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Leader of the Council.

9. SOCIAL VALUE ANNUAL REPORT

Consideration was given to the report which presented an update on progress towards the priorities set out in the Council's Social Value Policy, including the amount of social value committed and delivered through Council contracts. Priorities were also set for the following 12 months. Since the last annual report in March 2024, good progress had continued to be made in achieving the aspirations set out in the Policy. Social value commitments now stood at £32m and, importantly these commitments were increasingly translating into delivery with the validated social value delivered totalling £12.3 million.

The National Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs) framework, developed by the National Social Value Task Force, provided a clear definition of social value and a corresponding measurement tool for transparent and robust reporting. The Council had selected measures from the National TOMs that would positively impact the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of the Rotherham community. These TOMs focussed on Employment and Skills, directing suppliers to deliver additional benefits in this area.

Appendix 1 provided details of the measures that the Council's suppliers had committed to and delivered against on contracts procured and awarded between December 2019 and November 2024. Highlights were set out in section 2 of the report.

The Council achieved accreditation as a Living Wage employer from the Living Wage Foundation in September 2021. In 2024, this status was successfully retained for a third year. As a result, the Council continued to display the Real Living Wage logo in its communications and publicity materials. Currently, the Council ensured that all its staff received the Real Living Wage, which stood at £12.60 per hour. Additionally, the Council was committed to extending this standard to all in scope contracts.

The amount of Council expenditure being spent locally had continued to increase from £77.2m in 2022/23 to £105.5m in 2023/24. This was an increase of £28.3m or 36.7%. Whilst a greater absolute amount of council expenditure was being spent locally, the proportionate share of expenditure had decreased from 27.9% in 2022/23 to 24% in 2023/24.

The annual social value showcase for 2024 took place in July, attracting 67 attendees, including 38 from the private sector and 29 from the public sector. The event featured several workshops covering key issues such as supply chain opportunities and bidding for public sector contracts.

The Rotherham UKSPF social value project saw Go4Growth and Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber deliver a series of events and interventions in 2024/25 to support local businesses. Details of these were set out in paragraph 2.8.1 of the report. Appendix 3 included several case studies that helped to bring some of the activity described in the report to life and described the real life impact on residents and communities.

The key actions for 2025/26 built on the progress made in 2024/25. This included advancing the community wealth-building aspirations set out in the Social Value Policy, as well as continuing the partnership programme with anchor organisations, and delivering further staff training, particularly aiming to ensure that social value commitments were delivered through effective contract management. This was supported by investment from the Council's budget and further funding that had been secured from UKSPF, which would also enable continuation of the work with local businesses delivered by the Chamber and Go4Growth. Work would continue on:

- Employee ownership
- The development of anchor networks
- Upskilling Council Staff
- Supporting local businesses

The report was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB), who advised that the recommendations be supported.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:-

1. Receive the annual report, noting the social value commitments along with outcomes delivered.

2. Approve the use of the new national TOMs (Themes, Outcomes, measures) as detailed in Appendix 2.

3. Approve that the key priorities for 2025 include:
    a. Continuing the work on employee ownership.
    b. Delivering the partnership social value action plan with Social Value Portal, working towards the delivery of increased social value commitments across Rotherham's anchor network.

c. Delivering further support to local businesses through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund social value project.
d. Upskilling Council staff through training initiatives and one-to-one support.

10. CULTURAL STRATEGY

Consideration was given to the report which provided an update on the progress made by the Local Cultural Partnership Board in delivering against the Cultural Strategy since 2018. It also set out the proposed process for the renewal of the Strategy, including related consultation.

At the time of writing the Strategy, Rotherham was approximately 10% behind the national average for participation in physical activity, the arts, museums and libraries. Consequently, the Strategy set out an overarching goal to 'get more people active, creative and outdoors, more often', in order to address lower participation numbers in cultural activities and because of the benefits of participation to improving social, health and economic outcomes. Physical activity levels amongst adults were now 8.6% under the national average and 7.3% behind the Yorkshire and Humber average, demonstrating modest improvement over time. Six years later, the data sample size had been reduced on the current Active Lives Survey and some organisations questioned its validity. Furthermore, data was no longer collated in the same way for Arts engagement, so it was not possible to compare like-for like.

As part of the renewal process, the Cultural Partnership Board would explore the feasibility of recreating the Active Lives survey as was conducted in 2019 to provide a comparable set of figures. If this was not possible, then there was a significant range of alternative metrics now in use, within the control of local partners, which enabled the Council to explore trends and evidence progress.

The Strategy was categorised into 7 "Game Changers" in order to simplify its target work areas and provide structure for its achievements.

These were:
1. A Vibrant Heart
2. Amazing Events
3. Adventures In Rother Valley
4. A Great Place for Wentworth and the Dearne Valley
5. Vital Neighbourhoods
6. Turning Passion into Profession
7. Children's Capital of Culture

Paragraphs 2.2 to 2.8 of the report provided details on the successes against each of the Strategy targets.

The Strategy noted that the Cultural Partnership Board would need to make the best use of resources, reacting positively and swiftly to changing needs and demands, securing new investment from funders who shared the Borough's vision. To date, external investment secured included:

- Increased Arts Council England investment from £136,470 in 2017/18 to £2.8m in 2024/25.
- £2m in ACE Creative People & Places investment.
- £19.2m LUF for leisure economy development.
- £3.3m from Sport England.
- £2,549,454 contributing to total project costs of £3,586,330 (126 different projects) from The Football Foundation.
- Increased average annual investment from Historic England from
- £19,688 prior to 2019, to £448,251 from 2019 to 2024 – securing a total of £2,689,503 in that period.

In addition, organisations within the Cultural Partnership such as Wentworth Woodhouse, Gullivers and Grimm and Co had brought in significant inward investment, contributing to jobs and growth and driving up opportunities to
participate.

Renewal of the Strategy would need to begin before the end of 2025 in order to provide sufficient lead in to create a new strategy before the end of 2026. In light of the progress made in delivering the Strategy to date, the Cultural Partnership Board members were of the view that the renewal process for the new Strategy would be straightforward due to the achievements set out under each of the 'Gamechangers' in sections 2.2 to 2.8, and the metrics established for the current Strategy, particularly in areas of joint working such as Children's Capital of Culture. This suggested that the Cultural Partnership Board and its related networks had the knowledge and expertise to produce a credible update. This would avoid the need for significant additional resource to pay for consultants. The proposed timetable for the renewal of the Strategy was set out in Section 5 of the report. Details of the proposed consultation process were set out in paragraph 2.13. It was confirmed that the finalised Strategy would be provided back to Cabinet in September 2026 for endorsement.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the achievements of the current Cultural Strategy 2019 – 2026.

2. Note that the Cultural Partnership Board will develop a new Cultural Strategy for 2027 – 2034.

3. Note the proposal to undertake consultation in support of the creation of a new strategy.

11. STREET CLEANSING AND FLY TIPPING IMPROVEMENTS

Consideration was given to the report which outlined the progress towards the implementation of the new investment into Street Cleansing and Fly Tipping improvements. With the funding approved in the 2025/26 budget, the team was aiming to improve rural verge and principal township gateway cleanliness and maintenance and increased management of key activities in the service such as data analysis, deployment of resources, performance management and proactive proposals for prevention and deterrent measures around littering and fly tipping. The report focused on the need for the posts, areas to be targeted, anticipated outcomes and the timeline to implementation. This initiative would help towards delivering a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Borough.

The team currently consisted of four operatives and through the investment that number would be doubled, providing four extra staff within the operational team. The Team at a high level would:

- Provide an additional dedicated resource to the Council's Rural Verge Maintenance Team and will operate on Rural verges at a different time of the year to the current schedule.
- Focus on Principal Township Gateway cleansing and maintenance on a newly developed schedule so the Borough is cleaner and greener.
- Proactively clearing fly tipping when active in Traffic Management restricted areas while working on a maintenance schedule.
- Proactively providing littering and fly tipping intelligence to Officers and Community Protection colleagues.
- Provide a more visible presence along Rotherham's key rural verges and Principal Gateways.

The two additional new Officer posts for performance management would support zonal and Boroughwide operations across a range of grounds and maintenance and cleansing activities and increase key management functions.

The Assistant Director for Community Safety and Street Scene confirmed that recruitment had been successful and it was hoped that the new officers would be in post by July 2025.

Resolved:

That Cabinet note the progress to date and commit to receiving a further update in April 2026 once the team has had time to be established and is fully operational.

12. EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS 2025-26

Consideration was given to the report which detailed the core targets and milestones for the Employment Solutions Service in 2025-26. The Employment Solutions Service was set up in 2020 to deliver a European Social Fund (ESF) Employment Support programme and then latterly from January 2024, both the ESF and Inspire projects merged to be delivered as a UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) employment support programme. The programme ran until 31 March 2025. Overall, since October 2020 the Employment Solutions Service has delivered 4 employment support programmes, resulting in over 892 people entering employment and 849 into education and training.

Given the success of the employment support programmes and ongoing uncertainty regarding the sustainability and size of the UKSPF, the decision was taken by Council on 5 March 2025 as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 to fund the service permanently by committing £718,000 per year for the service to continue to support local residents into work or training. With this funding secured, the Employment Solutions Service would continue to offer an integrated programme of bespoke pre-employment activity designed to support unemployed residents and residents on low incomes to access the labour market or improve their earning capacity.

In setting output targets there was a recognition that the Employment Solutions Service would support delivery of the wider Pathways 2 Work programme which was agreed by Cabinet in April 2025. The outputs were yet to be agreed and were subject to a Cabinet decision. As the Employment Solutions Service was no longer reliant on grant funding for the service offer, it was the intention to streamline and refocus on client groups that were not supported via other grant funded services. A series of milestones were detailed at Appendix 3.

The report was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB), who advised that the recommendations be supported.

Resolved:

That Cabinet note the proposed Employment Solutions targets and milestones for 2025-26.

13. 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.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:-

That the next meeting of the Cabinet be held on 7 July, commencing at 10.00am.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
The Local Offer for Kinship Carers

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Nicola Curley, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services

Report Author(s)
Monica Green Assistant Director for Social Care
Monica.green@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
The report presents the Kinship Local Offer, attached at Appendix 1, for approval. The Kinship Local Offer is a guide to all the support available to kinship carers in Rotherham. The report outlines how the offer addresses the Council's statutory obligations to kinship carers and its commitment to keeping families together and providing timely, needs-led support to kinship carers.

Recommendations
That Cabinet agree and approve the content and publication of the Kinship Local Offer.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Kinship Local Offer
Appendix 2 Part B – Equality Analysis Form
Appendix 3 Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Kinship care: statutory guidance for local authorities
Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill - Parliamentary Bills - UK Parliament
Foundations - Summary for Elected Members (Kinship Practice Guide)
Children's social care: stable homes, built on love - GOV.UK
Children's social care: national framework - GOV.UK
Families First Partnership Programme guide

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
Improving Lives Select Commission – 04 March 2025
Improving Lives Select Commission – 17 June 2025

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

The Local Offer for Kinship Carers

1. Background

1.1 In October 2024, the Government issued statutory guidance on 'Kinship Care', which included a definition (now enshrined in the draft Children's Wellbeing and Schools bill before Parliament) of kinship care: 'any situation in which a child is being raised in the care of a friend or family member who is not their parent. The arrangement may be temporary or longer term.' This covers a wide span from informal arrangements and private fostering to Children in Care fostered by family or friends, and children subject to Court orders proving their family or friends with parental responsibility.

1.2 The October 2024 statutory guidance requires that each local authority publishes a Kinship Local Offer. It also extends the role of the Virtual School Head to champion the attainment, attendance, and progress of children in kinship care, and extends the role of the Virtual School to provide advice and information to kinship carers. Within the Children's Wellbeing and Schools bill, both the expectation of the local offer and the role of the Virtual School Head are included. A senior manager must be nominated to ensure the kinship local offer meets statutory requirements and that it is responsive to the needs of kinship children and their carers.

1.3 The priority for kinship care sits firmly in the Government's *Stable Homes Built on Love* and the Children's Social Care National Framework, which expects that children are supported by their family network. The Families First Partnership programme guide similarly highlights the critical role of family group decision-making at all stages of a child's journey through the service.

1.4 There is a firm legal foundation through Children Act 1989 and subsequent regulations, statutory guidance and case law that children should be raised within their families wherever it is consistent with their welfare to do so, and that it is incumbent on the Council to do what it can to make this possible.

1.5 Supporting extended family and friends to care for children and young people when their parents are unable to do so has been a consistent plank of the Council's successful long-term strategy to reduce the numbers of children who come into care and the Council is committed to continually improve on this offer.

1.6 An existing statutory framework governs the support provided to carers who look after a kinship child subject to a Special Guardianship Order (SGO). Within Children and Young People's Services, Empower is a specialist service to help children in care or in kinship care to live in stable homes. Within Empower, the Post-SGO Support Team provides support to Special Guardians and the Fostering Service provides support to kinship foster carers, but there is no cohesive pathway for all kinship carers and some forms of kinship carer have no specific point of contact for help and advice.

1.7 On 18th November 2024, Cabinet approved the adoption of the Department for Education's model for means testing allowances for eligible kinship carers who hold Special Guardianship Orders or Child Arrangements Orders from 1st

January 2025. This led to an uplift in the allowance for the majority of families who are means tested.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The statutory guidance sets out that the Kinship Local Offer must:

- Set out services available to each kinship arrangement.
- Provide support based on the needs of kinship children rather than legal status.
- Be developed in collaboration with partner agencies.
- Be well-publicised.
- Mitigate against potential barriers to accessing support.

2.2 The Kinship Local Offer is expected to address:

- Support groups and training.
- Financial support.
- Help to stay in work.
- Accommodation.
- Education.
- Supporting family time.
- Family group decision making.
- Legal support.
- Therapeutic support.

2.3 Each area in the statutory guidance is addressed within the Kinship Local Offer.

2.4 Research shows that kinship carers find it difficult to navigate services and some benefit from a direct relationship with a professional with specific expertise in the needs of kinship families. There is also evidence that kinship carers can become excluded from mainstream and community services.

2.5 As part of the revised offer, a Virtual Kinship Hub will be established within the Integrated Front Door, with new Family Help Navigators who will act as the first point of contact for kinship carers. These Navigators will be specialists in the Kinship Local Offer and provide advice and guidance to kinship carers and professionals working with kinship carers. The Navigators will facilitate support groups and peer networks for kinship carers and their kinship children. Signposting and referrals to other agencies will be provided, with a direct route into the Family Group Conferencing service in order that all kinship families can request a Family Group Conference.

2.6 Where kinship families need targeted help, this will be led by a lead professional from a partner agency or from Family Help, with the continued support of the Faily Help Navigators who are specialised in kinship care.

2.7 Where kinship families need help to meet complex emotional needs for a kinship child, the Empower service will have a dedicated offer to kinship families to either work directly with them or assess eligibility for an application for the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund, with the aim of

providing help and intervention to stabilise circumstances at home and support an attuned carer-child relationship.

2.8 Where a kinship family is fostering a kinship child as a Child in Care, the expectations, and the statutory entitlement to support are unchanged. Where a safeguarding concern arises in relation to a kinship child, the statutory safeguarding response is also unchanged.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Cabinet is asked to agree and approve the Kinship Local Offer for publication. This will provide kinship families with clear and accessible information and guidance on the support that is available. This will ensure that the Council is compliant with the recent legislative and policy changes, and it is able to deliver its commitment to ensure effective services are in place for children and young people in kinship families in the borough.

3.2 The alternative option is not to note and approve the Kinship Local Offer. This would result in non-compliance with the government's legislative and policy requirements including the statutory guidance on Kinship Care.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Kinship carers were consulted on the Kinship Local Offer and the potential reshaping of the service for Special Guardians through an online survey (shared via the Post-SGO Support Team mailing list (183 people) and Facebook group (167 people)) and meeting with kinship carers at an established forum. 14 responses were received from the survey and 6 kinship families participated in the forum. Further details of the consultation undertaken have been included in Appendix 2 – Equality Analysis.

4.2 The consultation highlighted:

- Kinship carers valued knowing where to go for support but also valued someone to advocate for them who understood the kinship experience. The carers appreciated consistency of relationships with professionals.
- Most would appreciate and use a Kinship Local Offer, and some had used the SEND Local Offer, but there were others who felt that individual signposting and discussion was needed too due to the typical age and computer literacy of some Special Guardians.
- Parenting support tailored towards caring for children who experienced early trauma or disrupted attachment was valued.
- Support groups had been a 'lifeline' and the opportunities for kinship children to play together had been beneficial for the carers and children.
- Some carers described disparity of support depending on the legal status of the children in their care and whether the children had been in Care prior to living with them. Some carers expressed frustration at the existing offer.

4.3 The Kinship Local Offer was subject to pre-decision scrutiny at Improving Lives Select Commission on 17 June 2025 to identify the key challenges facing

children, young people, and their kinship families in the borough and to shape and influence the Kinship Local Offer. The recommendations made have been incorporated into the development of the Kinship Local Offer and its communication.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Council is expected to publish the Kinship Local Offer within two months of the bill becoming law.

5.2 Once the Kinship Local Offer has had formal approval, it will be published online as a document and as an interactive website, with a lead-in time of four weeks for the website to be built. It is the responsibility of the named senior manager for kinship to ensure it is accurate and regularly updated. There will also be short leaflets available, distributed though a range of locations including Family Hubs.

5.3 The Kinship Local Offer will be dynamic and be updated, at least annually but more frequently during this transitional period for service provision.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications for approving and publishing the Kinship Local Offer. The proposed Local Offer primarily involves consolidating existing support and services available to kinship families into a single, accessible format – for greater ease in finding information and guidance.

6.2 The Kinship Local Offer does not introduce any new financial commitments beyond those already accounted for within current CYPS service provision and resource envelope. The Local Offer includes the recently created Kinship Navigator grant funded roles, which will form part of the Virtual Kinship Hub within the Integrated Front Door and will provide a dedicated point of contact for kinship carers.

6.3 The development and publication of the offer is being managed internally, with the content hosted on the Council's existing RMBC website infrastructure. As such, there are no additional costs associated with web hosting, publication, or ongoing maintenance.

6.4 There are no direct procurement implications arising from the recommendations detailed in this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The Children Act 1989, section 22c governs the ways in which looked after children are to be accommodated and maintained. This is the legal basis for the principle that children should be brought up in the families and communities if they cannot remain in the care of their parents. Under section 22 c (6), this includes relatives, friends, or other connected persons to the child.

7.2 It is also noteworthy that the aim of statutory guidance, Kinship Care: Statutory guidance for local authorities issued in October 2024 is to offer guidance to improve outcomes for children and young people, whether or not such arrangements are temporary or long term. This guidance was previously known as Family and Friends Care statutory guidance which does not place any new statutory requirements but is offered with factual information and a framework for local authorities and partners to assess and provide support which recognises each child's situation is unique. Such arrangements include, "informal arrangements, temporary arrangements, private fostering, kinship foster care, child arrangement orders, special guardianship orders and arrangements leading to adoption."

7.3 Statutory guidance concerning Kinship Care is issued under s7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 whereby such guidance should be complied with unless local circumstances indicate exceptional reasons that justify a variation. Moreover, Local Authorities and health partners/agencies in England must have regard to it when exercising their functions under s10 of the Children Act 2004. Given the circumstances set out in this paper, there appears to be no justification to depart from the statutory guidance.

7.4 In regard to the publication of information relating to kinship care, the statutory guidance stipulates that all local authorities must publish information about services that they offer in their area for children in kinship care and their families, and their approach towards meeting the needs of children in these arrangements. The local offer should include information about universal services such as early years provision and out of school services, schools and colleges, health services, leisure facilities and youth support services. Such information is to be known as "a kinship local offer."

7.5 Under section 17 of Children Act 1989, the range and level of support services which can be provided by a Local Authority are wide and the statutory guidance states that there should be a clear eligibility criteria in relation to the provision of support services, including financial support to children living in kinship care. Provisions of financial support for special guardians are made under section 14F of the 1989 Act. It is also to be noted that carers have different circumstances and therefore, would need to be aware of their entitlement to any state benefits and allowances, (i.e. child benefit). With this in mind, a Kinship local offer should signpost to local resources such as benefits advice services. Depending on their circumstances, they would need to be aware of how to apply for discretionary financial support which may be available to them. It is noted that this signposting appears in the draft "Kinship Local Offer, Rotherham MBC" attached.

7.6 The proposal suggested at para 3.1 is in line with statutory guidance and there are no legal implications in publishing this kinship local offer.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 HR will support the introduction of the Kinship Hub and recruitment of the new positions within the hub as per RMBC recruitment procedures.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Publishing the Kinship Local Offer should create a direct benefit for children and young people in kinship care through increased awareness of the help and support available to kinship families and greater ease in finding information and advice.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 The Kinship Local Offer will help to alleviate barriers for groups with protected characteristics by simplifying the routes to accessing information and support, and providing a single, seamless pathway to seeing help which adapts to the needs of kinship children and families through offering a number of forms of communication and engagement.

10.2 An Equalities Analysis Form (Part B) has been completed and is attached as Appendix 2.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 The Kinship Local Offer collates existing support to kinship carers into a single, simplified document. As a result, it has no direct carbon impact.

11.2 Clarity and ease in accessing and understanding the support available has the potential to increase resilience to climate change.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1. Partner agencies were consulted and included in the design of the Kinship Local Offer, including in the support they offer to kinship carers, and the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board has been cited on the development of the Kinship Local Offer.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There is no risk in publishing the Kinship Local Offer providing the information is accurate. Responsibility for the continued review and monitoring sits with the named senior manager for kinship. Further legal advice may be sought where necessary.

14. Accountable Officers

Chris MacDonald, Service Manager, Central Locality (and named senior manager for kinship)

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services	Judith Badger	13/06/25

(S.151 Officer)		
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	13/06/25

Report Author: *Monica Green Assistant Director for* Social Care
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This report is published on the Council's website.

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Kinship Local Offer

Rotherham MBC

DRAFT

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

DATED: 23.06.25

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The external advice, activities and support in the Local Offer have not been commissioned by the Council. Advice and information are the responsibility of those organisations. No safety or quality checks have been undertaken by the Council regarding the activities. It is the responsibility of kinship carers to ensure that any activity and location meets your requirements of suitability, safety and accessibility as the Council cannot provide assurances to that effect.

As per statutory guidance, Kinship Local Offer will be subject to review annually. It will also be updated in line with changes in legislation, policy or service delivery.

To be found on the Council's dedicated webpage for the Kinship Local Offer.

A shorter, summary leaflet for the Kinship Local Offer will be created and distributed to places where it will be visible to kinship carers.

1. Introducing Kinship Care

Kinship care is defined as 'any situation in which a child is being raised in the care of a friend or family member who is not their parent. The arrangement may be temporary or longer term'.

This could happen due to worries about a child's safety or welfare, and there may be social workers involved. In other circumstances, parents make informal agreements with family or friends about who will look after the child. These different circumstances can also change what support is available and it can change the legal status of the children.

Rotherham's Kinship Local Offer is here to help any kinship carer find help and support.

Where to start

Our support to kinship carers and their children is provided through our Post-Special Guardianship (SGO) Order Service. Our practitioners through the online form on the website:

Post Special Guardianship Order Service – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

The Post SGO Service can also be contacted on 01709 82268 inside working hours.

We are changing our services to be responsive to all kinship carers, and we recognise that kinship carers need a single point of contact to help them navigate the local offer and all the help and support available. We plan to reorganise so that Family Help Navigators, specialising in kinship, based in our Front Door will be the first point of contact for kinship carers who need help and advice. This will replace the Post-SGO Service as the primary point of contact. We will update the Kinship Local Offer in due course.

We know that it can be a rewarding but challenging experience being a kinship carer or special guardian.

Kinship carers can get support at any point through their kinship journey. Please get in touch with our team, either through the Post-SGO Service or our Family Help teams if you feel you need support, advice or just someone to talk to.

Kinship is a charity that support kinship carers. Their guide to preparing to be a kinship carer is here: How to prepare for becoming a kinship carer - Kinship.

Family Rights Group also has a guide to kinship care and what it involves: Kinship care - Family Rights Group

There are a range of services available to families. The services which are specific to kinship families or which are most likely to benefit kinship families are detailed in this Kinship Local Offer, but Rotherham Council also have a family service directory which outlines a number of services for all families in Rotherham. This is available below:

Family Services Directory – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

2. Types of kinship care

There are different forms of kinship care. The type of Kinship Care you offer depends on how the child came to live with you, whether they are a 'child in care', and whether you have parental responsibility or not.

Parental responsibility is what allows a parent or carer to make important decisions for children. ***Kinship*** has an explainer on parental responsibility: How do I obtain parental responsibility for the child I am caring for? - Kinship

Kinship carers may be caring for children through:

- Informal arrangements or private fostering
- Testamentary guardianship
- Child Arrangements Order
- Special Guardianship Order
- Fostering as a connected person

Kinship has a guide to all these different forms of kinship care; how these arrangements are made and what they mean:

What is kinship care? - Kinship

Family Rights Group also have guides to the legal types of kinship care and what duties exist for local authorities:

Kinship care - Family Rights Group

Advice Sheets - Family Rights Group

Rotherham Council has Kinship Care Practice Guidance which sets out all our commitments to kinship carers. *This practice guidance is due to be published on our Local Safeguarding Partnership procedures hosted by Tri-X by end of July 2025.*

3. Assessments

Informal kinship care

If you are caring for a kinship child with their parents' agreement and you are a close relative, you do not need to inform us. This does not mean you can't come to us for advice and support. If you contact us, we can help to signpost you to any of the services in this Local Offer.

If you need an assessment of need, we may complete a Family Assessment of Need through our Family Help teams. This means a practitioner would meet you and your kinship children to learn more about your needs and make a plan.

Private fostering

Private fostering occurs when a parent makes arrangements for their child to be cared for by someone other than themselves for more than 28 days. This includes extended family (for example a cousin, a great aunt or great uncle, a great grandparent) or a family friend.

It does not include close blood relatives such as a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether full blood or half blood or by marriage or civil partnership) or a step-parent.

A child is considered to be anyone under the age of 16, or a disabled young person under 18.

We would complete a private fostering assessment through our Fostering Service. To start this process, please contact us at Private Fostering | Fostering Rotherham

Kinship foster care

If you wish to care for a child who is a Child in Care, you will likely need to be approved and assessed as a temporary foster carer. The child's social worker would undertake an assessment known as a viability assessment of you. This is an assessment to decide whether to recommend you as a temporary foster carer.

Kinship has a guide to kinship foster care, the assessments involved and what this means: Kinship foster care - Kinship

In Rotherham, our fostering service will undertake all fostering assessments of kinship carers. You will have a dedicated social worker allocated to you from our Fostering team.

Child Arrangements Order

To care for a kinship child through a Child Arrangements Order, an application must be made to Court.

Only a Court can make Child Arrangements Orders, and it may require a report explaining more about you and your kinship child before it does so.

Child arrangements orders - Kinship

Special Guardianship Order

To become a Special Guardian, you must be first assessed by a social worker from Rotherham Council, if the child currently lives in Rotherham. You may be approached by the Council for assessment in some circumstances, but you can also contact us to ask to be assessed through approaching the child's social worker, or through the MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) if you think the child does not have a social worker.

Report a concern about a child or young person – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Only a Court can make Special Guardianship Orders and it can only make them once it has a copy of the assessment. ***Kinship*** have produced a guide to Special Guardianship Orders which is available here:

Special guardianship orders - Kinship

There can be differences in the statutory support for Special Guardians depending on whether your kinship child was a Child in Care previously.

Kinship Care Policy

There is more information about the types of kinship care and our role in any assessments of kinship carers in our Kinship Care Practice Guidance. *This practice guidance is due to be published on our Local Safeguarding Partnership procedures hosted by Tri-X by end of July 2025.*

4. Help and advice

Our support to Special Guardians and their children is provided through our Post-SGO Service.

Our practitioners can be contacted on 01709 82268 inside working hours, or through the online form on the website:

Post Special Guardianship Order Service – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

There is also a Facebook group for Special Guardians who are or have been entitled to statutory support from Rotherham Council. This means support specific to Special Guardians, and the legal rules are that:

- If the child was Looked After in Rotherham before the SGO was made, Rotherham remain responsible for the support in the SGO Support Plan for 3 years, even if the Special Guardians live in another area.
- If the child and Special Guardian live in Rotherham, but the child was Looked After in another area before the SGO was made, the other area remains responsible for the support in the SGO Support Plan for 3 years, but the support transfers to Rotherham afterwards.

It is a private group which the Post Special Guardianship Order service maintains:

Rotherham SGO Facebook group

Kinship Compass

Kinship has a tool, Kinship Compass, to help kinship carers see some of the services and support available in their area: In your area - Kinship

Safeguarding concerns

If you are worried about the safety of your kinship child or another child, you can report these concerns or call for advice and guidance from our MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).

Report a concern about a child or young person – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

5. Family Group Decision Making

We know that kinship families can sometimes feel isolated and that sometimes family or friends need someone independent to come in and help them come together and make a plan.

Our Family Group Conferencing service are experts in helping families do this, whether this is at a time when they have a social worker or further into their kinship journey. Find out more below.

Family Group Conferencing – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Family Rights Group have a short explainer about Family Group Conferences which is available here: Family Group Conferences - Family Rights Group

For families who have already got an allocated social worker or Family Help family support worker, we can organise a Family Network Meeting as a quicker alternative which does not involve an independent facilitator. This will still involve bringing the family and friends network together to make a plan.

6. Support groups

There are a range of support groups that will be able to offer you more informal support and advice:

Kinship has a list of local peer support groups here: Find your nearest peer support group | Kinship

Family Rights Group has a list of local support groups for kinship families here: Find a Local Kinship Support Group - Family Rights Group

Carer and child meetups

A monthly group for primary school aged children and their carers. This is held at **The Big Apple Play Centre** (Old Sheffield Road, Canklow, Rotherham, S60 1DE) on Wednesdays, 4pm to 6pm.

Rotherham Council pay for each child to eat, and you pay a reduced entry fee. Non-SGO children living within the family are also welcome.

Upcoming dates for 2025

- Wednesday 14 May
- Wednesday 11 June
- Wednesday 16 July

Carer coffee morning and support group

A monthly meet-up held for carers only. Guest speakers are sometimes booked in to share advice and information.

It is held 10am to 12pm on a Thursday at **The Community Room** (up the stairs near the kiosk), Tesco Extra, Drummond St, Rotherham S65 1HY

It is a safe space to meet other carers and chat to staff about any worries and difficulties.

Upcoming dates for 2025:

- Thursday 22 May
- Thursday 19 June
- Thursday 24 July
- Thursday 21 August
- Thursday 25 September
- Thursday 23 October
- Thursday 20 November
- Thursday 11 December

Annual summer picnic

This is a family friendly event the Council runs every year to try and get as many kinship carers and their blended families together.

It is held at Clifton Park as this is central for everyone to get to. Guests bring their own picnics and their own games if they want to. There are also games and treats available for the kids. An alternative venue is available to provide shelter in case of bad weather.

7. Help for kinship carers

There is a range of dedicated support for kinship carers and families available.

Foundations

Foundations, a research organisation looking at the evidence about what works for children and families, has been commissioned by the Department for Education to produce practice guides on kinship support.

Foundations offers Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for kinship carers who feel stressed and overwhelmed. They have found this support is particularly successful for those who are struggling with emotions and behaviours from their kinship children which they find hard to respond to. You can find out more about accessing this support here: Kinship Care - Foundations

Talking Therapies

RDaSH offer talking therapies in person, in groups and online for adults who are feeling low, anxious or overwhelmed. This includes Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. Find out more here: Contact us – NHS Talking Therapies

Anna Freud Centre

The Anne Freud Centre has resources for parents and carers on self-care and a 24/7 crisis messenger for anyone struggling to cope. Find out more below:

- Self-care for parents and carers | Anna Freud
- AFC Crisis Messenger | Anna Freud

Qwell

Free, safe and anonymous mental health and wellbeing support for all adults (aged 18+) who are registered with a GP in Rotherham. You can find:

- Helpful articles
- Information on community support
- Opportunities to connect with others and share experiences
- Self-care tips through themed collections
- Online chat with a mental health practitioner

Sign up today at Qwell (qwell.io)

8. Training and support

Empower Service

The Empower Service offer training to all kinship carers, through a 5 week introductory Kinship Training and Support Group. These are 5 two hour, face to face workshops with a focus on caring for children with complex emotional needs. The course will explore trauma stabilisation, attachment, challenging behaviours and how to help, psycho-education and self-care. Booking onto the course will be made via the kinship family's lead professional.

The Empower service will provide help and support to kinship carers based on an assessed need for a specialist stability intervention. This will include assessments and applications for the therapeutic support via the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund.

Fostering

For kinship carers who are temporarily approved (under Regulation 24) as a foster carer or who have been fully approved at Fostering Panel, there is a training offer for all foster carers which kinship foster carers can also access. This changes regularly but the prospectus can be found at: Local Resources.

Kinship

Kinship run a range of training, events and roadshows for kinship carers, held in person regionally and online.

Free training and events for kinship carers | Kinship

ParentTalk

Action for Children run ParentTalk, which offers advice and resources as well as time to talk to a parenting coach via webchat at specific times. Find out more here: Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children

Anna Freud Centre

The Anna Freud Centre has a lot of online resources to help kinship carers, foster carers and adopters think about how trauma can affect how kinship child might behave and relate to others, with advice about how to respond and care.

Adoptive parents, special guardians, kinship carers and foster carers | Anna Freud

Beacon House

Beacon House is a therapeutic services and trauma team who offer a lot of online resources to help carers understand how developmental trauma might affect a kinship child.

Beacon House Resources

Family Hubs

Rotherham Family Hubs are a place where all children, young people, and their families can go when they need help, advice, and support. All families can get support across a wide range of areas, including parenting, debt, housing, and health and wellbeing.

There are three Family Hubs and a wider Family Hubs network in Rotherham.

Rotherham has Family Help Outreach and Engagement Workers who deliver Children's Centre activities for families with children aged 0 to 5.

There are lots of different activities and sessions available for all families. This includes new arrival celebration sessions, baby massage, baby first aid, treasure basket sessions, reach,

talking tots, toddler yoga, stay and play groups, baby weigh sessions, the PEEP Learning Together Programme and reach, roll and play sessions.

Rotherham Family Hubs and Best Start in Life – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Parenting programmes

Rotherham Council has an Evidence-Based Hub which offer parenting programmes across the borough, including:

- Triple P 0-12 – a positive parenting programme for children aged 0 to 12 years
- Teen Triple P – a positive parenting programme for teenagers
- Fearless – supporting parents to manage their child's anxiety
- Timid to Tiger – for anxiety in children aged 9 years or younger
- Stepping Stones – a positive parenting programme for children with additional needs
- Solihull – a parenting programme with a therapeutic approach

Experienced trainers deliver the effective programmes which focus on family life skills, including:

- Healthy communication
- How to have family meetings
- Developing empathy
- Responding to behaviour that challenges

Contact the Evidenced Based Hub for further information by emailing parenting@rotherham.gov.uk or go online to Activities and Support for Families

Family Help

The Council's Family Help teams support children, young people and families in Rotherham who need more help than universal services such as GPs or school can provide. The Family Help Service can offer

- short term support with a specific problem
- longer term support for increasingly complex issues

Family Help staff will work with you at difficult times so that small problems don't get bigger. They work with children, young people and families to offer support and advice when it's most needed. This includes kinship families.

We can work with you in your local area at one of our centres or even in your home.

All referrals for Family Help are made through the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) by calling 01709 336080. A Family Assessment of Need (FAN) will be completed to determine what help and support you and your kinship children need.

There are Facebook pages which are regularly updated with activities and events.

Early Help – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Family Help Outreach and Engagement

Outreach and Engagement Workers offer

- Universal Children's Centre activities for children aged 0 to 5 years and their families including toddler groups, baby massage and baby yoga
- Targeted groupwork for young people aged 11 to 16 years such as evening groups for young people focussing on topic work and confidence building
- One-to-one support for young people aged 16 to 18 who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) to help them find a positive destination after leaving school

Family Help Outreach and Engagement Teams are based in Family and Children's Centre Hubs across the borough. Their details are below:

North Team

- Brookfield Family and Children's Centre and Dalton Family and Children's Centre
- Tel: 01709 334458
- Email: earlyhelpnorth@rotherham.gov.uk

Partner offering 0 to 5 services

- Rawmarsh Children's Centre
- Tel: 01709 430420

South Team

- Maltby Stepping Stones Family and Children's Centre and Dinnington Family and Children's Centre
- Tel: 01709 334417
- Email: earlyhelpsouth@rotherham.gov.uk

Partner offering 0 to 5 services

- Aughton Early Years Centre
- Tel: 01709 2872530

Central Team

- Ferham Family and Children's Centre and The Place Family and Children's Centre
- Tel: 01709 336660
- Email: earlyhelpcentral@rotherham.gov.uk

Partner offering 0 to 5 services

- The Arnold Centre
- Tel: 01709 828983

DRAFT

9. Help to stay in work

Kinship carers may start to look after their kinship child with little warning or notice, and there can be a need to take time off work to help their kinship child settle.

There is no statutory kinship leave but some employers are now offering paid kinship leave.

Kinship have produced a guide to time off work for kinship carers which is available here: Time off work for kinship carers - Kinship

Family Rights Group also have advice on your rights which is available here: Can kinship carers get parental leave from work when taking on the care of a child? - Family Rights Group

The Department for Education have also produced a guide for employers on Kinship Carers in the Workplace.

Kinship carers in the workplace

Working Families offers advice to parents and carers on their rights at work.

Homepage - Working Families

10. Activities and childcare

Rotherham Families Information Service (FIS)

The Families Information Service (FIS) provides free and impartial information and advice on all registered childcare in Rotherham, including:

- Childminders
- Day nurseries
- Pre-schools
- Out of school and holiday clubs

They can also provide information on free early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and the 30 Hours Free Childcare offer for working parents.

Contact the Rotherham Families Information Service:

Families Information Service

Email: fis@rotherham.gov.uk

Freephone: 0800 0730230 or 01709 822429

Families Information Service has a comprehensive directory of childcare providers including breakfast and after school clubs.

Childminders and childcare providers – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

Families Information Service contains a Family Activities Directory with comprehensive information about what is on for children and young people locally, including sports clubs, youth clubs and holiday clubs.

Family Activities Directory – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer also collates a list of activities for children.

SEND Groups – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Rotherham Council's website also has a list of activities and places to go, and the libraries, parks and neighbourhood hubs have regular events.

- Places to go and things to do – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- List of libraries and neighbourhood hubs – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Parks – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

A Rothercard is a discount scheme available to many young people including all those aged 16 to 20, and those who are Children in Care.

Rothercard discount scheme – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

The Families Information Service Facebook page is also a very useful source of information. Go online here: Rotherham Families Information Service | Rotherham | Facebook

A number of Rotherham providers have also produced videos of their settings. These are really good to give you an idea of the activities that your child will experience in a day care setting.

Rotherham Families Information Service - YouTube

Rotherham Children's Centres offer a friendly place for you and your kinship child to meet new friends and come along to activities. They offer support with parenting, and looking for work or training.

Registering with a Family and Children's Centre – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

11. Education

Education and Learning

Information about other education and learning services available in Rotherham is on a dedicated webpage Education and learning – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. This includes:

- Elective Home Education - where you choose to take responsibility for your kinship child's education otherwise than at school.
- Child Employment and Performance - If your kinship child has a part time employment or is involved in any productions or shows.
- School Term dates- for all Local Authority Maintained Schools.

Applying for a school

All children are entitled to a full time school place in the September following their fourth birthday, should the parents/ carers preference be for school based education at this point.

Applications for school places can be made at on the school admissions webpages, and you can also find information here about all mainstream schools in Rotherham and their admission arrangements.

All Looked After and previously Looked After Children must be given priority in school admission arrangements and the School Admission Code explains this in more detail.

We know that choosing and applying for a school place can be a stressful time, support and advice is available from specialist admissions staff and they can be contacted using our online form.

School admissions enquiry – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

If a placement is refused at your preferred school for your kinship child then you have a right to independent appeal and further information is provided alongside any refusal of a school place.

Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer is the best place to go for all advice, guidance and signposting on your kinship child's education, especially if your kinship child has Special Educational Needs or has experienced emotional difficulties affecting them in school. Education and Childcare – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

The SEND Local Offer has a section explaining graduated response and all the help and support available to children in school. Education and Health Care Plans – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

The SEND Local Offer includes a directory of local schools on the below webpage:

Schools – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Inclusion in School

Some children struggle at times to access the usual school education offer and support is available from a range of teams in Rotherham where this is needed.

Schools will usually be able to work with you to support any difficulties your kinship child is experiencing.

Further details about support, such as a part time timetable and alternative provision, can be found on the SEND Local Offer Education and Childcare webpage along with useful information about support available if your kinship child is being excluded from school or is finding it difficult to attend.

Educational Psychology Service (EPS)

The Educational Psychology Service is made up of a friendly, diverse team of applied psychologists. They use creative problem-solving approaches to enhance the lives, learning and emotional well-being of children and young people between the ages of 0 and 25.

For more information, please visit the Educational Psychology Service website.

Rotherham Educational Psychology Service (rotherham.gov.uk)

Or contact the team via the following methods:

Call: 01709 822580.

Email: Jemma Wilkinson or Joanne Askew – Acting Co-Principal Educational Psychologists: eps@rotherham.gov.uk.

Part-time timetables

All children of compulsory school age should receive a full-time education.

In very exceptional circumstances there may be a need for a temporary part-time timetable. This must be to meet the individual needs of a pupil and not because a school does not have enough resources, such as the availability of one-to-one support. Everybody involved with the pupil should agree that attending school on a part-time basis is in their best interest.

If a parent does not agree to a part-time timetable, it must not be put in place, or this may be viewed as an unlawful exclusion.

If you believe your child has been unlawfully excluded from school, you should refer to

The SEND Local Offer has more information on part-time timetables below:

Education and Childcare – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Virtual School

The Virtual School Headteacher now has a responsibility to champion the attendance, attainment, and progress of all children in kinship care.

Kinship families with a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order, regardless of whether the children were previously in local authority care, will also benefit from advice and information, upon request, from the virtual school to help them navigate the education system.

For more information, advice and guidance, please contact the Virtual School Headteachers by either calling 01709 334610, or emailing Virtual School Headteachers Tina Hohn (Early Years and Primary) or Peter Douglas (Secondary and Post 16) at virtualschool@rotherham.gov.uk

12. Housing

Rotherham Key Choices

Key Choices is Rotherham Council's choice-based lettings scheme. Advice on joining the housing register, how properties are allocated and how to seek a move are all outlined on the Council's website below:

Look for a council home – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Shelter

Shelter offer personalised local support, online resources, emergency helpline assistance, and free legal aid for individuals facing housing issues or homelessness.

Shelter - Housing Advice

Crisis

Crisis offer help and support to anyone facing or at risk of homelessness.

Homelessness support | Get help for homelessness | Crisis UK

13. Financial support

Some kinship carers will be eligible for an allowance from Children's Services. Others may be able to claim benefits for their kinship child, or make arrangements with the child's parents.

Family Rights Group have a guide to navigating the benefits system with kinship children here: Kinship care - Family Rights Group

Kinship have also produced explainers as to entitlement to allowances and benefits for each type of kinship care.

Financial support and benefits for kinship carers - Kinship

Financial allowance

Our policy on which kinship families are eligible for an allowance and how the allowance is calculated is set out within the Kinship Care Policy. We use the DfE's Standardised Means Test Model to calculate our allowances and these are set using the National Fostering Allowance. *This model is attached as an appendix to our practice guidance, which is due to be published on our Local Safeguarding Partnership procedures hosted by Tri-X by end of July 2025.*

Financial advice and sources of assistance

Find information on how to get financial advice and to explore possible sources of assistance on the Council's website below.

Money matters – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

There is also an anonymous and free benefit calculator on the GOV.UK website and on ***EntitledTo*** website:

- http://gov.uk/benefits-calculators
- http://entitledto.co.uk/

Independent advice

There are a number of organisations outside of the Council who can help with any money queries you may have.

If you have a question about benefits, work, money, housing problems or something similar, and need help in finding out more about your rights and the options available to you, do consider contacting a local independent advice organisation.

Find an adviser | Advicelocal

Citizens Advice Rotherham offers practical up-to-date information and advice that is free, confidential, independent and impartial. Advice can be given in person or over the phone.

About Us - Citizens Advice Rotherham

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer has advice on benefits and financial support where your kinship child has SEND or a disability.

Money – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Grants and debt

Buttle UK Trust offer grants to children and young people who have experienced a crisis. They require a professional referral:

Buttle UK

Turn2Us is a source of practical support and information for people struggling with their finances, including searching for grants and a benefits calculator.

Turn2Us

Step Change offer free debt management advice.

Step Change

14. Legal support

Kinship arrangements have legal implications. Sometimes parental responsibility is held by the kinship carer, sometimes solely by the parents, and sometimes by the local authority. It is important to understand the legal implications of your kinship arrangement.

Kinship has a guide to legal help for kinship carers including organisations that can help with finding a solicitor or providing legal advice.

Legal help for kinship carers - Kinship

Family Rights Group has also produced their top tips to working with a solicitor.

Working with a Solicitor

Rotherham's Kinship Care Policy commits that for prospective Special Guardians where the child is subject to care proceedings, or was looked after and Rotherham Council have completed a Special Guardianship assessment recommending them as Special Guardians,

As part of Rotherham's Kinship Care Policy, Rotherham Council will fund up to three hours legal advice at legal aid agency hourly rates for prospective Special Guardians where:

- The child is subject to care proceedings,
- The child was a Child in Care and Rotherham Council have completed a Special Guardianship assessment which recommends them as Special Guardians

This is available only where the prospective Special Guardian is not in receipt of legal aid funded legal representation already.

Testamentary Guardianship

Some kinship carers will be able to appoint a Testamentary Guardian, or person named in a will to care for their kinship child upon their death.

Kinship has a guide to testamentary guardianship and who can make these arrangements.

Testamentary guardianship - Kinship

Rotherham's Kinship Care Policy commits that for Special Guardians, where the child was subject to care proceedings or was looked after prior to the making of the SGO, Rotherham Council will fund up to £175 contribution for the making of a Testamentary Guardianship arrangement for the children.

15. Online safety

Children and young people can be at risk of cyber bullying, grooming and exploitation online. It is important for everyone to take steps to ensure every child and young person is safe online.

The links to websites below provide further advice and tips for children and their families on how to keep safe when online:

- Online safety – a guide for parents and carers – Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (rscp.org.uk)
- Internet Matters
- Safer Internet
- NSPCC | The UK children's charity | NSPCC
- Promoting online safety for children (childrenssociety.org.uk)

16. Health, mental health and trauma

Health

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer has a list of health services and their contact details.

A-Z of Health Services – Rotherham SEND Local Offer

Mental health

If a child or young person needs some support with their emotional wellbeing or mental health, there are a number of different ways to access this.

You can find useful advice and resources about emotional wellbeing and mental health by clicking on the links below.

- YoungMinds: Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People
- Resources (withmeinmind.co.uk)
- Advice (rotherhive.co.uk)

KOOTH online support service

Rotherham has commissioned KOOTH. KOOTH is aimed at all young people aged 11 to 25 and provides online information and support, including the option of 1:1 online chat with a trained counsellor. No referral is needed.

KOOTH (kooth.com)

Schools and settings

Staff in schools and educational settings see children and young people on a daily basis and are able to offer some support.

For more information about the graduated response to social, emotional and mental health in schools, click below:

Understanding SEMH needs (SENDCOrotherham.co.uk)

This will take you to the online resource that schools can use to support any children or young people with needs in this area. Graduated response means that schools will provide help and support, starting with universally available help and moving towards more specialised help if this is not successful.

Some schools in Rotherham are also involved with the 'With Me in Mind' project which means that they have access to a team of support workers based in schools.

For more information, click below:

- With me in Mind: CAMHS (RDaSH.nhs.uk)
- With me in Mind (withmeinmind.co.uk)

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

CAMHS provide a range of different services for children and young people aged 5 to 18 years old. Young people themselves (or any practitioner working with them) are able to access some initial advice through the 'getting advice' pathway. Staff on the 'getting advice' pathway will identify whether children and young people would benefit from seeing one of the other teams in CAMHS and will pass them on as needed.

For more information on CAMHS services, click below:

CAMHS – Rotherham (RDaSH.nhs.uk)

Please click below to see a flowchart describing CAMHS services: CAHMS Referral Pathways

Trauma:

Support with understanding trauma may be accessed through RMBC's Empower service and their training and one to one interventions.

Some kinship children experienced traumatic events before they moved to live with their kinship carers, and living outside the care of a parent can be a traumatic event in itself.

Kinship has a guide to understanding trauma and how this might affect children's emotions, behaviour and relationships with others.

Supporting children and young people with trauma - Kinship

The 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service

This service includes health visitors, school nurses and early years practitioners. They are able to offer advice and support on a range of issues linked to health and wellbeing.

The school nurses offer drop-in sessions at mainstream secondary schools in Rotherham where young people can discuss any health issues (mental or physical) which are bothering them.

Children in Care have a specific team.

For more information about the 0-19 service and how to make contact, click below:

Rotherham's Children's Public Health Nursing Service (0-19) – (therotherhamft.nhs.uk)

Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund

Kinship children and their carers may be eligible for therapy funded through the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund, if their kinship child was Looked After before and is now the subject of a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order. An assessment is completed by our Empower Service to inform any application.

The criteria for the fund is outlined on the Department for Education's website:

Adoption and special guardianship support fund (ASGSF) - GOV.UK

Family Rights Group have also covered the frequently asked questions about the fund:

Kinship care - Family Rights Group

Other charitable sources of funding for therapy

Tony Hudgell Foundation is a charity that offers grants to fund therapy where children have experienced abuse or neglect.

APPLY FOR A GRANT — Tony Hudgell Foundation

17. Neurodiversity

Support is available for children and young people with autism (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), as well as for their carers. Although it is possible to get

support without a diagnosis, you may want your child or young person to be assessed for Autism, ADHD or both. The child or young person themselves may feel that this would be helpful.

The Rotherham SEND Local Offer has the most up to date and comprehensive advice and guidance.

Health and Wellbeing – Rotherham SEND Local Offer.

RDaSH also have advice and guidance.

Neurodevelopment in children and adolescents – Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH)

In Rotherham, the following services offer diagnostic assessments:

Children under 5 years of age

The Child Development Centre (CDC) in Rotherham offers a service for pre-schoolers in Rotherham. They are able to carry out a full multi-disciplinary neurodevelopmental assessment for autism. Health professionals, nurseries, schools and portage workers can all refer children into the CDC.

For more information about the CDC click below

Child Development Centre

Children and young people between 5 years and 17 years

Rotherham's child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) assess for Autism and ADHD as part of their neurodevelopmental pathway.

Referrals are received through the child or young person's school or educational setting (unless the child/young person is electively home educated). Referrals include detailed information from families.

The child or young person's educational setting must provide evidence of at least two terms of intervention to support the child or young person. The information submitted is considered by a multi-agency panel and, if it is felt that there is sufficient evidence of a neurodevelopmental difference, the referral will be accepted.

Regardless of the outcome of this screening, the panel will always aim to make recommendations to support the young person and their family.

For more information, click below:

CAMHS ASD and ADHD

Young people – 18 years and over

Diagnostic assessments for adults are offered by Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH).

For more information, click below:

RDaSH Adult ASD

Rotherham residents are also able to access neurodevelopmental assessments under the Right to Choose:

Neurodevelopmental assessment

If you want to request an assessment for a young person with a moderate to severe learning disability, please contact the Intellectual Disabilities Team in CAMHS.

CAMHS ID Team

18. Family time

We know that making family time a success, and knowing how to help children with understanding that they do not live with a parent if this was a decision made in the Courts, can be a challenge. Our practitioners can offer advice and guidance.

They can be contacted on 01709 82268 inside working hours, or through the online form on the website.

Post Special Guardianship Order Service – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

We know that kinship families and birth parents sometimes need help to establish a pattern for children to spend time and that help with mediating is important. Our Family Group Conferencing service are experts in helping families do this, and they include restorative conferencing trained practitioners.

Family Group Conferencing – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Although rare, there may be occasions where it is only possible for a parent to spend time with their child who is in a kinship arrangement through professional supervision. This might be due to safety or because there is no one who can support or supervise who is more familiar to the child.

There is usually a cost associated with this service and it happens at a contact centre. The National Association of Child Contact Centres offer accredited contact centres.

Find a Child Contact Centre - NACCC

The Family Mediation Council also offer advice and information on local mediators.

Family Mediation Council

19. Preparing for Adulthood

Young people who have lived in a kinship arrangement through a Special Guardianship Order and were a Child in Care before this may be a qualifying care leaver.

Rotherham has a Leaving Care Local Offer which explains the full details of support available.

Qualifying young people are:

- Aged at least 16 but under 21 and were a looked after young person prior to the making of a Special Guardianship Order, or if at any time after reaching the age of 16, were looked after for a period of less than 13 weeks and have not returned home, or;
- At age 16/17 were an eligible child but were living with a parent for more than six months before reaching the age of 18 (unless you were there under a care order)

The support available to qualifying young people is outlined here:
Homepage – Rotherham Leaving Care Local Offer

You can contact the Leaving Care Service below:
Call: 01709 822673
Email: leavingcare@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer also has lots of useful information and links for young people with SEND who are approaching adulthood.

Preparing for Adulthood – Rotherham SEND Local Offer.

Access to Records

Sometimes kinship children reaching adulthood might want to make sense of their journey, what happened, why decisions were made, and who helped make them.

A request can be made to view the files we hold using this link: Subject Access Requests.

Sometimes, it can take a long time for the files to arrive, and they might be bundled in an a few envelopes depending how much there is.

There can be a lot of information that might be difficult to understand. It may contain information that has been redacted because they relate to another person. Data protection prevents us from sharing that information.

We will provide a copy of all the information stored, and we will help the young person to understand what happened in their life, and why.

20. Parents of kinship children

Family Rights Group offer an advice line open to parents who are involved with social workers or whose children are in kinship arrangements.

Get Help and Advice - Family Rights Group

Family Rights Group also publish top tips for working with a social worker.

Working with a Social Worker

21. Independent advice

Kinship

Kinship is a charity supporting kinship carers. They offer a help line, local support groups, training and information and advice online:

- Kinship: Home | The Kinship care charity | England and Wales
- Contact the Kinship advice team | Support for kinship carers

Family Rights Group

Family Rights Group is a charity that supports families, including kinship families, involved in child protection systems. The charity offers an advice line, webchat and online forums for kinship carers.

- Get Help and Advice - Family Rights Group

Rotherham SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service).

They can offer you impartial information, advice and support if you are:

- a parent or carer for a child or young person up to age 25 with special educational needs or disabilities
- a child up to age 16 who has special educational needs or disabilities
- a young person aged 16-25 who has special educational needs or disabilities

They aim to empower you to play an active and informed part in your child's education.

They will work with you to address any issues you are experiencing. In most cases our help is only needed for a few weeks, but you can talk to us as many times as you want. Our support can help you feel more able to tackle issues yourself. You may need less active support because of our involvement.

They will help you work with schools and practitioners to improve your child's achievement.

The services they offer are:

- trained staff and volunteers offering confidential and impartial information, advice and support

- information about education, health and social care, voluntary organisations and support groups
- a range of information leaflets on special educational needs and disability related topics
- access to special educational needs and disability information such as books, CDs and video
- training for parents and practitioners

Find out more on their website here: Homepage – Rotherham SENDIASS

Rotherham Parent Carer Forum

A registered charity run by and for families of children and young people (aged 0-25) who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

- RPCF Rotherham Parent Carers Forum

Healthwatch

A local organisation that acts as an independent champion for people who use health and social care services.

- Healthwatch Rotherham

22. Providing feedback

Your views and feedback on services are important. Individual teams will always appreciate feedback, but if you want to provide feedback on a specific service, this is how to do so:

- RDaSH – Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust. With responsibility for CAMHS.
- Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust – The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. With responsibility for 0-19 services.
- South Yorkshire I.C.B. – The South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board. With responsibility for commissioning health services and for GP practices.

Complaints within the local authority:

- Complain about Council services | Instructions – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Complaint about Children and Young People's Services
- Complain about a school – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Kinship Local Offer	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 15.05.25	
Directorate: CYPS	**Service area: Social Care**
Lead Manager: Chris MacDonald	**Contact number: chris.macdonald@rotherham.gov.uk**
Is this a:	
☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☒ **Service / Function** ☐ **Other**	
If other, please specify	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Chris MacDonald	RMBC – CYPS	Service Manager
Monica Green	RMBC – CYPS	Assistant Director
Chris Seekings	RMBC – Performance	Data Analyst

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)
This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, others groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

The Kinship Local Offer is a resource to help kinship carers navigate and understand the support available to them from them Council and other partners.

It is intended to make the information more accessible through being available online, in print and through direct discussion in person and by phone with practitioners.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

Nationally, kinship carers are statistically more likely to be older, from low-income communities and to be related to the child as a grandparent. Kinship children are more likely to have additional needs and to have experienced past harm or trauma.

Research focused on the lived experience of kinship carers and children in kinship care arrangements highlights the following challenges:

- 52% of all Special Guardians are grandparents.(https://www.coram.org.uk/resource/asg-q2-2024-2025-headline-measures/)
- 44% of kinship carers are aged 60 or over. (Breaking Point: kinship carers in crisis - Kinship)
- 4 in 10 kinship carers has a disability. (Make or Break: Annual survey of kinship carers 2024 - Kinship)
- 46% of working age kinship carers receive Universal Credit. (Make or Break: Annual survey of kinship carers 2024 - Kinship)
- More than 1 in 8 kinship carers was worried they might have to stop caring for their kinship children. The most common reasons cited were:
    - Financial insecurity.
    - Poor health.
    - Challenges in the children's emotional and behavioural development.

○ Loneliness. Locally, we have 475 kinship carers in the form of Special Guardians. Our data shows similar patterns to the national data. Special Guardians are more likely to be a grandparent than any other relative and are more likely to be in the 60-69 age bracket than any other decade age bracket.	
Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of? For all forms of kinship care which can be tracked through Children's Services recording systems, data on protected characteristics is often available. This involves all children and carers in kinship fostering arrangements, private fostering and Special Guardianship Orders. Kinship arrangements subject to a Child Arrangements Orders are more difficult to track in data as a Child Arrangements Order may also be used for parents to determine who a child lives with, and may be made without the involvement of the local authority. Informal arrangements may also not be visible in data as there is no expectation that the local authority is notified and no consistent method for recording these on our systems.	
What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics? Demographic data on the protected characteristics of those becoming kinship carers. Demographic data on the protected characteristics of those accessing kinship support. Monthly monitoring of the numbers accessing the Kinship Local Offer page. Review through the Kinship Strategic Group.	
Engagement undertaken with customers (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	Kinship carers were consulted on the Kinship Local Offer and the potential reshaping of the service for Special Guardians through an online survey and meeting with kinship carers at an established forum. Consultation was offered via an online survey provided to all kinship carers on the Post-SGO Support Team mailing list (183 people) and Facebook group (167 people), and through a meeting with kinship carers at The Big Apple play centre on 12.02.25, where kinship carers meet monthly with their kinship children. 14 responses were received to the survey and 6 families met in person with Chris MacDonald (as kinship lead) and Corrine Smith (as service manager overseeing Support for Change). The consultation highlighted: • Kinship carers valued knowing where to go for support but also valued someone to advocate

	for them who understood the kinship experience. The carers appreciated consistency of relationships with professionals. • Most would appreciate and use a Kinship Local Offer, and some had used the SEND Local Offer, but there were others who felt that individual signposting and discussion was needed too due to the typical age and computer literacy of some Special Guardians. • Parenting support tailored towards caring for children who experienced early trauma or disrupted attachment was valued. • Support groups had been a 'lifeline' and the opportunities for kinship children to play together had been beneficial for the carers and children. Some carers described disparity of support depending on the legal status of the children in their care and whether the children had been Looked After. Some carers expressed frustration at the existing offer.
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	Post-SGO Support Team were consulted on 17.01.25 and 22.04.25. Consultation with the existing Post-SGO Support Team led to the following insights from the practitioners: • Engaging this community takes time due to jaundiced view of social workers. • The most effective intervention has been the Introduction to Therapeutic Parenting six week course as Special Guardians meet one another, engage with new ideas about parenting children who have experienced trauma and it acts as a pipeline to the peer support groups and Facebook group. • The training courses have led to improved attunement and connection between Special Guardians and children. • Most Special Guardians feel there was a 'drop off' of support after their order was made. There is a current waiting list due to staff absence.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)
How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion

or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance)

Kinship carers are statistically more likely to be older, from low-income communities and to be related to the child as a grandparent. Kinship children are more likely to have additional needs and to have experienced past harm or trauma.

The Kinship Local Offer sets out all the help and support available to kinship carers. The support is specifically tailored to be accessible to the communities most in need. For example, peer support groups and specific professionals who engage kinship carers are all adapted to be accessible to older carers who are more likely to have health or mobility needs and kinship allowances are means tested to prioritise those with low incomes.

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?

The Kinship Local Offer is published online which creates challenges for those affected by digital poverty or limited literacy.

Kinship carers are also acknowledged to be more likely to have had prior negative experiences of statutory professionals and mistrustful of their role.

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

Kinship carers consistently describe their struggles to understand the legal, policy and local landscape that details their entitlements and pathways to help and support. These can be distinct for each legal status or route into kinship care. The Kinship Local Offer collates all the help and support available to kinship carers. This reduces barriers to accessing support across all demographics.

Introducing professionals, known as Navigators, to aid kinship carers in understanding the support offer will further buffer against kinship carers who experience digital poverty or other difficulties with accessing an online offer.

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

The Kinship Local Offer should have a positive benefit on community relations as it will ensure transparency and a single point of reference for all kinship carers seeking to research and understand the support available to them. There have been frustrations from kinship carers at the existing offer because there have been staffing challenges in the Post-SGO Support Team creating delays in accessing help and support. The revised offer will mitigate against delays in accessing support. All kinship carers will be assessed for eligibility for our mainstream, targeted and community services for families alongside the specialist advice of a Family Help Navigator (Kinship).

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Kinship Local Offer
Directorate and service area: CYPS
Lead Manager: Chris MacDonald
Summary of findings:
The Kinship Local Offer will help to alleviate barriers for groups with protected characteristics by simplifying the routes to accessing information and support, and providing a single, seamless pathway to seeing help which adapts to the needs of kinship children and families through offering a number of forms of communication and engagement. It will be important to continue to monitor the accessibility of the Kinship Local Offer and the services which underpin the offer to ensure that it is accessible to all carers, including those with disabilities or from minoritised groups.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Build on existing data frameworks through liaison with Cafcass to capture more kinship arrangements made via Child Arrangements Order. This will expand the available data on all protected characteristics.	**A, D, S, RE, RoB, SO, C**	**09/2025**

Monitor the accessibility of critical services in the Kinship Local Offer through data management and further consultation and surveys with kinship carers.	**A, D, S, RE, RoB, SO, C**	**04/2026**

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.

Name	Job title	Date
Nicola Curley	Strategic Director, CYPS	22/05/2025

7. Publishing

The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date Equality Analysis completed	15.05.25
Report title and date	Kinship Local Offer 07.07.25
Date report sent for publication	
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement	16.05.25

equality@rotherham.gov.uk	

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from transport?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? Any impact will be neutral or beneficial. Improving access to universal and community services for kinship carers increases use of outdoor space and reduces health inequalities. Each can increase resilience to climate change where extreme heat can exacerbate health conditions.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: The Kinship Local Offer collates existing support to kinship carers into a single, simplified document. As a result, it has no direct carbon impact. Clarity and ease in accessing and understanding the support available has the potential to increase resilience to climate change.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Chris MacDonald Service Manager Locality Children and Young People's Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	*N/A*
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	*N/A*
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA468 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
SEND Sufficiency and Aspire Pupil Referral Unit

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Nicola Curley – Strategic Director, Children & Young Peoples Service

Report Author(s)
Helen Sweaton
helen.sweaton@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
The report provides an update on Children and Young People Services (CYPS) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency planning. The report includes an update on the progress made against the Special School Capital Accessibility Funding programme. The report also requests approval of a programme of capital refurbishment works to support sufficiency requirements at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the update on the progress made against the Special School Capital Accessibility Funding programme and approve the programme of capital work at Kelford School.

2. Approve the programme of capital work at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit to support sufficiency requirements.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Part A Initial Equality Screening Assessment
Appendix 2 Carbon Impact Review

Background Papers

SEND Sufficiency Phase 4 update – March 2024
Safety Valve Cabinet annual update report - 24th April 2023
SEND Sufficiency Phase 4 Cabinet paper - October 2022
SEND Sufficiency Phase 3 Cabinet Report - November 2020
SEND Sufficiency Phase 2 Cabinet Report May 2019
SEND Sufficiency Phase 1 Cabinet Report – February 2018

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

SEND Sufficiency and Aspire Pupil Referral Unit

1. Background

1.1 In Rotherham (23/24 academic year), 22.1% of pupils have either a statutory plan for Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND), known as an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), or are receiving SEND support (previously known as school action and school action plus). This compares to an average of 18.4% across all England Authorities. In order that the educational needs of children and young people in the borough with SEND can continue to be met, the Council has a responsibility to create a sufficiency of education provision to meet the needs of all pupils.

1.2 From 2018 onwards, Cabinet has approved five Phases of SEND Sufficiency, each targeted at addressing incremental rises in SEND cohorts and creating or improving specialist education provision. The five phases of the SEND Sufficiency programme have created 596 additional school places in Rotherham.

1.3 In March 2022, following Cabinet approval, Rotherham entered into a formal Safety Valve Agreement with the DfE. As part of this agreement, additional SEND capital of £4.32m was provided to Rotherham to support the development of SEND provision in the Borough and enact its strategic plans as set out in the Safety Valve Agreement. As part of Rotherham's involvement with the Government's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Deficit Safety Valve programme, the Council has worked closely with the Department for Education (DfE) to share and develop its strategic planning to ensure that the sufficiency of SEND places in the Borough.

1.4 As outlined in the background paper, Safety Valve Cabinet annual update report – 24 April 2023, the Rotherham 'Safety Valve' Agreement aims to:

- Reduce use of independent specialist provision outside of the LA by creating appropriate capacity within Rotherham's high needs system, with a focus on ensuring provision is high quality and value for money.

- Develop local sufficiency arrangements, including for Rotherham's Looked After Children.

1.5 Phase one of the Sufficiency Programme focused on increasing special school places and developing resource provision places in the Borough, as indicated by the rapid growth in demand for all specialist provision. The second Phase of SEND Sufficiency focused on the need for more targeted provision for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and children with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). Phase three created specialist provision for children and young people with Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) needs. This Phase also looked at redeveloping an existing special school in the Borough through significant investment in rebuilding the upper part of Newman Special School which was no longer fit for the purpose of education delivery. Phase 4 of the programme has supported mainstream schools to meet a wider level of need and improve accessibility within both mainstream and special schools through the development of further resource provision and implementation of the Schools' Accessibility Funding Framework.

1.6 In October 2022 Rotherham Cabinet granted approval for the proposal to enhance both mainstream and specialist SEND accessibility, through targeted investment in schools to enhance their ability to meet a wider level of SEND needs within their individual education settings. To support delivery Rotherham Cabinet agreed that the 2022/23 High Needs Capital Allocation be used to fund these proposals in line with the Safety Valve Capital Application submitted to the DfE with authority to agree the individual funding allocations as outlined in the delegation policy.

1.7 On 19 June 2023 Rotherham Cabinet approved the updated Rotherham School Accessibility Policy with a clear funding and application process for schools to seek to apply for capital investment to enhance their school site to be able to support a wider level of SEND need in their schools. In accordance with the Rotherham Safety Valve Agreement this has enabled Rotherham Council to support both mainstream and special schools to improve their site accessibility to enhance outcomes for their pupils.

1.8 The SEND Sufficiency Phase 4 Update presented to Cabinet in March 2024 considered Phase 5 of SEND Sufficiency under the Safety Valve Agreement. The main focus of Phase 5 is to provide increased sufficiency of places and condition improvements within three core elements of the Council's specialist provision, SEMH growth, Newman school site and Pupil Referral Unit development.

1.9 Continuing to develop high quality mainstream focused Pupil Referral Unit/ Alternative Provision is an essential part of the SEND system. It supports the implementation of the Council's Inclusion Review (carried out by independent experts ISOS) and should guide provisions to focus on intervention-based approaches helping students to return to mainstream education and be successful. Cabinet agreed to receive an additional paper following initial feasibility works, to consider release of the capital investment necessary to deliver this commitment.

2. Key Issues

Special school Capital Accessibility Funding programme

2.1 Despite the significant number of additional school places for SEND children created through the SEND Sufficiency programme, Schools' Capacity Assessments have identified that existing special schools are full or are working close to capacity. Where sufficient capacity does not exist Accessibility Funding will continue to contribute to the development of off-site or additional provision for specific pupil cohorts who are struggling to access the existing curriculum offer within special schools.

2.2 The Schools Capital Accessibility programme has focused on providing capital funding to improve access to the curriculum across both mainstream and special schools. The special school accessibility capital allocation has been utilised with great success to support the development of off-site or additional provision for specific pupil cohorts who are struggling to access the existing curriculum offer within special schools.

2.3 Previous successful schemes have included:

Nexus (Forest View) – The development of Forest View, a purpose built 14-19 provision for young people with SEND focusing on preparation for adulthood. The provision was developed in Summer 2023 following the decision to close Rowan School following the transfer of pupils to Elements Academy in September 2022. Forest View has created 50 additional SEND places.

Elements Academy (Elevate Provision) – The development of a further site linked to Elements Academy based at the previous Herringthorpe Youth Centre and Library location. The accessibility scheme has created an additional 30 SEMH places for students in Key Stage 3 and 4.

2.4 As part of medium term SEND Sufficiency planning, demand for additional specialist placements for pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties has been identified. A feasibility has been completed at Kelford School with a subsequent accessibility application being received detailing the capital requirements for 3 modular classrooms. The total cost for the modular build is estimated at £610k (inclusive of contingency and professional fees), with the Academy Trust contributing £60k.

2.5 The 3 modular classrooms will provide up to 24 additional specialist placements, with these being phased over the next two academic years linked to appropriate place planning for pupils. The first of the additional places will be available from September 2025.

Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit

2.6 Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit is the local Alternative Education provision, supporting students who are unable to attend mainstream provision, pupils attend Aspire PRU on a short-medium term basis. This includes students who are at risk of or have been Permanently Excluded from a mainstream school and for students with an EHCP plan who are awaiting specialist provision.

2.7 There has been a gradual increase in pupil numbers in Aspire PRU over a 7 year period (103 average pupils on roll in 2016-17, 151 average pupils on roll 2023-24). Rising numbers of Permanent Exclusions locally, mirroring the national trend, has contributed to this. Shared systems working within locality education partnerships has been successful in slowing the rate of permanent exclusion and supporting reintegration to mainstream where appropriate. This has helped lead to an overall reduction in the rate of Permanent Exclusions over the past academic year.

2.8 The growth of pupils accessing Aspire PRU over the past three academic years is detailed in the chart below:

Data taken 1st week of the month	**2020/21**	**2021/22**	**2022/23**	**2023/24**
September	93	109	102	113
October	95	114	108	120

November	105	123	122	129
December	112	127	122	138
January	120	135	124	145
February	120	136	131	156
March	120	148	140	165
April	121	152	142	162
May	126	152	150	165
June	134	160	151	169
July	139	163	158	174
August	139	163	158	174
Average	**119**	**140**	**134**	**151**

2.9 Capital investment would support alternative education provision to focus on intervention-based approaches which support students to return to mainstream education and be successful. The approach locally mirrors national guidance as set out in the DfE's SEND and AP Improvement Plan.

2.10 Initial feasibility concluded that Capital investment is required to address condition, suitability, and access issues across the Rawmarsh, Hutton Park and Catcliffe buildings, a programme of capital works have been detailed following condition works completed across the three sites. If approved work will be phased across academic year 2024/2025 and Autumn Term 2025/2026.

2.11 The majority of the condition related works are situated on the Rawmarsh site, these relate to improvements to the roof alongside specific mechanical and electrical works. Capital works to improve access to the curriculum through the development of outdoor space, 1:1 support rooms and specific items to improve access to the curriculum through the development of the vocational offer have also been identified across the remaining Hutton Park and Catcliffe buildings. The programme of capital works to support sufficiency requirements across all sites is estimated at a value of £565k.

2.12 The approved Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) Capital Programme 2025-26 (approved at the Council meeting on the 5th of March 2025) includes the use of the LA Maintained School Condition Allocation (SCA). The Schools Condition allocation was higher than forecast in the budget, however most of is already committed to existing projects. A priority list of projects is currently being updated, if approved these works, utilising the safety valve capital allocation, will be included.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Cabinet is asked to note the update on the progress made against the Special school Capital Accessibility Funding programme and approve the programme of capital work at Kelford School. The Accessibility Funding programme is supporting more children and young people to be educated in Borough through the development of off-site or additional provision for specific pupil cohorts who would otherwise not be able to access an appropriate curriculum offer.

3.2 Cabinet is asked to approve the programme of capital work at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit to support sufficiency requirements and ensure the children and young people allocated places at Aspire Pupil Referral Unit can access a suitable curriculum with opportunities that support their reintegration into mainstream school.

3.3 Consideration has been given to not creating additional SEND provision places and implementing a SEND Sufficiency plan. This option of doing nothing would place a significant financial risk on the Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs Budget as those pupils with identified SEND needs would still need specialist education support. Should this provision not be available in the Borough then education provision would need to be accessed outside of Rotherham.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 All appropriate updates have been provided by RMBC ahead of this phase of SEND Sufficiency with key discussions with the Department for Education. Key updates have also been provided to Parent and Carers Forum, Schools Forum, School Leaders forums, and associated partners including SEND Executive/Partnership Boards

4.2 As part of work that the Council undertakes through the wider SEND place-based partnership, a series of listening opportunities are held with Parent and Carers across key areas of development across SEND. Previous listening events have included development of the Social, Emotional, Mental Health Free School, SEND Local Area Inspection, and Newman School development. Plans are in place for continued listening opportunities across all areas of SEND Sufficiency. This is in order to ensure that parents and carers are fully involved in appropriate consultation and are co-producing SEND Sufficiency in the Borough.

4.3 Ongoing updates linked to SEND Sufficiency and performance data are provided to Improving Lives Select Committee.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The plan is for capital works to be completed across academic years 2024/25 and 2025/26.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications:

6.1 There are no direct procurement implications arising from the update in relation to the special school capital accessibility funding programme. As the Council granted monies directly to the schools for delivery of these projects, there were no direct procurement implications.

6.2 In considering the programme of capital works at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit, where the Council is directly appointing third party contractors to deliver the works the application of the relevant procurement legislation with apply (Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Act 2023 dependent on the route to market selected) as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

Finance – Capital implications

6.3 The following outline additional requirements against the Special School Capital Accessibility Funding programme as well as further capital refurbishment works to support sufficiency requirements at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit.

- *Accessibility Funding – Kelford Special School (£610k)*: - A feasibility has been completed at Kelford School with a subsequent accessibility application been received detailing the capital requirements for 3 modular classrooms. The project will provide 3 additional class spaces to complement the current Kelford offer and ensure that up to 24 young people from Rotherham can access the education to meet their need. Total cost for the modular build is estimated at £610k (inclusive of contingency and professional fees), with the Academy Trust contributing £60k towards the total cost.
- Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit (£565k): - Capital investment is required to address condition, suitability, and access issues across the Rawmarsh, Hutton Park and Catcliffe buildings. A programme of capital works have been detailed to support sufficiency requirements across all 3x sites – at an estimated value of £565k.

6.4 The above works would be funded from the 2025/26 High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA), with the exception of Phase 1 Roofing works (Rawmarsh St Mary's) of £92k which would be funded from the 2025/26 Schools Condition Allocation (SCA) funding. The confirmed HNPCA funding for Rotherham for 2025/26 is £3.681M.

Finance – Revenue implications

6.4 There are no direct revenue implications to the Council arising from undertaking the above capital works. The day-to-day repairs and maintenance of the building (inclusive of the roof) is funded via the school's revenue budget (provided from the high needs DSG budget).

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty upon a Local Authority to secure sufficient schools to provide primary and secondary education in their area and states that they should have particular regard to the need for securing special education provision for pupils who have special educational needs.

7.2 Following the enactment of The Children and Families Act 2014, the Local Authority retains responsibility for commissioning services for children and young people with special educational needs or a disability. The Local Authority also has a duty to keep

the education and care provision in its area for children and young people with special educational needs or a disability under review, including its sufficiency.

7.3 The proposals as set out within the report are consistent with Council policy and previous decisions as set out in the body of the report. The capital works proposed will need to be procured in compliance with the Procurement Act 2023 or the Public Contract Regulations 2015, depending on the preferred route to market. Further, appropriate contractual arrangements will need to be put in place in respect of the capital works to ensure the successful delivery of the project and protect the Council's investment.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct HR implications within this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Additional Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) places created within the Borough give more children and young people the opportunity to access high quality provision to meet their educational needs and in line with parental wishes.

9.2 Key considerations are referenced within the report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Children and young people with SEND are disproportionately represented across a range of education and inclusion measures. The SEND Sufficiency programme and Accessibility funding aims to provide specialist education provision that supports identified cohorts with SEND needs to have enhanced education opportunities and provide support in order that all children and young people have the strongest possible preparation for Adulthood.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 All areas of SEND Sufficiency, student placed planning (inclusive of circa at least 24 SEND places) and educational placements have a direct environmental impact, consideration of this element is informed in provision development and provision enhancement in the Borough due to the direct impact this will have to limiting students travelling outside the Borough. This would support reduced emissions of CO2.

11.2 Wider consideration of indirect implications or unintended consequence of work in this area has on CO_2 Emissions and Climate Change is considered across all partners as the Council are committed to long term targets to mitigate these areas of concern in the Borough. An environmental impact assessment has been completed and is an appendix to this report.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 Ongoing updates are provided to key stakeholders including Parent/carers forum, health leaders, school leaders, Schools Forum, and other associated stakeholders.

12.2 Development of specialist SEND provision in the Borough will enhance SEND practice for all SEND need types in the Borough and will support areas of focus to enhance SEND capacity across the education system in Rotherham enhancing SEND provision in Rotherham schools.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Ongoing updates are provided to key stakeholders including Parent/carers forum, health leaders, school leaders, Schools Forum, and other associated stakeholders.

14. Accountable Officers

Name, Helen Sweaton Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Quality. Children and Young People's Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	09/06/25
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	04/06/25

Report Author: *Helen Sweaton*
helen.sweaton@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: SEND Sufficiency Aspire Pupil Referral Unit	
Directorate: CYPS	**Service area:** Education and Inclusion
Lead person: Mark Cummins	**Contact:** mark.cummins@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a: [×] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The report screens the activities undertaken in creating improved condition and suitability of Aspire Pupil Referral Unit through a programme of capital works as part of SEND Sufficiency planning.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		x
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		x
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		x
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		×
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		x
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		×

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

This is an update for Cabinet on the SEND Sufficiency Planning, given that this is an update and is not introducing anything new to Cabinet there is no equality implications deriving from this report.

Equality and Diversity is included at all stages of SEND Sufficiency planning with a full impact analysis completed as part of the latest update to Cabinet in February 2025.

A full Part B Equality Impact Analysis was completed at the previous SEND Sufficiency update to Cabinet in February 2025. No additional equalities impacts have been identified as part of this latest update. A new SEND Sufficiency Strategy will be presented to Cabinet prior to becoming operational in 01/04/2026. As part of the introduction of the new SEND Sufficiency Strategy a full equality impact analysis will be completed.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity	
If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.** Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation. Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).	
• **How have you considered equality and diversity?**	
• **Key findings**	
• **Actions**	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Niall Devlin	Assistant Director Inclusion and Education	May 2025

Helen Sweaton	Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Quality	May 2025
Cary-Anne Sykes	Head of Service - SEND	May 2025

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	25/04/2025
Report title and date	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Sufficiency Planning
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	07/07/2025
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	06/05/2025

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 3, SEND Sufficiency Aspire Pupil Referral Unit

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	Increase	A marginal increase in greenhouse gas emissions from energy use at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit is expected, as a direct consequence of its increased provision. All buildings on site are currently occupied.		Adaptations to existing buildings / extensions to existing buildings to create the additional SEND capacity across the Borough will be completed to current building code and overseen by asset management service.	Greenhouse gas emissions from energy use and other utilities at Rotherham Aspire PRU are monitored as part of the Council's energy procurement portfolio.
Emissions from transport?	Unknown	There may be some variations to journey travel for children to enable them to attend the new provision. Some journeys may increase, and others decrease. Any Transport journeys will be evaluated by RMBC Corporate Transport Unit and EHCP team.	Pupils travel to school in line with their travel to school plan. Any changes to school placement are determined via the EHCP and School Transport process.	Mitigating measures are considered via the individual pupil's travel to school plan and monitored by the Transport team. If the Council did not provide sufficient SEND places within Rotherham, then SEND provision would need to be sought from outside the Borough, which could have a greater impact on carbon emissions from transport.	Transport to school arrangements are kept under review by the Corporate Transport Unit. Ongoing monitoring / assessment by Transport Unit.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	There may be a marginal increased in the amount of waste produced at Rotherham Aspire PRU, as a direct consequence	There will be no change in the overall amount of waste generated by schools overall compared to present.	Schools have a statutory obligation to separate their recycling, food and residual waste for collection and treatment.	Impact will be monitored by the school governing body and LA.

		of its increased provision.			
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	There will be an increase in emissions during development from construction wastes, energy use on site and embodied carbon impacts of construction materials.	N/A	Refurbishing an existing building is less carbon intensive than building a new building. The proposed new provision is refurbished existing school space developed in line with necessary building regulations and with oversight from Asset Management	Monitoring of the construction process will be coordinated by Asset Management Service and Governing Bodies.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

None

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

Learning from Lives and Deaths: People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People 2022 annual report identified an increase in excess deaths in July 2022, with a spike in notifications of deaths on 19 July 2025, when temperatures in England exceeded 40°C for the first time. According to UK climate projections (UKCP18, Met Office), summers as hot as 2022 are expected to happen every other year by 2040-2060. Special educational needs and disabilities might increase people's exposure to effects of climate change such as extreme heatwaves, by interacting with other risk factors such as social isolation. With the right SEND provision, the Council can support children and young people to live happier, healthier and more connected lives, which may increase their resilience to climate change in later life.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: Increasing provision at Rotherham Aspire PRU will have a marginal impact on carbon emissions from travel to, waste from and energy use in existing buildings. If the Council cannot provide sufficient SEND support in Rotherham, then it will need to procure additional services from outside the Borough, with no less carbon impact from energy use or waste, but with a greater carbon impact from transport. Refurbishing and extending existing buildings will mitigate the carbon impact from construction. Ensuring sufficient provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities is an essential first step to support their life chances and social inclusion, which may increase their resilience to extreme heatwaves and other effects of climate change, in later life.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Mark Cummins Transformation Lead Commissioning Children and Young People's Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	• White, A., Sheehan, R., Ding, J., Roberts, C., Magill, N., Keagan-Bull, R., Carter, B., Chauhan, U., Tuffrey-Wijne, I. and Strydom, A. 2023. *Learning from Lives and Deaths - People with a learning disability and autistic people (LeDeR) report for 2022*. [Online]. LeDeR Autism and learning disability partnership, King's College London. [Accessed 14 May 2025]. Available from: https://www.kcl.ac.uk/ioppn/assets/fans-dept/leder-2022-v2.0.pdf. • Kafeety, A., Henderson, S. B., Lubik, A., Kancir, J., Kosatsky, T. and Schwandt, M. 2020. Social connection as a public health adaptation to extreme heat events. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*. [Online]. **111**(6), pp.876-879. [Accessed 14 May 2025]. Available from: https://doi.org/10.17269/s41997-020-00309-2
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	

Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
May 2025/26 Financial Monitoring Report

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services

Report Author(s)
Rob Mahon, Assistant Director – Financial Services
01709 254518 or rob.mahon@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The report sets out the financial position as at the end of May 2025 and forecast for the remainder of the financial year, based on actual costs and income for the first two months of 2025/26. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework and is essential to achievement of the objectives within the Council's policy agenda. To that end, this is the first financial monitoring report of a series of reports for the current financial year which will continue to be brought forward to Cabinet on a regular basis.

As at May 2025, the Council's financial position for 2025/26 remains positive with a projected underspend of £0.1m. This position is made up of a Directorate overspend of £4.2m, offset by a projected Central Service underspend of £4.3m.

The pressures reported in the Directorates are largely due to demand led pressures, in particular in relation to Children's residential placements. Increased costs are also being felt across the wider Children's social care market, this is leading to market prices increasing at above inflation levels, placing further pressures on the Council's Budget. These pressures were anticipated and a corporate provision was maintained within Central Services as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

Early indications also suggest that the Local Government Pay Award will be higher than budgeted, the Council has no control over the level of pay award agreed.

As a result, Central Services has a £4.3m forecast underspend, reflecting the budgetary support from the £5.4m Social Care Contingency set aside as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 and Treasury Management Savings. This contingency and treasury savings are offset by the estimated financial impact of the Local Government Pay Award.

The Council's Treasury Management Strategy continues to perform well with the Council's approach to borrowing adapted to minimise the level of borrowing and borrow short term to ultimately minimise interest costs. The position has also improved following the outturn for 2024/25 because of re-profiling of the Capital Programme delivery, which pushes back the need to borrow. It is estimated that this approach should see the Council generate savings to support Council wide pressures such as the impact of the pay award. However, it should be noted that the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 approved a requirement for the Treasury Management Strategy to save at least £3m in 2025/26. This is on track, however economic and market conditions are out of the Council's control.

The report also provides an updated position on the Council's Capital Programme.

Recommendations

That Cabinet

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast underspend of £0.1m.

2. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.

List of Appendices Included
Appendix 1 Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix 2 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 Report to Council on 5th March 2025

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

May Financial Monitoring 2025/26

1. Background

1.1 As part of its performance and control framework the Council is required to produce regular and timely reports for the Strategic Leadership Team and Cabinet to keep them informed of financial performance so that, where necessary, actions can be agreed and implemented to bring expenditure in line with the approved budget for the financial year.

1.2 Delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Capital Programme within the parameters agreed by Council is essential if the Council's objectives are to be achieved. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework.

1.3 This report is the first in a series of financial monitoring reports to Cabinet for 2025/26, setting out the projected year end revenue budget financial position in light of actual costs and income for the first two months of the financial year.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Table 1 below shows, by directorate, the summary forecast revenue outturn position.

Table 1: Forecast Revenue Outturn 2025/26 as at May 2025

Directorate	Budget 2025/26	Forecast Outturn 2025/26	Forecast Variance over/under (-)
	£m	£m	£m
Children and Young People's Services	72.2	76.7	4.5
Adult Care, Housing & Public Health	144.2	144.2	0.0
Regeneration and Environment Services	52.6	52.5	-0.1
Finance and Customer Services	37.4	37.4	0.0
Assistant Chief Executive	8.7	8.5	-0.2
Central Services	43.9	39.6	-4.3
Directorate Forecast Outturn	**359.0**	**358.9**	**-0.1**
Dedicated Schools Grant			2.9
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)			0.0

2.2 As at May 2025, the Council's financial position for 2025/26 remains positive with a projected underspend of £0.1m. This position is made up of a Directorate overspend of £4.2m, offset by a projected Central Service underspend of £4.3m.

2.3 As part of setting the Council's Budget and MTFS for 2025/26 the Council set a Social Care Contingency budget of £5.4m as a provision to support anticipated pressures across Social Care placements, principally linked to CYPS placements. This provision is factored into the Central Services forecast and as such supports the Council's financial position, mitigating Social Care cost pressures across the Council.

2.4 The forecast position will continue to be monitored closely and mitigations identified to address forecast pressures where possible. It is currently anticipated that the Council's financial position can be managed within the parameters approved within the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

2.5 The Budget as approved at Council on 5th March 2025 included provisions, allocations for inflation, pay award and anticipated cost pressures. These budgets are held centrally at the start of the year and allocated to services as costs are confirmed and incurred.

2.6 The table below sets out the headline reasons for the movement between opening budgets and the latest budget that has been forecast against in this report.

Table 2: Budget Movements during 2025/26

Directorate	Opening Budget 2025/26	Pay Award / Fees & Charges Income Inflation	Contract Inflation & Central Provision Allocations to Services	Service Transfers between Directorates	Latest Budget 2025/26
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
CYPS	**68.8**	0.8	2.7	0	**72.2**
ACH&PH	**135.9**	0.9	7.4	-0	**144.2**
R&E	**48.6**	1.0	2.9	0	**52.6**
FCS	**35.1**	1.1	0.3	0.9	**37.4**
ACX	**8.3**	0.2	0.2	0	**8.7**
CS	**62.3**	-4.0	-13.5	-0.9	**43.9**
TOTAL	**359.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**359.0**

2.7 The Council's Budget and Council Tax report 2025/26 included the delivery of £7.494m of previously agreed savings to be delivered across the Directorates. At present, £1.456m of delivery has been secured. The biggest challenges at present on delivery relate to CYPS Placements, which is forecast as a significant cost pressure again in 2025/26. It remains challenging to clearly link the positive outcomes being delivered by CYPS in terms of reduced Looked After Children (LAC) numbers to the savings targets, principally as the service has seen rising market cost pressures and a number of significantly high cost placements.

2.8 The table below shows the total amount of all savings to be delivered during 2025/26 and the amount that has been delivered to date. More detail on savings delivery will be provided in the next financial monitoring report to Cabinet.

Table 3: Delivery of Agreed Savings

Directorate	2025/26 Saving to be delivered £'000	Secured as at 31st May 2025 £'000	Still to be delivered £'000
Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	600	0	600
Children's and Young Peoples Services	6,163	1,372	4,791
Regeneration and Environment	731	84	647
Total	**7,494**	**1,456**	**6,038**

2.9 The following sections provide further information regarding the Council's currently forecast outturn of £0.1m underspend, the key reasons for forecast under or overspends within directorates and the progress of savings delivery.

Children and Young People Services Directorate (£4.5m forecast overspend)

2.10 Children & Young People Services has a budget pressure of £4.5m at the end of May 2025 primarily driven by pressures in Children's Social Care and Education. In the main, the overall pressures relate to children in care placements costs (£4.3m) and Education Inclusion services (£0.2m).

2.11 The placements forecast pressure of £4.3m for May is consistent with the placement projections and plan for the year agreed with Service Management. The agreed placement plan reflects expected children in care placement numbers for the year and costs across the different placement provision types e.g. residential care, fostering, supported accommodation, etc.

2.12 The actual Children in Care (CiC) placement number at the end of May is 457 and compares favourably to the budget profile of 486. Placement numbers for May across the main provision types (including external residential care) continue to track positively against budget profile, except for in-house foster care where there is a reduction. Placement occupancy in Council owned children's homes (that are operational) currently stands at 75%, however this is expected to increase to 85% (budgeted level) in the next month.

2.13 The children's placement budget position shows that the Council continues to make progress in reducing the overall cost of placements year on year and is reducing demand. However, the placement mix and complexity of care placements remain the most significant challenge for the Council in this Directorate. The in-house residential programme and the increase of accommodation options for 16+ placements should help to alleviate these pressures. It should be noted that the number of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) continues to impact demand levels and placement options available for step downs.

2.14 A forecast overspend of £0.2m is currently anticipated against the Education Inclusion Service. This reflects income pressures facing the Education Psychology service as the service is placing greater focus on the core statutory service that delivers stronger outcomes in terms of improving inclusiveness within schools (creating a shortfall in trading income with schools). Separately, it should be noted that the use of Locum and agency staff within Education Psychology service and in the Education Health Care (EHC) team poses a potential significant financial risk that will need to be closely monitored during the year.

2.15 A balanced budget position is currently forecast against the Social Care Assisted Travel budgets (Home to School) managed within CYPS, that relate to children in care who are placed with foster carers outside the borough and post 16 learners with Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP's).

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) (£2.9m forecast deficit)

2.16 A net surplus balance of £1.2m is currently forecast for all 21 maintained schools in Rotherham for 2025/26 based on submitted budget plans. Within this there are 4 schools with forecast budget deficits totalling £463k. A budget recovery plan will be agreed with these schools to bring the budget back into a surplus position within an agreed timeframe.

2.17 A cost pressure of £2.9m is currently forecast for central DSG budgets and mainly relates to the Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) / high needs budget. The cost pressure reflects the ongoing demand pressures in the SEND system, namely, inflationary cost, increase in EHCP pupils and continuing out of authority placements.

2.18 The latest DSG reserve account, inclusive of the above high needs deficit and expected safety valves funding payments from Department for Education (DfE), shows a forecast accumulated DSG deficit of £3.4m at the end of the financial year. This forecast accumulated year end deficit presents a financial risk to the Council, as the statutory protection of DSG deficits is due to be removed from the end of 2025 under current legislation.

Adult Care, Housing and Public Health (£0.0m balanced position)

2.19 The directorate is forecasting a balanced outturn position. However, there are areas of risk that will need to be closely monitored over the year. The cost of care packages is based on demand and has been increasing significantly for a number

of years. The two main areas of pressure are older people and mental health support, due to increased numbers of people in older people's residential and nursing care and in mental health provision, as well as increased complexity, and hence cost.

2.20 A focus on preventative work, including through the increased use of the Enablement service and a strength-based approach is looking at improving people's outcomes, whilst also minimising the need for long-term support. Staffing costs are another area of risk as a high number of vacancies in statutory services will potentially lead to increased spend on agency.

2.21 Neighbourhood Services (Housing) is forecast to come in on budget. The cost of homelessness will be closely monitored over the year. A number of temporary accommodation properties have been acquired to reduce the spend on hotels. At the end of May 2025 there were 5 households in hotels, down from a high of 87 in April 24.

2.22 Public Health is also forecast to budget at this stage.

Regeneration and Environment Directorate (£0.1m forecast underspend)

2.23 The Directorate is forecasting an underspend of £0.1m. Within each service there are a significant number of offsetting over and underspends.

2.24 The Waste Management service has a requirement for the delivery of the £0.5m saving linked to utilising route optimisation to improve the efficiency of the service, approved as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. As work progresses on route optimisation to increase the efficiency of waste rounds, the position regards to the delivery of this saving will become clearer. The Markets service is forecasting a £0.3m overspend because of income shortfalls which is a similar position to previous years, though is expected to improve as the redevelopment of the Markets completes. Within Culture Sport and Tourism, there is a £0.3m overspend resulting from assorted income pressures within Country Parks along with additional staffing.

2.25 These pressures are offset by a £0.3m underspend in Community Safety and Regulation owing to vacancies and delays in implementation of the new Safer Streets team. Licensing is also projecting a £0.2m underspend as a result of vacancies, which is a similar position to last year. The Rotherham Investment & Development Office (RIDO) team is capitalising staff salaries of project managers delivering the Capital Programme, resulting in a £0.2m revenue underspend.

Finance and Customer Services (£0.0m balanced position)

2.26 Overall, the directorate is reporting a balanced position. Whilst there are some financial challenges within the wider directorate, projected savings on Legal disbursements and additional income generation in Bereavement Services and Building Cleaning are expected to offset those pressures along with robust budget management.

2.27 Property and Facilities Services (PFS) is forecast to be underspent by £0.5m. There's an underspend of £1.2m within Facilities Services as income is above budget in Building Cleaning. Facilities Management is £0.6m overspent due to assorted building costs above budget, in the main, repairs and maintenance. Across PFS there is £0.1m overspend on staffing as a result of a restructure that is underway.

2.28 Within Customer, Information and Digital Services, increased costs on postage and print are under review. Ongoing recruitment challenges are creating a temporary cost reduction, which is offset by temporary and managed over-recruitment within Customer Services Contact Centre to help manage the difficulties caused by high staff turnover in this area, that impacts on call waiting times.

2.29 Legal Services faces continued demand for legal support with child protection hearings and court case costs relating to Looked After Children. Ongoing difficulties in recruiting to key posts are currently resulting in the extended use of locum solicitors and external suppliers. However, the number of cases remains volatile and will continue to be monitored closely, along with an internal development programme for in trainee solicitors. The projected savings on Legal disbursements are helping to offset these pressures.

Assistant Chief Executive (£0.2m underspend)

2.30 The service is currently forecasting an underspend of £190k. Contributing factors include external grant income and a number of vacancies in services such as Human Resources, Organisational Development and Change and Policy Performance and Improvement at the start of the year which have now been recruited to in the main and overachievement of income from salary sacrifice schemes.

Central Services (£4.3m underspend)

2.31 Central Services has a £4.3m forecast underspend, reflecting use of the £5.4m Social Care Contingency set aside when the Budget was approved and Treasury Management Savings, offset by the estimated financial impact of the Local Government Pay Award.

2.32 There continues to be significant financial challenges as a result of increased market costs and the potential impact of the 2025/26 Local Government Pay Award. It has been well reported that the impact of high inflation in recent years continues to impact the renewal of Council contracts and payments to key service providers, thus creating a financial challenge to the MTFS. However, the Council was able to build into the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 greater levels of funding to manage the impact of these costs. As such it is currently anticipated that the impact can be controlled within the existing budgetary provision. Ongoing uncertainty in the global and UK economy remains a significant budget risk and as such will need to continue to be closely monitored.

2.33 The Council's Treasury Management functions are expected to continue to perform well for the bulk of 2025/26. The Council still holds cash balances and can invest them for a greater return, and additional slippage on the Capital Programme in 2024/25 means that the level of financing costs for 2025/26 will be less than previously anticipated. The benefits from the Treasury Management function can be used to support wider inflationary pressures that the Council will face during 2025/26, however it should be noted that as the Capital Programme progresses, these short-term opportunities will diminish.

2.34 The Central Services budgets are made up of a number of corporate budgets for levies and charges such as the Integrated Transport Levy (ITA), Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Financing, and Treasury Management. A list of the main budget areas within Central Services was provided as part of the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26, approved at Council on 5th March 2025. The costs within this area are largely fixed costs, set out prior to the start of a financial year, not specific to a particular Directorate and are therefore not controllable by the directorates and thus held centrally.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (£0.0m balanced position)

2.35 The Housing Revenue Account is a statutory ring-fenced account that the Council has to maintain in respect of the income and expenditure incurred in relation to its council dwellings and associated assets. The HRA is currently forecast to budget. The areas of risk, including development costs, will be monitored over the year.

Capital Programme Update

2.36 The Capital Programme 2025/26 has been updated following the 2024/25 outturn and the latest information on project position and delivery plans. The Capital Programme 2025/26 has been reset at £211.024m split between the General Fund £149.275m and HRA £61.749m. This position will act as the original budget position for 2025/26, future reports will explain how this budget moves during the year due to project and programme variations, but this value will remain as the original budget.

2.37 The 2025/26 programme has decreased overall by £30.969m from the position reported to Cabinet in March 2025. The movement is based on the latest profiles of expenditure against schemes, following the 2024/25 outturn position, factoring in slippage from 2024/25 and new grant funding.

Table 4: Updated Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2028/29

Directorate	2025/26 Budget £m	2026/27 Budget £m	2027/28 Budget £m	2028/29 Budget £m	Total Budget £m
General Fund Capital					
Children and Young People's Services	14.879	9.403	6.836	17.120	248.238
Regeneration and Environment	104.493	47.835	12.473	14.140	178.941
Adult Care & Housing	13.902	4.924	8.969	6.927	34.721
Assistant Chief Executive	0.441	0.210	0.210	0.210	1.071
Finance and Customer Services	15.561	16.825	7.629	19.423	59.438
Total General Fund Capital	**149.275**	**79.197**	**36.116**	**57.820**	**322.408**
Total HRA Capital	61.749	76.843	49.153	106.595	294.339
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**211.024**	**156.040**	**85.269**	**164.415**	**616.748**

Table 5: Funding of the approved Capital Programme

Funding Stream	2025/26 Budget £m	2026/27 Budget £m	2027/28 Budget £m	2028/29 Budget £m	Total Budget £m
Grants and Contributions	70.858	33.379	10.054	16.762	131.053
Unsupported Borrowing	77.729	45.678	25.919	40.912	190.239
Capital Receipts	0.551	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.551
HRA Contribution	0.137	0.140	0.143	0.146	0.566
Total Funding - General Fund	**149.275**	**79.197**	**36.116**	**57.820**	**322.408**
Grants and Contributions	2.837	2.883	0.816	27.847	34.384
Unsupported Borrowing	14.059	31.007	11.325	25.181	81.572
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	36.964	25.256	27.803	28.669	118.693
Capital Receipts	4.705	4.773	3.208	18.387	31.073
Revenue Contribution	3.183	12.924	6.000	6.511	28.617
Total Funding - HRA	**61.749**	**76.843**	**49.153**	**106.595**	**294.339**
Total	**211.024**	**156.040**	**85.269**	**164.415**	**616.748**

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 With regard to the current forecast net revenue budget underspend of £0.1m, the Council will need to continue to carefully control the delivery of services within Budget to minimise the risk of requiring the use of reserves to balances the Council's Budget in 2025/26. A key area of focus for the Council will be the tracking, monitoring and delivery of savings plans approved as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. Should any of those prove to be undeliverable, the Council will need to quickly identify and seek approval for alternative options. It is nationally recognised best practice to monitor the performance against the agreed revenue budgets and the Capital Programme throughout the year.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The Council consulted on the proposed budget for 2025/26, as part of producing the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. Details of the consultation are set out in the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report approved by Council on 5th March 2025.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Strategic Directors, Managers and Budget Holders will ensure ongoing tight management and close scrutiny of spend this financial year.

5.2 Financial Monitoring reports are taken to Cabinet meetings during the year. The Financial Outturn report for 2025/26 will be taken to Cabinet in July 2026.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The Council's financial position is detailed within the report along with the estimated impact of current financial pressures from inflation and increases in demand. This position continues to be monitored closely. Control over spending remains critical to both maintaining the robust Reserves Strategy and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

6.2 An update on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy will be provided to Cabinet later in 2025. This will provide a more detailed update on the Council's Medium Term Financial Planning factoring in the impact of the current year financial pressures and the longer term impacts on the MTFS and reserves strategy.

6.3 There are no direct procurement implications arising from the recommendations detailed in this report. Project specific implications have been addressed in the Key Issues section.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 No direct legal implications.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 No direct implications.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 The report includes reference to the cost pressures on both Children's and Adult Social care budget.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 This is a finance update report, providing a review of current progress to date on the Council's revenue and capital budgets, any equalities and human rights impacts from service delivery have been or will be detailed as service budgets, capital projects are pulled together for inclusion within the Council's revenue budget or capital programme.

10.2 An Initial Equality Screening (Part A) has been completed and is attached as Appendix 1.

11 Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 No direct implications.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 At a time of economic difficulty and tight financial constraints, managing spend in line with the Council's budget is paramount. Careful scrutiny of expenditure and income across all services and close budget monitoring therefore remain a top priority if the Council is to deliver both its annual and medium term financial plans while sustaining its overall financial resilience

13. Accountable Officers

Rob Mahon, Assistant Director – Financial Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:-

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	23/06/2025
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	19/06/2025
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phillip Horsfield	19/06/2025

Report Author: *Rob Mahon, Assistant Director – Financial Services*

This report is published on the Council's website.

Appendix 1

Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A)

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an equality analysis.

1. Title	
Title: May 2025/26 Financial Monitoring Report	
Directorate: Finance and Customer Services	**Service area: Finance**
Lead person: Rob Mahon	**Contact:** 01709 254518

Is this a:

	Strategy / Policy	X	**Service / Function**		**Other**

If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Council has a framework of budgetary monitoring and reporting that ensures budget management is exercised within annual cash limits. Each month the Budget Manager receives timely information on income and expenditure to enable them to fulfil their budgetary responsibilities. Following the review of the budget information, each budget manager provides a forecast of their projected outturn position on each service. The Strategic Director subsequently provides a consolidated forecast for their directorate to the Chief Finance Officer and

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relevant Cabinet Member.

A budget monitoring report, which includes an up-to-date outturn forecast, information about significant variances from approved budgets and proposals for dealing with them, is submitted to Cabinet at least 6 times a year, culminating with the Councils Financial Outturn report.

Whilst the framework described above relates to revenue budgets, the capital programme is also similarly monitored and reported alongside the Council's revenue position.

The financial monitoring position report summarises the key variances for each directorate and considers the key financial pressures and risks.

This report is the first financial report in the financial year, it sets out the Councils latest revenue forecast position. The report also covers off any other key items to be noted at this time.

Given that the revenue and capital budgets have been approved by Council in February each year, when equality assessments would have been considered at that time in respect of the budget proposals, there are no further issues in respect of equality and diversity.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and any other relevant characteristics (for example socio-economic status, social class, income, unemployment, residential location or family background and education or skills levels).

Questions	**Yes**	**No**
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?		x
Could the proposal affect service users?		x
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?		x
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		x
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised,		x

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provided, located and by whom?		
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		x

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason.

Given that the revenue and capital budgets have been approved by Council in February each year, when equality assessments would have been considered at that time in respect of the budget proposals, there are no further issues in respect of equality and diversity.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals prior to carrying out an **Equality Analysis.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below and use the prompts for guidance.

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

N/A

- **Key findings**

N/A

- **Actions**

N/A

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	n/a
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	n/a
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	n/a

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5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Rob Mahon	Assistant Director Financial Services	13/06/2025

6. Publishing	
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date screening completed	
Report title and date	May 2025/26 Financial Monitoring Report To Cabinet 7th July 2025
If relates to a Key Delegated Decision, **Executive Board**, **Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision** – **report date and date sent for publication**	Not Applicable
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	16/06/2025

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	None				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None				
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields: *None – this report constitutes an update on previous activity.*

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? *There are no specific impacts on resilience identified as part of this assessment. Significant new actions will be or have been subject to their own climate impact assessments.*

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: As this report is a financial update on previous events, updates on levels of funding moving forwards and doesn't approve anything directly to happen, it does not have any carbon implications.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Nikki Kelly Finance Manager (Corporate Finance) Financial Services Finance and Customer Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	*N/A*
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	*N/A*
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA490

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Treasury Management Outturn 2024/25

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services

Report Author(s)
Tom Soulby, Finance Manager (Financial Accounting)
01709 822334 or tom.soulby@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The Annual Treasury Management Report is the final treasury report for 2024/25. Its purpose is to review the treasury activity for 2024/25 against the Strategy agreed at the start of the year. The report also covers the actual Prudential Indicators for 2024/25 in accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code.

The Council received an Annual Treasury Strategy Report in advance of the 2024/25 financial year at its meeting on 28 February 2024 and Audit Committee received a mid-year report at its meeting on 26 November 2024, representing a mid-year review of treasury activity during 2024/25. In addition, quarterly updates were received by Audit Committee on 26 September 2024 and 11 March 2025.

This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

The Council is required to comply with both Codes through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.

Recommendations

That Cabinet note the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators outturn position as set out in Section 2 and Appendix 1.

List of Appendices Included
Appendix 1– Summary Prudential Indicators for Rotherham MBC
Appendix 2 – Initial Equality Screening Assessment
Appendix 3 – Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
The Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25, including Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators report to Council on 28th February 2024
Treasury Management Update – Quarterly Report (Q1) to Audit Committee on 26th September 2024
Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators Monitoring report to Audit Committee on 26th November 2024
Treasury Management Update – Quarterly Report (Q3) to Audit Committee on 11th March 2025
CIPFA – Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services Local Government Act 2003 (as updated)
CIPFA – Prudential Code (as updated)

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

1. Background

1.1 The Council's treasury management activities are regulated by the Local Government Act 2003, supplemented by a number of codes of practice and statutory guidance:

- The Local Government Act 2003 (the Act) provides the powers to borrow and invest as well as providing controls and limits on this activity;
- The Act permits the Secretary of State to set limits either on an individual Council or on all local authorities or any of them restricting the amount of borrowing which may be undertaken (although no restrictions were made in 2024/25);
- Statutory Instrument (SI) 3146 2003, as amended from time to time, gives effect to the Act;
- The SI requires the Council to undertake any borrowing activity with regard to the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities;
- The SI also requires the Council to operate the overall treasury function with regard to the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services;
- Under Section 15(1)a of the Act the MHCLG has issued Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments to structure and regulate councils' investment activities; and
- Under Section 238(2) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (revised), the Secretary of State has taken powers to issue guidance on accounting practices. Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision was issued under this section on 8th November 2007.

1.2 The Council has carried out its functions in accordance with the Act, SI 3146 2003 and all associated guidance and professional codes, which limit the levels of risk associated with its treasury management activities. In particular, the adoption and implementation of the Prudential Code and the Code of Practice for Treasury Management means that its capital expenditure is prudent, affordable and sustainable. Treasury investment practices are governed by the primary objectives of security ahead of liquidity and then yield.

1.3 The underlying economic and financial environment remains difficult for the Council to predict. Inflation has fallen back from historic highs in recent years and the Bank of England has started to cut interest rates. However, the cost of long-term borrowing from PWLB has increased during the year. On investments the main challenge relates to concerns over investment counterparty risk. This background encourages the Council to continue maintaining investments short term and with low risk counterparties.

1.4 On a daily basis money flows into and out of the Council's bank accounts and this has to be managed carefully. The Council manages its cashflow on a daily basis to take account of income received from grants, fees and charges, local taxation and borrowing alongside its outgoings due to the expenditure the Council incurs, such as salaries and supplier payments. The cashflow process is about ensuring the Council has sufficient funds available in its bank accounts to meet

the payments that it plans to make each day. This process is separate from the Council's financial monitoring that tracks planned and actual expenditure against planned budgets.

1.5 The Council has reduced its investment balances in recent years as funds have been used to meet loan maturities rather than refinancing at historically high interest rates. In 2024-25 the Council borrowed an additional £95m from Local Authorities and PWLB. In addition, the Council repaid £55.2m of principal on a mix of Local Authority, PWLB and LOBO loans on which the lender exercised its option to increase interest rates to above market rates.

1.6 The Bank of England Base Rate decreased from 5.25% to 4.50% during 2024/25 as inflation started to fall from the previous highs. As at 31 May 2025 the base rate sits at 4.25%.

1.7 Careful management of these factors through the Council's treasury strategy has helped to control the Council's interest costs. Taken together the additional return on investments, reduced borrowing need and further slippage on the Council's Capital Programme have enabled an £8m underspend on the 2024/25 Treasury Management budget that has been used to support the Council's 2024/25 overall outturn position.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Indicators are set prior to the start of the financial year and reflect the known position at that time. Approved changes to the Capital Programme and its funding throughout the financial year, together with variations in treasury management activity, mean that actual indicators for the year may vary from the projections made prior to the start of the financial year. However, through regular monitoring and reporting revised estimates of these indicators, the Council is able to ensure the impact is known and managed through the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

2.2 The actual prudential indicators for 2024/25 for Rotherham MBC, with comparators, are shown in the attached Appendix 1. Background to these is provided in the following paragraphs.

2.3 **Impact of the Council's Capital Expenditure and Financing 2024/25** - the Council expends capital expenditure on long term assets. This may either be:

- Financed immediately through capital receipts, capital grants etc.; or
- Financed over the life of the asset by use of Prudential Borrowing

2.4 Part of the Council's Treasury activities is to address this borrowing need, either through borrowing from external bodies, or utilising temporary cash resources within the Council. The wider treasury activities also include managing the Council's cash flows, its previous borrowing activities and the investment of surplus funds. These activities are structured to manage risk foremost, and then

optimise performance. The primary objective is security ahead of liquidity and then yield or return.

2.5 The Council's underlying need to borrow is called the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This figure is a gauge for the Council's debt position. It represents 2024/25 and prior years' net capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for by revenue or other resources. In accordance with current accounting regulations, the CFR also includes other long term liabilities which have been brought on balance sheet, for example, PFI schemes and Right of Use assets.

2.6 The Non-HRA (Housing Revenue Account) element of the CFR (excluding PFI schemes and finance lease assets) is reduced each year by a statutory revenue charge (the Minimum Revenue Provision or MRP). The CFR can also be reduced by:

- the application of additional capital resources (such as unapplied capital receipts); or
- charging more than the statutory revenue charge (MRP) each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

2.7 At the end of the financial year 2024/25 the closing CFR is £10.3m less than that approved in the revised indicator, via the Mid-Year report. The reduction is due to slippage on a number of capital schemes and additional grant funding gained, that in turn reduces the Council's need to borrow at this point in time and has the knock on effect of generating savings against the treasury budget for 2024/25 onwards as planned interest payments and minimum revenue provision payments are reduced or pushed further into the future.

2.8 Treasury Position at 31 March 2025 - whilst the Council's gauge of its underlying need to borrow is the CFR, the Treasury Management function, as authorised by the Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services, can manage the Council's actual borrowing position by either:

- borrowing to the CFR (excluding the impact of PFI and similar contracts); or
- choosing to utilise some temporary internal cash flow funds instead of borrowing (under-borrowing); or
- borrowing for future increases in the CFR (borrowing in advance of need).

2.9 During 2024/25 the Council continued to pursue its short-term borrowing strategy in line with advice from its Treasury advisers. Borrowing is taken only as needed and will be refinanced in the next few years. This has resulted in a significant increase in the net under borrowed position.

2.10 The Council will continue to monitor the interest position with a view to take out further long term borrowing if there are dips in the long term borrowing rates but currently is utilising short term borrowing to cover immediate borrowing need in anticipation of lower rates in the future.

2.11 At 31 March 2025, the Council's borrowing (excluding PFI and similar schemes) and investments were as follows:

2.12 **Table 1 Council's Treasury Position 2024/2025**

Net Borrowing	**As At 31 March 2024 £m**	**As At 31 March 2025 £m**
Long Term Borrowing		
Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)	390.233	420.000
Market (e.g. Banks, Other Local Authorities) > 1 year	217.000	147.000
Short Term Borrowing		
Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)	5.223	30.233
Market (e.g. Banks, Other Local Authorities) < 1 year	25.000	80.000
	637.456	**677.233**
External Investments		
Debt Management Office	0.000	0.000
Other Local Authorities	0.000	0.000
Money Market Funds	24.790	31.895
	24.790	**31.895**
Net Borrowing	**612.666**	**645.338**
Net Borrowing - Excluding Short Term Borrowing	**587.666**	**565.338**
Capital Financing Requirement (excl Other Long Term Liabilities)	**814.638**	**843.584**
Net Under-Borrowed	**226.972**	**278.246**

2.13 Against the Council's Capital Financing Requirement of £843.584m, when PFI and similar arrangements totalling £138.970m are excluded, the Council's outstanding net borrowing of £565.338m (excluding short term borrowing), is lower than this requirement by £278.246m. The Council has pursued a short term borrowing strategy, running investment balances down and borrowing funds only as required. In 2024/25 £95m of additional borrowing has been taken out through PWLB Loans and Local Authority market loans to finance the capital programme as well as the refinancing of £55.2m of loan maturities (resulting in a £39.8m reduction in total long term and short term borrowing).

2.14 Total savings in the Treasury Management budget for 2024/25, arising from all treasury activity including cash-flow management, was £8m and as per the

Council's Budget and Council Tax report 2025/26 these have been used to support the Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy. In addition, treasury management and capital financing decisions taken at the year end will also enable a re-profiling of MRP and interest forecasts to allow for further savings in 2025/26. These decisions generate in excess of £3.4m of cost savings to be contributed towards the treasury management budget in 2025/26, although it should be noted that some of this saving is as a result of slippage in the Capital Programme and as such are temporary.

2.15 **PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS AND COMPLIANCE ISSUES**

Some of the prudential indicators provide either an overview or specific limits on Treasury activity:

2.16 **Net Borrowing and the CFR** - in order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term the Council's external borrowing net of investments must only be used for a capital purpose. Net borrowing should not therefore, except in the short term, have exceeded the CFR for 2024/25 plus the expected changes to the CFR for 2025/26 and 2026/27. The Council complied with this prudential indicator throughout 2024/25.

2.17 **The Authorised Limit** – the Authorised Limit is the "Affordable Borrowing Limit" required by S3 of the Local Government Act 2003. The Council does not have the power to borrow above this level. The Council maintained gross borrowing within its Authorised Limit, both excluding and including the impact of bringing PFI and similar arrangements on to the Council's Balance Sheet.

2.18 **The Operational Boundary** – The Operational Boundary is the expected borrowing position of the Council during the year. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the Boundary is acceptable subject to the Authorised Limit not being breached. The Council maintained its borrowing position around its Operational Boundary.

2.19 **Actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream** – This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and the cost of other long term obligations but net of investment income) against the Council's Budget Requirement (net revenue stream) for the General Fund and budgeted income for the HRA.

2.20 The General Fund shows a reduction in the actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream. The General Fund ratio decreased from 12.66% (original budget) to 7.78% (actual out-turn). This was mainly as a result of reduced borrowing costs for the year as the Council undertook lower than expected additional borrowing during the year. The increased interest received on investments also contributed to this reduction. The HRA ratio increased from 13.70% (original budget) to 14.29% (actual out-turn). This increase is due to the increased interest cost due to the HRA during the year and reflective of HRA capital programme having very little slippage.

2.21 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS**

Limits on Activity

Upper limits on fixed and variable interest rates as at 31 March 2025 - These indicators identify the maximum limits for fixed interest rate gross debt and for variable interest rates based upon the debt position, net of investments. The Council remained within the limits set throughout 2024/25.

2.22 Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2024/25 - These gross limits are set to reduce the Council's exposure to large fixed rate sums falling due for refinancing and are required for upper and lower limits. The Council's strategy of borrowing on a short term basis will result in an increased refinancing risk in the near term.

Maximum funds invested for more than 365 days - This limit is set to reduce the need for early sale of an investment and is based on the availability of funds after each year end.

2.23 **Borrowing**

New and Replacement Borrowing - During the year a total of £55.2m of principal on existing loans has been repaid. This has been refinanced by £95m of new loans detailed in the table below.

2.24 **Table 2 Borrowing taken in 2024/25**

Lender	Start Date	Principal	Type	Term	Interest Rate %
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	03/06/2024	£15,000,000	Temp	11 months	5.10
PWLB	25/06/2024	£20,000,000	Maturity	24 months	4.77
PWLB	06/12/2024	£40,000,000	Maturity	24 months	4.51
LONDON TREASURY LIQUIDITY FUND	07/03/25	£20,000,000	Temp	1 Month	5.80

2.25 Debt Repayment – long term loans totalling £55.223m matured during the year as shown in the table below. Part repayments of principal (£0.223m) continued on the Annuity loans taken up in prior years.

2.26 **Table 3 Debt Repayments 2024/25**

Lender	Principal £m	Type	Interest Rate	Weighted Average rate of interest
DEXIA	25.000	LOBO	4.07%	
SYMCA	5.000	Fixed rate	2.54%	
OXFORDSHIRE CC	5.000	Fixed rate	0.48%	
WHITE HORSE	5.000	Fixed rate	0.80%	
PWLB	5.000	Fixed rate	5.63%	
OXFORDSHIRE CC	5.000	Fixed rate	0.48%	
OXFORDSHIRE CC	5.000	Fixed rate	0.55%	
PWLB Annuity	0.223	Annual repayments	Various	
Total:	**£55.223**			**2.81%**

2.27 **Investments**

The Council's investment policy is governed by DLUHC Guidance, which was implemented in the annual investment strategy approved by Council on 28th February 2024. The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy.

2.28 The Council maintained an average balance of £32.5m and received an average return of 4.98%. The Council continued to use Money Market Funds for short-term deposits, which are AAA rated securities and offer a slightly better rate of interest than the Debt Management Office. The Bank of England base rate decreased from 5.25% to 4.50% during 2024/25.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

No options considered as the report outlines actual Treasury Management activity during 2024/25.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 None required

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 None required

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 Treasury Management forms an integral part of the Council's overall financial arrangements. This report provides an update on the performance of the treasury management functions for 2024/25 against the prudential indicators as outline in the Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25. There were no breaches of prudential indicators to report and savings were generated from the treasury management strategy adopted that played vital role in enabling the Council to operate a balanced budget.

6.2 There are no direct procurement implications arising from the report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 Compliance with legislation and guidance included in section 1 of this report ensures that the Council operates compliantly and within the requirements for local authority treasury management.

7.2 The Council has complied with the Prudential Indicators as detailed in Section 2.

7.3 The amount of borrowing detailed in Section 2 together with managing that borrowing in a manner compliant with the Prudential Indicators demonstrates that the amount of borrowing and the means of managing that borrowing is within the parameters set by the Act and the Prudential Code.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 No direct implications.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 No direct implications

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 This is a finance update report, providing a review of the Council's Treasury Management outturn position for 2024/25. Any equalities and human rights impacts from service delivery have been or are detailed as capital projects are pulled together for inclusion within the Council's capital programme.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 No direct implications.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 None identified.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Regular monitoring of treasury management activity throughout the financial year ensures that risks and uncertainties are addressed at an early stage and hence kept to a minimum.

14. Accountable Officers

Natalia Govorukhina, Head of Corporate Finance

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:-

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	09/06/25
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	13/06/25

Report Author: Tom Soulby, Finance Manager (Financial Accounting)
This report is published on the Council's website.

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APPENDIX 1

Summary Prudential Indicators: Rotherham MBC

		Actual £m	Revised Estimate £m	Original Estimate £m
1	**Capital Expenditure (excluding PFI & Finance lease liabilities)**	**140.590**	**202.052**	**245.275**
2	**Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) including PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	General Fund	668.210	678.269	708.001
	HRA	314.343	314.622	324.575
	Total	**982.553**	**992.891**	**1032.576**
3	**Net Borrowing compared to CFR excluding PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	Total Borrowing	677.233	854.780	797.889
	Total Investments	31.895	20.000	20.000
	Net Borrowing	645.338	834.780	777.889
	CFR (excluding PFI & Similar liabilities)	843.584	883.702	923.387
	Under-borrowing	**198.246**	**48.922**	**145.498**
4	**Net Borrowing compared to CFR including PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	Borrowing (from above)	677.233	854.780	797.889
	Borrowing (PFI etc.)	138.969	109.189	109.189
	Total Borrowing	816.202	963.969	907.078
	Total Investments	31.895	41.113	20.000
	Net Borrowing	784.307	922.856	887.078
	CFR	982.553	992.891	1032.576
	Under-borrowing	**198.246**	**70.035**	**145.498**
5	**Authorised Limit for external debt**			
	Assumed Borrowing	903.702	903.702	942.623
	PFI & similar liabilities	111.373	111.373	111.373
	Authorised Limit	1015.075	1015.075	1053.996
	Total Borrowing	816.202	963.969	907.078
	Borrowing Below Limit	**198.873**	**51.106**	**146.918**
6	**Operational boundary for external debt**			
	Assumed Borrowing	884.780	884.780	827.889
	PFI & similar liabilities	109.189	109.189	109.189
	Operational Boundary	993.969	993.969	937.078
	Total Borrowing	816.202	963.969	907.078
	Borrowing Below/(Above) Boundary	**177.767**	**30.000**	**30.000**
7	**Maximum Funds invested > 365 days**	**0.000**	**10.000**	**10.000**

		Actual	Revised Estimate	Original Estimate
		%	%	%
8	**Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream – Non HRA**	7.71	8.24	12.66
9	**Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream – HRA**	14.23	14.47	13.70

10	**Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
	Under 12 months	19.93	60	60
	12 months to 2 years	4.43	35	35
	2 years to 5 years	10.34	45	45
	5 years to 10 years	1.48	45	45
	10 years to 20 years	5.45	45	45
	20 years to 30 years	8.32	50	50
	30 years to 40 years	7.38	50	50
	40 years to 50 years	36.77	55	55
	50 years and above	5.91	60	60

11	**Upper Limit on fixed interest rates based on fixed net debt**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
		90	100	100

12	**Upper Limit on variable rates based on fixed net debt**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
		10	50	50

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Annual Treasury Management Report and Actual Prudential Indicators 2024/25	
Directorate: Finance and Customer Services	**Service area:** Finance
Lead person: Natalia Govorukhina	**Contact:** **01709 910147**
Is this a: ☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☒ **Service / Function** ☐ **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Council has a framework of Treasury Management reporting. There are three key reports a year that set out: The TM Strategy The TM Mid year performance The TM outturn and performance against prudential indicators Whilst the framework described above relates to revenue budgets, the capital

programme is also similarly monitored and reported alongside the Council's revenue position.

The position reports summarise the key variances for the TM function and considers the key financial pressures and risks.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		x
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		x
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		x
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		x
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		x
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		x

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

The report is backwards looking and reports on performance against previously agreed budgets and indicators. There is no direct impact on individual service users or other stakeholders.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity	
If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.** Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation. Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).	
• **How have you considered equality and diversity?** The report is backwards looking and reports on performance against previously agreed budgets and indicators. Equality and diversity have been considered, there is no direct impact on individual service users or other stakeholders. Any impacts have been covered previously at the point the strategy was approved.	
• **Key findings** n/a	
• **Actions** n/a	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Judith Badger	Strategic Director – Finance and Customer Services	9/6/25

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	23/05/25
Report title and date	Annual Treasury Management Report and Actual Prudential Indicators 2024/25
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	None				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None				
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields: *None*

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? No

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: This report is a financial update on performance of the Treasury Management function during 2024/25. There are no direct carbon impacts identified.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Tom Soulby Finance Manager Financial Services Finance and Customer Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	*N/A – insufficient data to calculate indirect emissions relating to financial portfolio.*
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	*N/A*
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA485 Louise Preston Climate Change Manager

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Financial Outturn 2024/25

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services

Report Author(s)
Rob Mahon, Assistant Director – Financial Services
01709 254518 or rob.mahon@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The report outlines the final revenue and capital outturn position for 2024/25.

The Council set a balanced budget position for 2024/25 as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25 approved at Council 28 February 2024. A Revenue Budget of £326.1m was set for General Fund services, this excludes schools' budgets and Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) contained within that report included a balanced position for 2024/25, and a funding gap of £6.6m for 2025/26. This Budget and MTFS position was based on sound financial assumptions at the time, factoring in budget contingencies for service demand pressures in particular within Social Care and Home to School Transport.

However, the Council has seen, during 2024/25, significant demand and market pressure challenges in Adult Social Care and pressures above the planned contingencies for Children's Social Care and Home to School Transport. In addition, the Council is still impacted by the inflationary pressures in the economy, which have increased the Council's base costs further.

The December Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25 submitted to Cabinet on 10 February 2025 outlined that the Council anticipated an overspend of £3.1m. This forecast position was also outlined in the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report which was submitted to the same Cabinet meeting and also to Council on 5 March 2025. The overspend was proposed to be funded from the Budget and Financial

Strategy Reserve. However, the report noted the Council's intention was to further improve that outturn position, if possible, which would see a lower value call on reserves.

The actual financial outturn position reflects an overspend of £0.3m for the financial year 2024/25. This was an improvement of £2.8m from the December Financial Monitoring reported to February Cabinet, as a result of service areas delivering further savings ahead of year-end, maximising grant allocations, improvements in income were recognised and the Council generated further savings in Treasury Management.

The Council's final overspend position of £0.3m has been funded by use of £0.3m of the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve as approved within the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

Following approval of the 2024/25 Budget, the global economic position has improved with inflation easing, reducing from 11.1% in October 2022 at its peak back down to 1.7% in September 2024. Inflation has since started to rise again as the economy has slowed with inflation back at 2.6% in March 2025, highlighting that the economic uncertainty has not yet ended. The Council's base costs have continued to significantly rise across the period of high inflation and need to continue to be factored into the Budget and MTFS moving forwards. Energy prices, whilst also positively reducing, are still projected to cost the Council around 60% more in 2025/26 than the outturn position for 2022/23, prior to the significant inflationary increase. These financial challenges are being regularly reviewed as part of the Council's ongoing Medium Term Financial Planning.

Although inflation is easing, the Local Government Association (LGA) Pay Award was agreed with a financial impact £3m greater than was assumed within the Budget for 2024/25. However, the majority of this was covered by in-year savings within Treasury Management.

The Council's General Fund minimum balance has remained at £25m as planned and set out within the Council's Reserves Strategy reported in the Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25 and 2025/26. The reserve is held to protect the Council against unforeseen events and realisation of contingent liabilities.

The Housing Revenue Account had an underspend of £4.4m. As a result of this the HRA was able to transfer to reserves £5.8m, instead of the planned £1.4m, an improvement of £4.4m. This will help the HRA to mitigate the financial challenges presented by increased maintenance requirements over the medium term.

The Capital Programme outturn position shows slippage and underspend of £31.8m against the Budget for 2024/25. Capital expenditure (programme delivery) in the year was in line with previous years at £140.6m (2023/24 outturn was £140.7m).

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the revenue outturn position for 2024/25.

2. Note the budgeted transfer to HRA reserves increased by £4.4m following the revenue and capital outturn positions.

3. Note the carry forward of the combined surplus schools balance of £2.3m in accordance with the Department for Education regulations.

4. Note the reserves position set out in paragraphs 2.52 to 2.57.

5. Note the capital outturn, funding position and programme variations as set out in paragraphs 2.58 to 2.91.

6. Approve the capital budget variations as detailed in section 2.79 to 2.82 of the report.

7. Note the position on CRSTS Revenue Grant as set out in paragraphs 2.92 to 2.94 and delegate the decision to allocate and spend the remaining grant to the Assistant Director Planning Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Member.

List of Appendices Included

Appendices 1 – Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2028/29
Appendix 2 Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix 3 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Budget and Council Tax 2024/25 Report to Council on 28th February 2024
May Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 to Cabinet on 29th July 2024
July Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 to Cabinet on 16th September 2024
September Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 to Cabinet on 18th November 2024
November Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 to Cabinet on 20th January 2025
December Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 to Cabinet on 10th February 2025
Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 Report to Council on 5th March 2025
Finance Update to Cabinet on 9th June 2025

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Financial Outturn 2024/25 Financial Outturn 2024/25

1. Background

1.1 This report sets out the Councils revenue, capital, HRA and schools outturn position in 2024/25. It also describes the details of the Council's reserves balances as at the end of the financial year. The Council set a revenue budget for 2024/25 of £326.1m and a 4-year Capital Programme of £508.964m.

1.2 Delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Capital Programme within the parameters agreed by Council is essential if the Council's objectives are to be achieved. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework.

1.3 This report is the final report in a series of financial monitoring reports to Cabinet for 2024/25, setting out the year end revenue budget outturn position in light of actual costs and income.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The Council's Directorates had an overspend position of £12.8m before mitigation. This was largely due to the following overall issues:

- Placement pressures within Children and Young People's Services (£5.7m) and Adults Social Care (£7m).
- Home to School Transport pressures within Children and Young People's Services in relation to the Children in Care Assisted Travel Budget (£0.8m) and in Regeneration and Environment in relation to the rest of the provision of Home to School Transport (£2.9m).
- Provider inflation impacting Children and Young People's Services: fostering allowances and skills payments that have been uplifted based on the national minimum allowance and the impact that these uplifts have on provider payments for Independent Fostering Agencies and external residential placements.
- Increased costs of homelessness due to increased demand.
- Pressure across waste management on staffing, vehicle costs, disposal costs and related income.
- Impact of the Local Government Association (LGA) Pay Award.

2.2 These pressures were offset by savings delivered from the Council's Treasury Management Strategy in Central Services and use of the corporate budget risk contingency of £6.9m. The final underspend in Central Services was £12.5m which reduced the Council's overall outturn to £0.3m overspend.

2.3 This Budget 2024/25 was supported by planned use of £4.2m from the Treasury Management Reserve, as approved within the Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25. The financial outturn overspend of £0.3m was funded by the Budget & Financial Strategy Reserve. Whilst there were no plans to use the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve in the Budget & Council Tax Report 2024/25, the final use was £2.8m less than anticipated in the approved Budget & Council Tax Report 2025/26. Overall, this reflects that whilst the Council has

faced some significant challenges, through robust management and controls and careful financial planning, the Council's overall financial position continues to improve.

2.4 **Table 1: Revenue Outturn 2024/25**

Table 1 below provides a summary of the Revenue Outturn for 2024/25. This is followed by a summary of the position by Directorate which includes an explanation of the key variances.

Directorate	**Budget 2024/25**	**Outturn 2024/25**	**Variance over/under (-)**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**
Children and Young People Services	70.6	75.7	5.0
Adult Care, Housing & Public Health	133.5	139.7	6.2
Regeneration and Environment Services	47.4	50.5	3.2
Finance and Customer Services	37.8	36.7	-1.1
Assistant Chief Executive	8.1	7.6	-0.5
Central Services	28.7	16.2	-12.5
Directorate Forecast Outturn	**326.1**	**326.4**	**0.3**
Use of Reserves			**-0.3**
Final Outturn Position			**0.0**
Dedicated Schools Grant			2.8
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)			-4.4

2.5 Children and Young People Services Directorate (£5.0m overspend)

2.6 The Children & Young People Services had a budget pressure of £5.0m at the end of March 2025. In the main the overall pressures relate to continued demands on children in care placements and home to school transport cost pressures in relation to the Children in Care Assisted Travel Budget and support with travel to post 16 and post 19 learners with Education Health Care Plan (EHCP).

2.7 The reported position includes the impact of £2.8m in-year budget recovery actions implemented to mitigate cost pressures. Implemented actions delivered include delay in recruitment, caps on discretionary spend, maximising or redirecting the use of grant funding. The following section summarises the key budget variances across the Children and Young Peoples Service (CYPS) directorate for the year.

2.8 Children Social Care was overspent by £5.7m and is mainly attributable to cost pressures within the children in care placements budget. Other cost pressures

such as Looked After Children (LAC) home to school transport and care leavers were offset by staffing underspends and budget recovery actions.

2.9 The overall children in care population number is 481 at the end of March 2025 against the assumed budget profile of 500. This continues the year-on-year reduction in children in care placements. The placements budget overspend of £5.7m can be explained as follows:

- External residential placements (overspend of £6.6m) – overspend is attributable to the high number of external residential care placements and some unanticipated high-cost placements in the year.
- In-house residential homes (underspend of £0.5m) – underspend due to slippage in the number of in-house homes operationally available and staffing vacancies / turnover.
- Foster Care placement costs (underspend of £0.3m) – underspend is due to reduced number of placements across external independent fostering agencies and the Council's in-house foster carers.
- Other placement costs (underspend of £0.1m) – relates to reduced spend across several placements' budgets e.g. supported accommodation, short breaks / respite, special guardianship orders, child arrangement, etc.

2.10 There was an underspend of £0.3m relating to staff vacancies and turnover on the Commissioning and Performance & Quality teams supported by additional grant income received.

2.11 The wider Directorate had a £0.4m underspend due to savings on strategic management costs, workforce development and training, and staffing underspend in the Safeguarding teams.

2.12 Early Help services had a £0.9m underspend, mainly attributable to staffing savings due to posts not being filled in the short term (business support; Early Help locality teams) and the maximisation of grant funding.

2.13 Education Services reported an overspend of £1.0m, which is attributable to Home to School Transport costs (post 19 learners with Education Health Care Plans (EHCP's) and staffing / agency pressures in Education Psychology and the Inclusion teams).

2.14 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budgets

2.15 A surplus balance position of £2.3m is reported for 2024/25 for all 23 maintained schools (including the PRU (Pupil Referral Unit)) with delegated budgets. There were 2 schools that reported a year-end deficit totalling £0.1m. A budget recovery plan will be agreed with these schools to bring the budget back in balance.

2.16 A year end overspend or deficit of £2.8m is reported across all centrally retained DSG budgets and mainly relates to high needs / Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) budget pressures although offset by underspends in other central DSG budgets (e.g. Early Years). The overspend can be explained as follows:

- High Needs (overspend of £3.7m) – the overspend relates to spend on education provision on pupils with special education needs and disabilities. It compares unfavourably to the £1.2m deficit assumed in the Safety Valve Agreement and reflects increased pressures in the SEND system, namely, inflationary costs; increase in pupils with EHCPs; and continuing placements in independent specialist settings outside the Borough.

- Other Central DSG budgets (underspend of £0.9m) – this is mainly attributable to the Early Years DSG budgets and reflects increased funding received for the expansion of the childcare and nursery entitlement for 2-year-olds and under 2's that was implemented from September 2024.

2.17 The above centrally retained DSG overspend of £2.8m has been transferred into the DSG Reserve account. The closing position of the DSG reserve for 2024/25, after adjusting for Safety Valve monies received from Department of Education (DfE), was an accumulated deficit of £2.9m. This year-end deficit balance has been rolled forward into 2025/26. The current projections of the DSG Reserve for 2025/26 (which is the last year of the Safety Valve Agreement) show a forecast accumulated deficit of £3.8m.

2.18 Adult Care, Housing & Public Health (£6.2m overspend)

2.19 The overall directorate is reporting a £6.2m overspend at the end of March 2025. This is made up of a £180k underspend in Neighbourhoods, a £6.8m overspend in Adult Social Care and a £420k underspend in Public Health.

2.20 The Adult Social Care (ASC) overspend of £6.8m was caused by £7m of overspend on rising demand and complexity of care packages. The main areas of overspend were older people and people with mental health need as packages increased significantly in the year. These pressures have been addressed as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

2.21 Staffing budgets are £270k under budget due to vacancies which have eventually needed to be filled by agency placements, due to recruitment challenges, that provide cover for the service and some overtime payments for staff.

2.22 The Housing service (non-HRA) underspend of £180k consists of an overspend of £880k on temporary accommodation which includes the use of hotels to support the significant increase in homelessness demand seen during 2024/25, offset by increased income from the Furnished Homes programme and an increase in the volume of temporary accommodation from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) utilised during the latter half of the year. As a result of this and increased investment in case management and prevention, the spend on hotels decreased significantly over the year with a peak of 83 households in April reducing to 17 by the end of the year.

2.23 The Public Health underspend of £420k was caused mainly by slippage in the Baby Packs programme.

2.24 Regeneration and Environment Directorate (£3.2m overspend)

2.25 The Directorate had an outturn of £3.2m in 2024/25 which was an improvement of £1.6m from the position reported as part of December's financial monitoring to Cabinet in February 2025.

2.26 Community Safety and Streetscene (CSS) was overspent by £3.7m. Demand and cost pressures in transporting Special Educational Needs (SEN) children, mainstream pupils and personal travel budgets have caused an overspend of £2.9m in Home to School Transport. Waste Management was overspent by £1.3m due to covering staff sickness, the impact of an ageing fleet and a lower resale value of recycled materials.

2.27 This position has improved by £0.9m since the last report. The Waste service has reduced its overspend by £0.3m mainly due to decreased agency costs; there has been a further £0.2m reduction in Home to School Transport's overspend as interventions have taken effect in relation to re-routing; and the Corporate Transport Unit, mainly an internal service, has improved by £0.3m mainly due to improved income.

2.28 Culture, Sport and Tourism (CST) was overspent by £0.2m which was mainly in relation to income shortfalls in the Country Parks. Whilst the service has an overspend of £0.2m, there has been an improvement of income generation during the final quarter of 2024/25.

2.29 Planning, Regeneration and Transport (PRT) was underspent by £0.6m. Under recovery of income in Planning and Building control of £0.3m and in Markets of £0.4m is offset by capitalisation of salaries across the service of £0.8m in Transportation and Regeneration, £0.2m of underspends against historic projects and £0.1m in Business Centres, owing to good occupancy.

2.30 This position has improved by £0.5m since the last report. There was a £0.2m improvement within Business Centres of £0.2m following capitalisation of repairs and improved occupancy. There was also additional capitalisation within Transportation of £0.2m and reductions in staffing costs in the Regeneration Team of £0.1m.

2.31 Finance and Customer Services (£1.1m underspend)

2.32 Corporate Services was underspent by £0.7m at year-end. There are a number of financial pressures across the services, particularly around Post and Print and recruitment within Legal Services leading to continued use of Locums. However, savings were achieved on Customer, Information and Digital Services, Financial Services and Legal disbursements, in relation to higher income in Registrars, grant maximisation, and vacancy management. These actions have mitigated the financial pressures and delivered an overall underspend to support the wider Council outturn.

2.33 Property and Facilities Services (PFS) was underspent by £0.4m. Building Cleaning was underspent by £1.0m because of income generation above budget and vacancies. In addition to this the Building Consultancy service over recovered £0.5m of income. To some extent these were offset by overspends within Facilities Management of £0.8m as a result of repairs costs and income under-recovery and Catering of £0.3m where increased costs weren't covered by income.

2.34 Overall Finance & Customer Services (FCS) position has improved since December monitoring as the service has looked to generate further savings to support the Council's attempts to balance the budget.

2.35 Assistant Chief Executive (£0.5m underspend)

2.36 The underspend at outturn is the consolidated result of all services delivering underspends in year from vacancy management and non-pay controls, despite a number of underlying budget pressures. Income of £89k for the services of the Chief Executive (CEX) to Nottingham City Council along with salary sacrifice income of £102k and additional grant income of £120k have further enabled the Directorate to deliver a favourable position.

2.37 Central Services (£12.5m underspend)

2.38 Central Services delivered an underspend of £12.5m resulting from the £6.9m corporate budget risk contingency approved within the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25, along with savings made in year from the Treasury Management function. The total Treasury Management savings for 2024/25 were more than £5.6m, however, these savings have been used to offset wider Council impacts such as the Local Government Pay Award. The treasury outturn position reflects the Council's approach to only borrow for cash flow purposes when required and maximise the benefits of the local authority lending market. It is also linked to slippage on the Capital Programme that has reduced the need to borrow during 2024/25.

2.39 Central Services has continued to see pressures as a result of higher base costs following the period of high inflation, energy prices and the impact of the 2024/25 Local Government Pay Award. However, the Council was able to build into the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25 greater levels of funding to manage the impact of inflation, energy and pay. As such these impacts have been controlled within the existing budgetary provision. As stated within the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 uncertainty in the global and UK economy remains a significant budget risk and as such will need to continue to be closely monitored.

2.40 Inflation has reduced significantly since September 2023. However, this doesn't mean that prices are falling, just that the rate of increase is slowing and higher prices become embedded in the base costs. These financial challenges are being regularly reviewed as part of the Council's ongoing Medium Term Financial Planning. As such, the Council will face short term financial pressures

that will need to be managed and mitigated through the Medium Term Financial Strategy and where required, the Council's reserves.

2.41 The Council's Treasury Management functions continued to perform well during 2024/25. The Council has held significant cash balances and has been able to invest them for a greater return given current high interest rates. This, in addition to slippage on the Capital Programme in 2024/25, meant the level of financing costs for 2024/25 was less than anticipated. The benefits from the Treasury Management function were used to support wider inflationary pressures that the Council faced during 2024/25 and reduce the call on reserves.

2.42 Central Services is made up of several corporate budgets for levies and charges such as the Integrated Transport Levy (ITL), Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Financing, and Treasury Management. A list of the main budget areas within Central Services was provided as part of the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25, approved at Council 28 February 2024. The costs within this area are largely fixed costs, set out prior to the start of a financial year, not specific to a particular Directorate and are therefore not controllable by the directorates and thus held centrally. For example, the cost of levies for 2024/25 was set at £11.8m at the outset of 2024/25.

2.43 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (£4.4m underspend)

2.44 The Housing Revenue Account is a statutory ring-fenced account that the Council has to maintain in respect of the income and expenditure incurred in relation to its council dwellings and associated assets. The HRA has underspent by £4.4m.

2.45 The overall underspend largely relates to £1.5m increased income and £1.9m underspend in repairs and maintenance. Most of the latter was because of contract shared savings and rebased fees for maintenance costs. Contract shared savings is a refund from repairs contractors based on the profits they made during the previous year once those have been confirmed and audited.

2.46 Delivery of Savings

2.47 A total of £9.904m of savings were scheduled to be delivered in 2024/25. This is a combination of £5.201m still outstanding from the Budget & Council Tax Report 2022/23, along with £4.703m from the Budget and Council Tax Report 2023/24. It is confirmed that £5.002m of delivery was secured in 2024/25. The biggest challenge on delivery related to CYPS Placements which has resulted in the Council being unable to fully deliver it's savings programme by 31st March. It remains challenging to clearly link the positive outcomes being delivered by CYPS in terms of reduced LAC numbers to the savings targets, principally as the service has seen rising market cost pressures and a number of significantly high cost placements.

2.48 **Table 2: Delivery of Agreed Savings:**

Directorate	2024/25 Plan (Total)	Secured as at 31st March 2025	2025/26 Still to be Delivered
FCS & ACX	645	645	-
Children's and Young Peoples Services	5,850	1,059	4,791
Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	1,998	1,998	-
Regeneration and Environment	1,411	1,300	111
Total	**9,904**	**5,002**	**4,902**

2.49 LAC placement savings within CYPS have not been delivered due to the following factors:

- Actual reductions in external residential placements were less than planned and budgeted for the year despite good performance in the number of steps down achieved;
- There was slippage in the In-house residential programme due to issues with the purchase and adaptation of identified properties;
- Overall net reduction in the number of in-house foster carers in the year, resulting in reduced number of internal placements. Also, increasing breakdowns of independent fostering agency (IFA) placements mean children and young people are being placed in costly residential placements.

2.50 Schools Outturn 2024/25

2.51 School balances at the end of 2024/25 for the Council's maintained schools was £2.357m. This represents the net surplus balances (i.e. unspent budgets), for all maintained schools including the Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). This represents a decrease of £0.093m on the previous year.

2.52 Reserves

2.53 The Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25 approved the use of £4.2m from Treasury Management Savings Reserve to support the Budget Strategy. The Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25 submitted to Cabinet on 10th February 2025 was based on the financial monitoring position as at December 2024, which outlined that the Council anticipated an overspend of £3.1m. The overspend was to be funded from Reserves as approved at Council as part of the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report, though the report noted the Council's intention was to further improve that outturn position, if possible, which would see a lower value call on reserves.

2.54 The table below sets out the reserves position as at the outturn 2024/25 compared against the updated expected position set out in the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

The bullet points below explain the reasons for variation.

- Treasury Management Savings Reserve has increased since the 2024/25 Budget was set at Council on the 28th February 2024. This is due to an improved financial outturn position for 2023/24 and 2024/25 meaning that the Council's position required less support from treasury savings built up. Also, as the Treasury Management Strategy has continued to generate significant in year savings for the Council, these savings have been used to support in year pressures and reduce the call on the reserve for 2024/25. The Treasury Management Reserve has increased by £0.4m since the update provided in the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26.

- The Corporate Revenue Grants Reserve now stands at £3.1m, it is made up of ringfenced grants that are expected to be used across the MTFS period though at present the Council are unable to project specifically when.

- Whilst there were no plans to use the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve in the original Budget & Council Tax Report 2024/25, the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 approved the use of £3.1m to fund the 2024/25 outturn position. However, given the final outturn position was an overspend of £0.3m, the actual use was £2.8m less than anticipated in the approved Budget & Council Tax Report 2025/26.

2.55 In summary, this means that the total of Corporate Reserves balance at the Financial Outturn 2024/25 is £55.3m, which is £4.7m more than the £50.6m estimated in the Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 report. The individual reserve balances are shown in the table below. The Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 planned for £0.4m use of reserves in 2025/26. Based on the 2024/25 financial outturn position, that will leave a total of £54.9m Corporate Reserves at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

The Corporate Reserve balances are shown in the table below.

Table 3: Total Corporate Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2025

	Projected Balance at 31 March 2025 (per Budget Report 25/26)	Actual Balance as at 31 March 2025	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
General Fund Reserves			
Budget and Financial Strategy	10.8	13.6	2.8
Business Rates	4.0	4.0	0.0
PFI Reserve - Leisure	0.0	0.3	0.3
Insurance Fund Reserve	0.0	0.0	0.0

Corporate Revenue Grants Reserve	2.5	3.1	0.6
Covid Recovery Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0
Local Council Tax Support Grant	0.9	0.8	-0.1
Collection Fund Income Guarantee Grant	0.0	0.7	0.7
Treasury Management Savings	7.4	7.8	0.4
Total	**25.6**	**30.3**	**4.7**
General Fund Minimum Balance	**25.0**	**25.0**	**0.0**
Total General Fund	**50.6**	**55.3**	**4.7**

2.56 Capital Reserves

2.57 The total earmarked and un-earmarked capital reserve balances at the end of 2024/25 are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4 Capital Reserves as at 31 March 2025

	Balance as at 31 March 2025	Committed Resources	Un-earmarked as at 31 March 2025
	£m	£m	£m
Capital Receipts Reserve			
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0
Housing (Corporately held)	18.1	18.1	0.0
HRA	2.3	2.3	0.0
Sub-Total	**20.4**	**20.4**	**0.0**
Capital Grants – Unapplied			
General Fund	67.8	67.8	0.0
HRA	1.7	1.7	0.0
Sub-Total	**69.5**	**69.5**	**0.0**
Major Repairs Reserve – HRA	**8.5**	**8.5**	**0**
Total	**98.4**	**98.4**	**0.0**

2.58 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2024/25

2.59 The outturn on the Capital Programme was £140.590m (2023/24 £140.7m). The final Capital Programme Budget was £172.418m split between the General Fund £115.135m and HRA £57.283m with underspend and slippage of (£31.858m). The programme was ambitious; however, the continued impact of inflation and an overloaded construction market has significantly impacted its delivery. This has been seen through restrictions to scheme delivery on contractors and the need to re-think, reengineer schemes or find new funding solutions when inflationary based cost increases have been forecast.

2.60 The level of slippage on the Capital Programme is reflective of the delivery challenges that the Council faces due to built up demand in the supplier market following Covid restrictions, inflation and the Council's Capital Programme being the largest it has ever been. The outturn position shows that 81.5% of the planned expenditure has been delivered. The Council is on an improvement journey in terms of Capital delivery and management with work underway to review the delivery side of the Capital Programme, in order to identify areas for improvement.

Table 5 Capital Outturn 2024/25

Directorate	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Outturn	2024/25 Variance
	£m	£m	£m
General Fund Capital			
Children and Young Peoples Services	7.746	6.829	-0.917
Assistant Chief Executive	0.340	0.123	-0.217
Adult Care & Housing	8.998	8.414	-0.584
Finance & Customer Services	20.357	7.423	-12.934
Regeneration & Environment	77.695	62.348	-15.347
Total General Fund Capital	**115.135**	**85.137**	**-29.998**
Total HRA Capital	**57.283**	**55.453**	**-1.830**
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**172.418**	**140.590**	**-31.828**

2.61 Children and Young People's Service

2.62 The CYPS Capital Programme outturn has a variance of £0.917m against the approved budget of £7.746m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Children's Residential Homes, £701k slippage. The purchase of one of these properties is now due in the summer of 2025/26 resulting in slippage of costs from 2024/25. There have been challenges in identifying suitable property types in suitable locations and then gaining necessary planning approvals.
- Primary Schools, £836k slippage. Most of this slippage relates to one project, the contract for which will be completed by July 2025. The delivery contract commenced later than expected resulting in the slippage in 2024/25.

- Special schools, £645k slippage. Budget has slipped on special schools' accessibility budget as spend and implementation of schemes by schools has been slower than anticipated as well as delays in delivery on Winterhill and Maltby resource centres causing slippage into 2025/26.
- Schools PFI Life Cycle Programme, £1.651m budget brought forward. The information on spend is only provided by the PFI provider towards year end and budget has been amended to reflect expenditure for 2024/25.

2.63 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered.

Children in Care Sufficiency

- Peacock Lodge 2 bed children's home fully refurbished to Ofsted standards. The provision has now been registered with Ofsted.
- One new build 2 bed children's home completed for young people with complex needs. The provision is awaiting Ofsted registration and will be known as Oak Tree House.

SEND Sufficiency

- New SEND provision created at Thurcroft Junior Academy, Maltby Manor Academy, Winterhill School and Brinsworth Whitehill creating 40 new SEND places.
- Refurbishment of Herringthorpe Youth and Community Centre to re-purpose for SEND education creating 30 new special school places for Elements Academy.
- 33 successful capital accessibility small grants from mainstream schools, improving mainstream school provision for pupils with SEND.

2.64 Adult Care & Housing

2.65 The Adult Care & Housing Capital Programme outturn had a variance of £0.584m against the approved budget of £8.998m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Fair Access to All (Aids and Adaptations Privates – Disabled Facilities Grant's), acceleration of £497k. This is due to an increase in demand for the service and an increase in the cost of materials along with improved operational processing.
- Rothercare Digital Switchover, slippage of £656k. The Council's external provider did not achieve delivery plan targets, resulting in spend slipping into 2025/26.

2.66 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered.

- 214 Disabled Facilities Grant's (DFG's) completed. Works include installation of level access showers, ramps, ceiling hoists, stairlifts, extensions, handrails, door widening and dropping of kerbs.

2.67 Assistant Chief Executive

2.68 The Assistant Chief Executive Capital Programme outturn had £217k of underspend and slippage against the approved budget of £340k.

2.69 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

- 34 projects supported across the borough through the ward allocations, broken down as follows:-
  - North – 10 projects
  - South – 9 projects
  - Central – 15 projects

2.70 Finance and Customer Services

2.71 The Finance & Customer Services Capital Programme outturn had £12.934m of underspend and slippage against the approved budget of £20.357m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Building Decarbonisation, slippage of £5.066m. This is due to issues with gaining a third party heat network provider which have delayed the project until 2026/27.
- Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure, slippage of £935k. This is due to a move to cheaper more robust chargers as well as delays caused by legal issues relating to subsidy control and its complicated concession structure.
- Facilities Management and Operational Buildings, slippage of £3.324m. This is due to the service needing to improve its approach to Capital Programme planning and move towards a survey based, structured capital repairs and maintenance programme.

2.72 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

- Implementation of a corporate online booking system for resident services such as sports pitches, pest control, ‘healthy holidays’, bike and water sports hire.
- Procurement of a visitor management system for self-service check-in of visitors to Riverside House and Rockingham Professional Development Centre (PDC).
- Implementation of ‘care cubed’ to better manage adult care packages to save the Council money.
- Delivered circa 1,000 digital inclusion sessions and distributed over 1,500 free sim cards.
- Provided free public WiFi access in an additional 6 neighbourhood centres and 5 Children’s homes.
- Upgraded network security to improve business continuity in the event of network loss – due for implementation in Summer 2025.
- Provided networking capability for CCTV and parking provision at Forge Island.
- Extended our ‘WiFi first’ networking to 9 sites.

2.73 Regeneration & Environment

2.74 The Regeneration & Environment Capital Programme outturn had slippage of £15.347m against the approved budget of £77.695m. The main variances contributing to this position were:

- Rotherham Markets redevelopment (including Community Hub), slippage of £1.633m. The project was delayed whilst awaiting approval of a Section 73 planning submission.

- Forge Island Commercial Development, slippage of £2.594m. The project is substantively complete and this slippage relates to the final retention payment which will be released through to July 2025.

- Century 1 – Roof Replacement, slippage of £0.600m. Work is ongoing on this project at the procurement stage. The expectation is that works will be undertaken within 2025/26.

- Towns and Villages Fund, slippage of £726k. Includes £490k of slippage on Our Places Fund as per timescales approved by Cabinet in December 2024.

- Sheffield Road, underspend of £0.552m. Approval is being sought from the funders to reallocate remaining budget to other projects to maximise its impact in the borough.

- Strategic Acquisitions Fund, slippage of £1.300m. This is due to a lack of appropriate properties for acquisition being identified and acquired in year.

Community Safety & Streetscene

- Drainage flood alleviation programme, slippage of £908k. This has been caused by unexpected complexities in the design process and ongoing negotiations for access to land for surveys.

- 2020-2024 Roads Programme, slippage of £739k. There were 132 Unclassified (estate) roads included in the 2024 - 2025 Highway Repair Programme. 121 Schemes were completed by the end of the 2024/25 financial year. The 11 projects that are still to be completed were affected by winter conditions in January 2025 and road space availability. These roads will be delivered during the 2025 – 2026 financial year.

- Pavement improvements, slippage of £519k. Footway Repairs Programme 2024/25 included patch repairs and planned micro-asphalt surface treatment which is a weather dependant process and was affected by poor weather during the spring / summer of 2024. Surface treatment schemes carried over will be completed during Summer 2025.

- Fleet Asset Improvements, slippage of £500k. 9 vehicles are awaiting refurb with an estimated completion time of 72 weeks. The slippage is therefore due to the length of the refurbishment process for waste collection vehicles.

- Treeton St Helen Church Yard, slippage of £589k. This slippage is due to delays in obtaining the necessary permissions from nearby property owners. Works are underway with completion expected in June 2025.

- Plant Equipment refresh – Grounds and Streets, slippage of £841k. This is due to a delay in the lead time with the manufacturers, the 10 ride-ons should be received in June 2025.

2.75 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

- Forge Island has reached a practical completion and the Travelodge and Vetro Lounge are now open to the public.

- Swinton Library & Neighbourhood Hub officially opened to the public in July 2024. The new facility is located adjacent to the Civic Hall and forms part of the wider Swinton Town Centre redevelopment. The project has delivered a relocated library and neighbourhood hub, designed to provide a modern, accessible space for the local community and has seen an increase of 140% and 187% in adult and children's footfall respectively.

- Waterloo Kiln was restored in October 2024 following a £187k refurbishment with support from Rotherham Council Capital and funding from Historic England. The project involved improving the structure by replacing damaged brickwork, repointing the external mortar and installing new oak lintels. To improve access to the site, a new path has been installed as well as a wider doorway and level access into the kiln.

- 19 footway schemes were completed during 2024-2025 financial year.

- The condition of all classifications of Rotherham's roads continues to be better than the national average due to the ongoing Council Capital investment, specifically in the unclassified network (mainly estate type roads). The Council's unclassified road network had deteriorated below national average prior to Capital investment. The Council investment from 2020 arrested the deterioration and the £24m to 2024 Roads Programme Investment has achieved the Council's objective to improve the condition of the estate roads to better than National average. The current Investment of £12m over four years (which commenced 2024-2025) together with £1m from Department for Transport (DfT) funding, will continue to manage the condition at current state.

2.76 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

2.77 The HRA Capital Programme outturn had a variance of £1.830m against the approved budget of £57.283m. The main variances contributing to this position were:

- Electricals, £544k overspend. Pressure is due to decision to purge electrical work in progress whilst contractor has capacity in order to reduce the backlog going into 2025/26.

- Major Voids, £1.151m overspend. This spend is required to bring properties back to a lettable standard. The overspend is due to higher void costs than anticipated due to a need to replace high value items such as kitchens and bathrooms.

- Strategic Acquisitions, £3.484m underspend. Due to 58 section 106 units at Brampton Vale which are now expected to be handed over in 2025/26. In addition, several properties in phase 1 of the Market acquisitions are in advanced stages of the purchase process and are expected to complete in early 2025/26.

- Aids and Adaptations, £591k overspend. This is a demand led service delivering mandatory public major adaptations. Demand has been higher than budgeted and has also seen an increase in material costs and the complexity of jobs.

2.78 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

- Housing delivered £32.444m of investment in the Councils existing stock during 2024/25. The programme is split into multiple schemes for example, investing in external elements including window and roof renewals, fascia and soffit along with internal upgrades to boilers, improving communal areas, improving major elements in properties when they become void, increasing the energy efficiency of homes, and upgrading the fire doors to flats.

- 156 new Council homes delivered through the Council's Housing Delivery programme in the 2024/25 Financial Year, with a further 15.6% of our overall 1,000 homes target delivered in year, consisting of:
  - 10 new build homes at our award-winning scheme at East Herringthorpe.
  - 7 new homes through our Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative with a strong pipeline of delivery established for future years.
  - 64 homes acquired through the Market Acquisitions workstreams, including 20 for temporary accommodation.
  - 75 new homes acquired through S.106 agreements including a range of property types and areas, meeting the diverse needs of the Borough.
  - Activity started on 27 Council owned sites which will see further delivery in the 2025/26 financial year.

- 224 properties had replacement kitchens and/or bathrooms and associated electric works.

- A total of 1,715 properties have had replacement boilers and/or central heating systems. 1,003 of those were programmed to be delivered and 712 were delivered on an ad-hoc basis.

- 517 properties had their thermal efficiency increased by loft insulation top ups.

- 421 properties received over £5k investment to bring them back to a lettable standard via the major void process.

- 350 properties have had roofs replaced while 342 have had window and/or door replacements.

- 31 properties were renovated following flood damage at Catcliffe.

- The Environmental programme delivered 13 schemes across the borough. These included redesigning paths and steps around stock, repairing of boundary walls, resurfacing housing owned parking areas, landscaping of communal planting and relocation of bin pads away from properties to reduce potential fire spread to properties.

2.79 Capital Programme Variations

2.80 The following variations to the Capital Programme cover significant virements between capital projects that are either key decision value or a change in use of corporate resources and as such need reporting to Cabinet.

2.81 Bereavement Services – Benches and Installation of Qibla Stone

Capital funding had previously been approved for the installation of additional benches across cemetery sites and for the installation of a Qibla stone.

Cemetery Benches (£10k)
Following a review of current practices and site needs, it has been determined that there is no operational requirement for additional benches at this time. Following the Council's proposals for benches, memorial benches were introduced by Dignity and have been provided at various sites. Introducing new, non-memorial benches could lead to inconsistency and potential dissatisfaction among families who have invested in memorial placements and unauthorised memorialisation of Council benches.

Qibla Stone installation (£8k)
Community feedback has indicated that there was the potential for perceived disrespect or confusion. In light of this, and in consultation with the former portfolio holder it is suggested that the project should not proceed. This position remains supported by current feedback from community groups and operational considerations.

Cabinet approval is therefore sought for the non-utilisation of allocated capital budgets for these two bereavement service schemes. The total budget currently allocated to these schemes is £18k.

2.82 Riverside Gardens and Corporation Street

This variation proposes two changes; consolidation of "Pathfinder" grant funding to allow it to be reallocated and adjustment to the Riverside Garden and Corporation St project.

"Pathfinder" refers to the simplification and consolidation of numerous previously awarded central government capital grants into one pot. Two of the projects this has been allocated to are underspent, so it is proposed to hold this centrally until suitable alternatives are identified. The variation will create a £3,081k fund - £2,403k from 3-7 Corporation Street and £678k from Riverside Residential Quarter Acquisitions.

The second part of this variation proposes to combine additional works at the Ship Hill junction, fund additional demolition costs and to make improvements to paving and street lighting. This will increase the project's budget to £10,889k from £9,439k by utilising several available funding streams - £400k from Town Centre Investment Fund, £390k from Pathfinder (as above), £550k from South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA)'s Transforming Cities grant and £110k from Highways Capitalisation Lighting project.

2.83 Funding of the Capital Programme 2024/25

2.84 £140.590m of capital expenditure was funded as shown in the table below:

Table 6 Funding of the Capital Programme 2024/25

Funding Stream	Outturn £m
Grants and Contributions	52.681
Unsupported Borrowing	32.274
Capital Receipts	0.025
Revenue Contributions	0.157
Total Funding - General Fund	**85.137**
Grants and Contributions	3.540
Unsupported Borrowing	6.537
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	26.454
Useable Capital Receipts	13.102
Revenue Contributions	5.820
Total Funding - HRA	**55.453**
Total	**140.590**

2.85 **Capital Receipts Outturn 2024/25**

2.86 The Council is continuing to undertake a comprehensive review of its assets and buildings portfolio with the aim of rationalising both its operational and non-operational asset holdings. This may contribute future capital receipts

which are earmarked to support the revenue budget, in accordance with the Council's approved flexible use of capital receipts strategy.

2.87 In 2024/25 General Fund Capital receipts of £0.936m have been generated as shown in the table below. Although £0.249m of this was for loan repayments, these cannot be used to support the revenue budget as only those receipts for the disposal of property, plant and equipment can be used in that way.

Table 7 – General Fund Capital Receipts Received in 2024/25

Description	**Total as at 31st March 2025 £m**
Miscellaneous	-0.687
Total Capital Receipts (Excluding loan repayments)	**-0.687**
Repayment of Loans	-0.249
Total Capital Receipts	**-0.936**

2.88 Although capital receipts were generated in this financial year they were utilised to fund the expenditure on short life assets in order to reduce borrowing costs which is a more favourable overall outcome for the Council.

2.89 Updated Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2028/29

2.90 The Capital Programme 2025/26 has been reset at £211.024m split between the General Fund £149.275m and HRA £61.749m.

2.91 The 2025/26 programme has decreased overall by £30.969m from the position reported to Cabinet in March 2025. The movement is based on the latest profiles of expenditure against schemes, following the 2024/25 outturn position, factoring in slippage from 2024/25 and new grant funding.

Table 8: Updated Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2028/29

Directorate	**2025/26**	**2026/27**	**2027/28**	**2028/29**	**Total**
	Budget	**Budget**	**Budget**	**Budget**	**Budget**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
General Fund Capital					
Children and Young People's Services	14.879	9.403	6.836	17.120	48.238
Regeneration and Environment	104.493	47.835	12.473	14.140	178.941
Adult Care & Housing	13.902	4.924	8.969	6.927	34.721

Assistant Chief Executive	0.441	0.210	0.210	0.210	1.071
Finance and Customer Services	15.561	16.825	7.629	19.423	59.438
Total General Fund Capital	**149.275**	**79.197**	**36.116**	**57.820**	**322.408**
Total HRA Capital	61.749	76.843	49.153	106.595	294.339
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**211.024**	**156.040**	**85.269**	**164.415**	**616.748**

Table 9: Funding of the approved Capital Programme

Funding Stream	**2025/26 Budget**	**2026/27 Budget**	**2027/28 Budget**	**2028/29 Budget**	**Total Budget**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
Grants and Contributions	70.858	33.379	10.054	16.762	131.053
Unsupported Borrowing	77.729	45.678	25.919	40.912	190.239
Capital Receipts	0.551	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.551
HRA Contribution	0.137	0.140	0.143	0.146	0.566
Total Funding - General Fund	**149.275**	**79.197**	**36.116**	**57.820**	**322.408**
Grants and Contributions	2.837	2.883	0.816	27.847	34.384
Unsupported Borrowing	14.059	31.007	11.325	25.181	81.572
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	36.964	25.256	27.803	28.669	118.693
Capital Receipts	4.705	4.773	3.208	18.387	31.073
Revenue Contribution	3.183	12.924	6.000	6.511	28.617
Total Funding - HRA	**61.749**	**76.843**	**49.153**	**106.595**	**294.339**
Total	**211.024**	**156.040**	**85.269**	**164.415**	**616.748**

2.92 **CRSTS Revenue Grant**

2.93 City Regions Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) is a grant with both revenue and capital elements distributed via SYMCA. In order to support the delivery of its capital element, a total of £2,360,599 has been awarded, of which £873,109 has been spent up to 31st March 2025. Spend to date includes:

- Feasibility studies and research (including data collection)
- Training
- Specialist software
- Associated Council staffing costs and overheads
- Contribution to the Cycle Hub
- Development of the Mainline Station business case (to be reimbursed in the event that the next stage of the funding is successful)

2.94 There is £1,487,490 remaining, which is yet to be allocated. A delegation is sought to utilise the balance, as per recommendation 7.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 This detail is set out in Section 2 above.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 None identified.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Strategic Director - Finance and Customer Services is responsible for implementing any actions arising from the supported recommendations in this report.

5.2 These should be actioned at the earliest opportunity to aid the monitoring of the 2025/26 Revenue Budget and Capital Programme.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 As set out in the sections above.

6.2 Project specific procurement implications are included in the main body of this report. There are no direct procurement implications arising from the recommendations detailed in this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 No direct implications.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 No direct implications.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 No direct implications.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 This is a finance update report, providing a review of the Council's outturn position for 2024/25. Any equalities and human rights impacts from service delivery have been or are detailed as service budgets, capital projects are pulled together for inclusion within the Council's revenue budget or Capital Programme.

10.2 An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) has been completed and is attached as Appendix 2.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 No direct implications.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 No direct implications.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There are increasing cost pressures associated with the rising demand for social care services. The Council will continue to closely monitor its financial position throughout the year and if required management will implement appropriate mitigations.

13.2 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy will be revised and updated later in the year to reflect the estimated outcomes of any economic pressures that are impacting the Council's costs such as inflation and energy prices along with revised resources.

14. Accountable Officers

Rob Mahon, Assistant Director – Financial Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	19/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	19/06/25

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Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - A

Directorate	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
Adult Care & Housing	13,901,790	4,923,540	8,968,596	6,926,976	34,720,902
Assistant Chief Executive	440,584	210,040	210,040	210,040	1,070,704
Children & Young Peoples Serv	14,878,826	9,403,083	6,835,840	17,119,977	48,237,726
Finance & Customer Services	15,560,762	16,825,244	7,629,039	19,423,116	59,438,161
Regeneration & Environment	104,492,746	47,835,108	12,472,795	14,140,217	178,940,866
Total	**149,274,708**	**79,197,015**	**36,116,310**	**57,820,326**	**322,408,359**

Funding:

Funding Stream	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
2) Capital Receipts GF	100,713	0	0	0	100,713
3) Capital Receipts HRA	450,000	0	0	0	450,000
4) Grants and Contributions	70,857,638	33,379,258	10,054,167	16,761,977	131,053,040
6) Revenue Contributions	137,000	140,000	143,000	146,000	566,000
7) Unsupported Borrowing-C	66,291,182	41,699,101	23,718,278	38,345,781	170,054,342
8) Unsupported Borrowing-S	11,438,175	3,978,656	2,200,865	2,566,568	20,184,264
Total	**149,274,708**	**79,197,015**	**36,116,310**	**57,820,326**	**322,408,359**

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
Adult Care & Housing	Adult Services	Adult Services	Assistive Technology	Assistive Technology Equipment	680,000	680,000	680,000	0	2,040,000
				Rothercare Digital Switchover	1,681,002	0	0	0	1,681,002
				Sub-Service Total	**2,361,002**	**680,000**	**680,000**	**0**	**3,721,002**
			Extra Care Housing	Castle View Adult Care Units	1,713,925	19,725	0	0	1,733,650
				Castle View Day Care Centre	4,889,041	76,815	0	0	4,965,856
				LD accommodation	0	0	4,141,596	0	4,141,596
				Sub-Service Total	**6,602,966**	**96,540**	**4,141,596**	**0**	**10,841,102**
			REWS Equipment	REWS Capital	190,000	190,000	190,000	0	570,000
				Sub-Service Total	**190,000**	**190,000**	**190,000**	**0**	**570,000**
			Specialist Equipment	Webroster & associated equipmt	21,553	0	0	0	21,553
				Sub-Service Total	**21,553**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**21,553**
			Service Area Total		**9,175,521**	**966,540**	**5,011,596**	**0**	**15,153,657**
		Service Total			**9,175,521**	**966,540**	**5,011,596**	**0**	**15,153,657**
	Neighbourhood Capital Programm	Fair Access to All	Aids and Adaptations (Private	Private Adaps Bud Unall	2,797,000	2,197,000	2,197,000	2,197,000	9,388,000
				Sub-Service Total	**2,797,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**9,388,000**
			Service Area Total		**2,797,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**9,388,000**
		Neighbourhd	Affordable Housing	Warden St Leasehold Titles	97,469	0	0	0	97,469
				Sub-Service Total	**97,469**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**97,469**
			Monksbridge Demolition	Monksbridge, Dinnington	71,800	0	0	0	71,800
				Sub-Service Total	**71,800**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**71,800**
			Service Area Total		**169,269**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**169,269**
		Service Total			**2,966,269**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**9,557,269**
	Neighbourhood Improvements - N	Neighbourhood Improvements Non	Furnished Homes CPTL	Furnished Homes New CPTL	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	6,400,000
				Furnished Homes Replace CPTL	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	640,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**7,040,000**
			N'bourhood Grants Unallocated	N'Hoods Grants Unallocated	0	0	0	2,969,976	2,969,976
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2,969,976**	**2,969,976**
			Service Area Total		**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**4,729,976**	**10,009,976**
		Service Total			**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**4,729,976**	**10,009,976**
	Directorate Total				**13,901,790**	**4,923,540**	**8,968,596**	**6,926,976**	**34,720,902**
Assistant Chief Executive	Assistant Chief Exec	Assistant Chief Exec	Assistant Chief Exec	Aston & Todwick	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Aughton & Swallownest	13,263	7,120	7,120	7,120	34,623
				Bramley & Ravenfeild	12,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	33,600
				Brinsworth	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Capt'l Inv't Ward Anst wdsetts	17,764	10,680	10,680	10,680	49,804
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Bostn Ctle	17,716	10,680	10,680	10,680	49,756
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Dinnington	20,975	10,680	10,680	10,680	53,015
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Hoober	19,798	10,680	10,680	10,680	51,838
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Keppel	19,279	10,680	10,680	10,680	51,319
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Roth East	13,128	10,680	10,680	10,680	45,168
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Roth West	18,861	10,680	10,680	10,680	50,901
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - RotherVale	14,608	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,968
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Sitwell	21,360	10,680	10,680	10,680	53,400
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Wales	9,763	7,120	7,120	7,120	31,123
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Wath	12,142	7,120	7,120	7,120	33,502
				Dalton & Thrybergh	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Greasborough	11,270	7,120	7,120	7,120	32,630

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Hellaby & Maltby West	11,948	7,120	7,120	7,120	33,308
				Keppel - CIL	55,481	0	0	0	55,481
				Kilnhurst & Swinton East	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Maltby East	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Rawmarsh East	8,547	7,120	7,120	7,120	29,907
				Rawmarsh West	11,424	7,120	7,120	7,120	32,784
				Swinton Rockingham	14,240	7,120	7,120	7,120	35,600
				Thurcroft & Wickersley South	8,035	7,120	7,120	7,120	29,395
				Wickersley North	21,360	10,680	10,680	10,680	53,400
				Sub-Service Total	**424,402**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,054,522**
			Service Area Total		**424,402**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,054,522**
		Service Total			**424,402**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,054,522**
	Democratic Services	Democratic Services	Democratic Services	Badsley More Lane Pr Comm Hub	16,182	0	0	0	16,182
				Sub-Service Total	**16,182**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**16,182**
			Service Area Total		**16,182**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**16,182**
		Service Total			**16,182**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**16,182**
	Directorate Total				**440,584**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,070,704**
Children & Young Peoples Serv	CYPS - RMBC	Other CYPS	Children & Families	Adaptations - Foster Care	640,000	640,000	640,000	1,114,976	3,034,976
				CYPS RESI DFE PH IV Rowan	31,122	0	0	0	31,122
				CYPS Resi Home Unallocated	172,869	0	0	0	172,869
				CYPS RESI PH II Middle Lane	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
				CYPS RESI PH III Sitwell	20,097	0	0	0	20,097
				CYPS RESI PH III Walnut Drive	134,661	0	0	0	134,661
				CYPS RESI PH III-Mair Ct, Mgte	524,028	0	0	0	524,028
				CYPS RESI PH III-Woodclose, Ra	4,013	0	0	0	4,013
				Family Hub & Start for Life	70,364	0	0	0	70,364
				In House Chld's Resi-vehicles	0	0	0	140,000	140,000
				In House Resi Complex Needs	378,000	0	0	0	378,000
				Wraparound Childcare grants	375,740	0	0	0	375,740
				Sub-Service Total	**2,500,894**	**640,000**	**640,000**	**1,254,976**	**5,035,870**
			Service Area Total		**2,500,894**	**640,000**	**640,000**	**1,254,976**	**5,035,870**
		Schools	Schools - Capitalised Enh	Badsley Moor PR New Boiler	176,183	0	0	0	176,183
				Blackburn Pr Fire Alarm	3,143	0	0	0	3,143
				Bramley S'side Fire Alarm	4,553	0	0	0	4,553
				Broom Valley Concrete rep ph 2	95,000	0	0	0	95,000
				Capitalised Enhancements Unall	836,968	500,000	453,030	350,000	2,139,998
				CEN Asbestos removal works	53,803	0	0	0	53,803
				CEN FWT Remedials CNTL CPTL	27,032	0	0	0	27,032
				Eastwood Village Latent Defect	127,748	0	0	0	127,748
				Minor Works Less than £10,000	15,291	0	0	0	15,291
				Rawmarsh Aspire Partia reroof	69,594	0	0	0	69,594
				Rawmarsh Thorogate New bolier	2,044	0	0	0	2,044
				R'hillFenc,Drainage,SportsHall	10,738	0	0	0	10,738
				Wales Primary Fire Safety imps	29,265	0	0	0	29,265
				Sub-Service Total	**1,451,362**	**500,000**	**453,030**	**350,000**	**2,754,392**
			Schools - Prims - Major	Waverley Jnr Primary Sch Ph II	1,479,146	0	0	0	1,479,146
				Waverley New Primary School	11,579	0	0	0	11,579
				Sub-Service Total	**1,490,725**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,490,725**
			Schools - Secs - Major	Brinsworth Acd- add places	0	0	0	1,686,731	1,686,731

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Secondary BUDGET UNALLOC	0	1,103,491	1,000,000	7,408,270	9,511,761
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**1,103,491**	**1,000,000**	**9,095,001**	**11,198,492**
			Schools - Spcls - Major	Newman (Dinnington), Refurb	1,136,000	0	0	0	1,136,000
				SEND PH III Dinnington Adaptat	1,535	0	0	0	1,535
				SEND Ph IV - Brin Acad Res Cen	399,850	0	0	0	399,850
				SEND Ph IV - Dinn Sec Res Cen	399,850	0	0	0	399,850
				SEND Ph IV - Maltby Res Cen	316,440	0	0	0	316,440
				SEND Ph IV - Resource Centres	456,324	0	0	0	456,324
				SEND Ph IV - St Pius Res Cen	386,760	0	0	0	386,760
				SEND Ph IV - Wales Res Cen	406,987	0	0	0	406,987
				SEND Ph IV - W'hill Res Cen	366,378	0	0	0	366,378
				SEND Ph IV- Mainstream Sch Acc	962,486	0	0	0	962,486
				SEND Ph IV- Special Sch Acc	700,035	0	0	0	700,035
				SEND Ph IV -Whitehall Res Cen	19,114	0	0	0	19,114
				SEND Ph VNewman & Dinnington	1,367,000	0	0	0	1,367,000
				Special BUDGET UNALLOC	782,609	4,739,592	2,000,000	2,000,000	9,522,201
				Sub-Service Total	**7,701,368**	**4,739,592**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**16,440,960**
			Schools PFI Life Cycle Program	Schools PFI Life Cycle Program	1,590,598	2,270,000	2,270,000	4,270,000	10,400,598
				Sub-Service Total	**1,590,598**	**2,270,000**	**2,270,000**	**4,270,000**	**10,400,598**
			Service Area Total		**12,234,053**	**8,613,083**	**5,723,030**	**15,715,001**	**42,285,167**
		Service Total			**14,734,947**	**9,253,083**	**6,363,030**	**16,969,977**	**47,321,037**
	DFC	DFC - RMBC	DFC - RMBC all	DFCG Unallocated	143,879	150,000	472,810	150,000	916,689
				Sub-Service Total	**143,879**	**150,000**	**472,810**	**150,000**	**916,689**
			Service Area Total		**143,879**	**150,000**	**472,810**	**150,000**	**916,689**
		Service Total			**143,879**	**150,000**	**472,810**	**150,000**	**916,689**
	Directorate Total				**14,878,826**	**9,403,083**	**6,835,840**	**17,119,977**	**48,237,726**
Finance & Customer Services	Bereavement Services	Bereavement Services	Bereavement Services	Independent Expert Review	11,920	0	0	0	11,920
				Maltby Cemetery Fence	795	0	0	0	795
				R'marsh Gr'brough Ln Cem Fence	11,930	0	0	0	11,930
				R'marsh High St Ln Cem Fence	7,018	0	0	0	7,018
				Sub-Service Total	**31,663**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**31,663**
			Service Area Total		**31,663**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**31,663**
		Service Total			**31,663**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**31,663**
	F&CS (DUMMY)	F&CS	F&CS - REFCUS	Capital Inflation Contingency	0	0	0	12,298,966	12,298,966
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**12,298,966**	**12,298,966**
			Service Area Total		**0**	**0**	**0**	**12,298,966**	**12,298,966**
		Service Total			**0**	**0**	**0**	**12,298,966**	**12,298,966**
	ICT	ICT 2	ICT 2	Archives & Studies D'tal Upgra	22,000	0	0	0	22,000
				Comm Safe&SS-Cust &DigitalPlan	745,000	0	0	0	745,000
				Education System Replacement	1,140,000	645,000	0	0	1,785,000
				Finl Systms Upgrdes-ICT2	654,317	458,622	1,417,793	0	2,530,732
				Fleet of MFD printers	20,000	61,278	76,500	0	157,778
				HR System Replacement	0	0	500,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
				HR System Upgrades-ICT2	7,622	0	0	0	7,622
				Sub-Service Total	**2,588,939**	**1,164,900**	**1,994,293**	**1,000,000**	**6,748,132**
			Service Area Total		**2,588,939**	**1,164,900**	**1,994,293**	**1,000,000**	**6,748,132**
		ICT Refresh	ICT Refresh	Computer Refresh	1,300,000	1,392,386	910,000	910,000	4,512,386
				Hybrid Cloud Computing	625,000	350,000	0	833,951	1,808,951
				ICT Digital Strategy	600,000	800,000	700,000	1,015,199	3,115,199

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Libraries Network	89,730	50,526	0	0	140,256
				Network Equipment Refresh Proj	527,739	448,692	630,000	630,000	2,236,431
				Replacement of server equip	700,000	1,197,937	650,000	650,000	3,197,937
				Sub-Service Total	**3,842,469**	**4,239,541**	**2,890,000**	**4,039,150**	**15,011,160**
			Service Area Total		**3,842,469**	**4,239,541**	**2,890,000**	**4,039,150**	**15,011,160**
		Service Total			**6,431,408**	**5,404,441**	**4,884,293**	**5,039,150**	**21,759,292**
	Property & Facilities	Corp Property Unit	Corporate Property Cap Proj	AllSaintsChurchPathways	34,725	0	0	0	34,725
				Aston JSC Air Conditioning	170,885	0	0	0	170,885
				Bailey House Condition+	59,028	0	0	0	59,028
				Bailey Hse Extnl Works &Lights	267,418	0	0	0	267,418
				Barbers Avenue Security Works	2,462	0	0	0	2,462
				Barbot Hall Ind	2,500	0	0	0	2,500
				BarbotHallIndEst-Cliff face	50,345	0	0	0	50,345
				Building Decarbonisation	1,085,265	4,840,000	659,746	0	6,585,011
				C' Theatre LED StageLighting R	64,000	0	0	0	64,000
				C.Theatre - Flat Roof Repairs	192,825	0	0	0	192,825
				ChathamVillas1,2,3-W'dows/Roof	33,012	0	0	0	33,012
				CliftonParkMuseum-BuildWork	1,004	0	0	0	1,004
				CliftonParkMuseum-FireAlarm	17,662	0	0	0	17,662
				CliftonParkMuseum-Replace Hsys	30,000	0	0	0	30,000
				Commercial Property Cap	481,677	75,000	75,000	75,000	706,677
				Community Facilities	300,000	300,000	0	0	600,000
				Conway Crescent (Canopy)	3,979	0	0	0	3,979
				Corp Landlord Furn. Replacem.	80,790	0	0	0	80,790
				Cranworth Hse Structural Works	49,311	0	0	0	49,311
				Crowden - OutdoorStorageR'ment	8,496	0	0	0	8,496
				Customer Digitalisation - AM	81,960	0	0	0	81,960
				Davies Court - Kitchenettes	76,656	0	0	0	76,656
				Davies Court Fire Alarm	60,000	0	0	0	60,000
				Davies Court New Curtains	35,150	0	0	0	35,150
				Demo of units 86-102 Wellgate	384,975	0	0	0	384,975
				Electric Vehicle Charge Infras	1,279,991	0	0	0	1,279,991
				ElecVeh ChargingInfraExpansion	858,323	0	0	0	858,323
				Energy Saving Measure (B)	205,201	0	0	0	205,201
				Hellaby depot floor décor &oil	64,687	0	0	0	64,687
				Holmes Tail Goit Pumping Stn	-3,032	0	0	0	-3,032
				Kiveton Park CCTV	4,220	0	0	0	4,220
				Kiveton Pk Security DepotWorks	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
				LA Energy Saving Measures-(A)	82,044	0	0	0	82,044
				Lord Hardy Court - Windows	304,697	0	0	0	304,697
				Miscellaneous Minor Works	73,645	0	0	0	73,645
				Moorgate Crofts- Roof Repairs	34,414	0	0	0	34,414
				MowbrayGarden Library Openplus	3,000	0	0	0	3,000
				Munsbro DO - Fire Alarm/Roof	885	0	0	0	885
				Oaks Day Centre Demo	3,800	0	0	0	3,800
				Oaks Lane Depot Security	30,424	0	0	0	30,424
				Ops Buildings Cap Inv	1,277,180	2,010,000	2,010,000	2,010,000	7,307,180
				Rawmarsh FireDoors	5,730	0	0	0	5,730
				Renewable Energy Proof of Conc	75,000	895,470	0	0	970,470

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Riverside Replacement of UPS	17,419	0	0	0	17,419
				Rockingham PDC FireAlarm	3,137	0	0	0	3,137
				Rother Valley - Toilet Upgrade	74,106	0	0	0	74,106
				RsideHouse Furniture Replacemt	11,239	0	0	0	11,239
				R'sideHouse-Fire Stopping	75,864	0	0	0	75,864
				RsideHse-FM200GasSupCanisters	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
				RVCP - CCTV Cameras	24,428	0	0	0	24,428
				Signage	23,934	0	0	0	23,934
				StHelensTreetonChurchyard-Path	34,000	0	0	0	34,000
				StLeonardChurch Din-Bound Wall	24,373	0	0	0	24,373
				Strategic Acquisitions Fund	0	3,300,333	0	0	3,300,333
				Swinton TC Development	7,626	0	0	0	7,626
				Townhall replacement projector	2,981	0	0	0	2,981
				Vic Park-Drainage	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
				Walesw'd C'vanPark ReplaceDoor	6,464	0	0	0	6,464
				WaleswoodCvanPark - subsidence	79,012	0	0	0	79,012
				Waverley Medical Centre	602,135	0	0	0	602,135
				Wellgate Retaining Wall	124,153	0	0	0	124,153
				WIFICorpLandlordBldgs-wiring	4,486	0	0	0	4,486
				Sub-Service Total	**9,097,691**	**11,420,803**	**2,744,746**	**2,085,000**	**25,348,240**
			Service Area Total		**9,097,691**	**11,420,803**	**2,744,746**	**2,085,000**	**25,348,240**
		Service Total			**9,097,691**	**11,420,803**	**2,744,746**	**2,085,000**	**25,348,240**
	Directorate Total				**15,560,762**	**16,825,244**	**7,629,039**	**19,423,116**	**59,438,161**
Regeneration & Environment	Community Safety &Street Scene	Comm Safety Resilience & EP	Comm Safety Resilience & EP	CCTV Upgrade&EnhanceCapabilty	59,067	0	0	0	59,067
				Rural Fly Tipping measures	11,372	0	0	0	11,372
				Sub-Service Total	**70,439**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**70,439**
			Service Area Total		**70,439**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**70,439**
		Network Management	Drainage	Catcliffe Pumping Station	132,357	0	0	0	132,357
				Catcliffe Treeton FAS-Bridge	350,000	500,000	1,150,000	8,000,000	10,000,000
				Culverts Renewal Programme	64,201	0	0	0	64,201
				Eel Mires Dike FAS	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
				Highway Drainage Repairs	376,390	300,000	300,000	0	976,390
				Minor Works Schemes - Drainage	11,562	0	0	0	11,562
				Parkgate & Rawmarsh FAS	847,702	0	0	0	847,702
				Roth Ren. and Kilnhurst FAS	500,000	0	0	0	500,000
				RRFAS 2A Ickles Lock (ERDF)	16,345	0	0	0	16,345
				Unallocated Flood Alleviation	2,959,999	150,000	-2,850,000	4,000,000	4,259,999
				Whiston FAS	350,000	0	0	0	350,000
				Sub-Service Total	**5,758,556**	**950,000**	**-1,400,000**	**12,000,000**	**17,308,556**
			Highways Delivery	2020-2024 RoadsProgramme £24m	3,784,693	3,000,000	3,000,000	0	9,784,693
				Additional Pothole Funding	196,605	0	0	0	196,605
				Cap Rights of way	56,325	34,000	34,000	34,000	158,325
				Capitalisation Carriageways	966,284	500,000	500,000	500,000	2,466,284
				DfT LTP CarriagewayResurfacing	3,412,277	0	0	0	3,412,277
				DFT Pothole Grant	38,939	0	0	0	38,939
				Multi Hog Works	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,200,000
				Network North Fund	2,075,982	0	0	0	2,075,982
				Pavement Improvements	1,719,276	1,200,000	1,200,000	0	4,119,276
				Pothole Funding 21/22	115,781	0	0	0	115,781

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Sub-Service Total	**12,666,162**	**5,034,000**	**5,034,000**	**834,000**	**23,568,162**
			Parking Services	Wellgate Cpark Ret. Wall	34,260	0	0	0	34,260
				Sub-Service Total	**34,260**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**34,260**
			Street Lighting	Cap benches signs bollards	75,479	75,000	75,000	75,000	300,479
				Capitalisation Lighting	1,033,141	150,000	150,000	150,000	1,483,141
				Replace Obsolete Strt Lighting	44,952	40,000	40,000	40,000	164,952
				St Lighting LTP 15/16 - 19/20	282,475	0	0	0	282,475
				Sub-Service Total	**1,436,047**	**265,000**	**265,000**	**265,000**	**2,231,047**
			Service Area Total		**19,895,025**	**6,249,000**	**3,899,000**	**13,099,000**	**43,142,025**
		Regulation &	Regulation & Enforcement	Carhill Landfill Site	45,000	0	0	0	45,000
				Sub-Service Total	**45,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**45,000**
			Service Area Total		**45,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**45,000**
		Street Scene Services	Community Delivery	Addit'nal ZonalCleansingVehs	210,000	0	0	0	210,000
				Cap damaged litter bins	164,369	85,600	85,600	85,600	421,169
				Plant Equipment Refresh G&S	1,216,337	0	0	0	1,216,337
				Street Scene Equip / Vehicles	163,090	0	0	0	163,090
				Sub-Service Total	**1,753,796**	**85,600**	**85,600**	**85,600**	**2,010,596**
			Corporate Transport	Fleet Asset Improvements	500,393	0	0	0	500,393
				Fleet Mgt System	40,928	0	0	0	40,928
				Fleet Mgt Vehicle Purchase	7,471,062	4,145,678	0	0	11,616,740
				Route Optimisation - ITS	90,000	11,700	11,700	11,700	125,100
				Sub-Service Total	**8,102,383**	**4,157,378**	**11,700**	**11,700**	**12,283,161**
			Waste Management	Bins	611,268	375,000	375,000	375,000	1,736,268
				HWRCs	234,754	829,533	0	0	1,064,287
				Narrow Access Vehicles Waste	326,298	0	0	0	326,298
				Sub-Service Total	**1,172,320**	**1,204,533**	**375,000**	**375,000**	**3,126,853**
			Service Area Total		**11,028,499**	**5,447,511**	**472,300**	**472,300**	**17,420,610**
		Service Total			**31,038,963**	**11,696,511**	**4,371,300**	**13,571,300**	**60,678,074**
	Culture, Sport & Tourism	Creative Prog and	Green Spaces	Ash Dieback Mitigation - Trees	428,995	500,000	0	0	928,995
				Barkers Park Changing Rooms Re	9,779	0	0	0	9,779
				BoroughWide Tree Planting Prog	8,917	0	0	0	8,917
				Clifton Park Watersplash Repla	845,584	0	0	0	845,584
				CliftonPark GardenBldg Bar-ITS	16,083	0	0	8,917	25,000
				Coronation Park Play Equip	10,867	0	0	0	10,867
				Country Parks Bun Code	96,000	0	0	0	96,000
				Green Spaces Bun Code	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	240,000
				Play Equip Replacement Prog	676,590	258,000	0	0	934,590
				RM&Casework-Parks & Green Sp	46,506	0	0	0	46,506
				RVCP Automated Parking	35,070	0	0	0	35,070
				RVCP Safety Boats	2,200	0	0	0	2,200
				Strathmore Gardens	742	0	0	0	742
				Thrybergh CP Paths Improvement	303,349	0	0	0	303,349
				Treeton St Helen Church Yard	588,787	0	0	0	588,787
				Ulley CP - Club House	241,319	0	0	0	241,319
				Sub-Service Total	**3,370,788**	**818,000**	**60,000**	**68,917**	**4,317,705**
			Heritage Services	Keppel's Column Preservation	418	0	0	0	418
				Waterloo Kiln Preservation	53,230	0	0	0	53,230
				Sub-Service Total	**53,648**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**53,648**
			Service Area Total		**3,424,436**	**818,000**	**60,000**	**68,917**	**4,371,353**

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
		Ops and Business	Libraries	Lib&NeighHub-Kiveton Park Lib	1,281	0	0	0	1,281
				Lib&NeighHub-Mowbray Lib	1,035	0	0	0	1,035
				Lib&NeighHub-Swinton Lib	13,787	0	0	0	13,787
				Lib&NeighHub-ThorpeHesley Lib	118,915	0	0	0	118,915
				Lib&NeighHub-Thurcroft Lib	4,463	0	0	0	4,463
				Lib&NeighHub-Wath Lib&NeighHub	4,299	0	0	0	4,299
				Sub-Service Total	**143,780**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**143,780**
			Service Area Total		**143,780**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**143,780**
		Projects and	Leisure and Sport	Leisure PFI lifecycle	831,714	500,000	500,000	500,000	2,331,714
				Sub-Service Total	**831,714**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**2,331,714**
			Service Area Total		**831,714**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**2,331,714**
		Service Total			**4,399,930**	**1,318,000**	**560,000**	**568,917**	**6,846,847**
	Planning, Regen &	RIDO	Business Growth	Business Centre Upgrades	577,000	322,000	0	0	899,000
				Century 1 - Roof Replacement	600,000	0	0	0	600,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,177,000**	**322,000**	**0**	**0**	**1,499,000**
			Inv & Economic Initiatives	Bassingthorpe Farm	554,687	0	0	0	554,687
				Bassingthorpe Farm Land Acq	489,816	0	0	0	489,816
				Forge Island Flood Defence	455,430	0	0	0	455,430
				HEHub&Rain - Aqu and Demo	71,818	0	0	0	71,818
				Public Realm Effingham Street	343,992	0	0	0	343,992
				RhamMarkets Redev (incCommHub)	15,500,000	6,960,334	3,480,168	0	25,940,502
				Riverside Gardens	6,249,396	1,562,349	0	0	7,811,745
				Town Centre Investment	383,922	0	0	0	383,922
				Sub-Service Total	**24,049,061**	**8,522,683**	**3,480,168**	**0**	**36,051,912**
			RIDO	Corporation St Ph 2	28,196	5,374,417	0	0	5,402,613
				Corporation Street	225,000	1,352,668	0	0	1,577,668
				Dinnington RG	1,805,699	4,458,653	4,061,327	0	10,325,679
				Eldon Road Play Area	19,641	0	0	0	19,641
				Forge Island Comm Dev	2,690,509	0	0	0	2,690,509
				Gullivers Skills Village	6,007	0	0	0	6,007
				Mainline Station	6,500,000	1,637,740	0	0	8,137,740
				Matlby Academy	4,648	0	0	0	4,648
				Osoldo	228,000	3,770,184	0	0	3,998,184
				Riverside Acquisitions	3,689	1,065,023	0	0	1,068,712
				RotherValley CP	6,355,401	0	0	0	6,355,401
				Snail Yard	412,373	0	0	0	412,373
				Templeborough	2,719,606	2,709,658	0	0	5,429,264
				Thrybergh CP	780,727	0	0	0	780,727
				Unallocated Levelling Up	3,373	0	0	0	3,373
				Water Lane Public Realm	1,951,941	0	0	0	1,951,941
				Wath RG	4,335,775	5,107,571	0	0	9,443,346
				Wentworth Woodhouse	4,878	0	0	0	4,878
				Sub-Service Total	**28,075,463**	**25,475,914**	**4,061,327**	**0**	**57,612,704**
			Service Area Total		**53,301,524**	**34,320,597**	**7,541,495**	**0**	**95,163,616**
		Towns & Villages Fund	Towns & Villages Fund	Aston/Todwick	4,697	0	0	0	4,697
				Brinsworth Lane	67,978	0	0	0	67,978
				Maltby East	779,789	0	0	0	779,789
				Our Places Fund	1,989,900	0	0	0	1,989,900
				Rother Vale	38,067	0	0	0	38,067

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Rotherham East	60,476	0	0	0	60,476
				Towns & Villages Fund Unall	14,741	0	0	0	14,741
				Sub-Service Total	**2,955,648**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2,955,648**
			Service Area Total		**2,955,648**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2,955,648**
		Transportation &	Bridges	Centenary Viaduct Strenghening	25,105	0	0	0	25,105
				Eastwood Bridge	208,839	0	0	0	208,839
				Old Flatts Bridge	290,602	500,000	0	0	790,602
				Packman Road	31,268	0	0	0	31,268
				Steadfolds Lane Retaining Wall	139,790	0	0	0	139,790
				Structures Capital Programme	868,097	0	0	0	868,097
				West Bawtry Road Embankment	221,675	0	0	0	221,675
				Sub-Service Total	**1,785,376**	**500,000**	**0**	**0**	**2,285,376**
			Connectivity	A6109 Meadowbank Rd pedxing	670	0	0	0	670
				A629WrtlyRd Grt Prk Rd Pedxing	47,140	0	0	0	47,140
				Cortonwood Pedestrian Crossing	77,883	0	0	0	77,883
				Morthen Rd Nrthfld Ln Ped xngs	192,429	0	0	0	192,429
				Swallownest PedestrianCrossing	70,205	0	0	0	70,205
				Traffic Management Act Part 6	193,122	0	0	0	193,122
				Wath Road Brampton Crossing	205,494	0	0	0	205,494
				Sub-Service Total	**786,943**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**786,943**
			CRSTS Local block funded	Capital Schemes M&E	128,777	0	0	0	128,777
				Collision Investigation & Surv	159,327	0	0	0	159,327
				LNRS Bun Code	3,090	0	0	0	3,090
				LNRS1 - 009D GREASBROUGH	131,066	0	0	0	131,066
				LNRS1 - BRAMLEY 022A	78,880	0	0	0	78,880
				LNRS1 - BROOM VALLEY 023A	110,815	0	0	0	110,815
				LNRS1 - HARTHILL & T SALVIN 03	45,488	0	0	0	45,488
				LNRS1 - HIGHTHORNE RD	54,705	0	0	0	54,705
				LNRS1 - MALTBY CTR 020E	65,488	0	0	0	65,488
				LNRS1 - SWINTON 003F	21,370	0	0	0	21,370
				LNRS1 - WICKERSLEY WOOD 022B	105,538	0	0	0	105,538
				LNRS1 - WOODSETTS 032F	81,507	0	0	0	81,507
				LNRS1 -KILNHURST RD RMARSH	61,854	0	0	0	61,854
				LNRS1 -MASBORO & BRADGATE	80,787	0	0	0	80,787
				LNRS2 BRINSWORTH	7,656	0	0	0	7,656
				LNRS2 ASTON & TODWICK	114,753	0	0	0	114,753
				LNRS2 AUGHTON &	8,798	0	0	0	8,798
				LNRS2 DALTON & THRYBERGH	5,155	0	0	0	5,155
				LNRS2 DINNINGTON	5,977	0	0	0	5,977
				LNRS2 KEPPEL	6,844	0	0	0	6,844
				LNRS2 RAWMARSH WEST	5,850	0	0	0	5,850
				LNRS2 ROTHER VALE	119,752	0	0	0	119,752
				LNRS2 ROTHERHAM EAST	16,279	0	0	0	16,279
				LNRS2 SITWELL	6,720	0	0	0	6,720
				LNRS2 WICKERSLEY NORTH	13,917	0	0	0	13,917
				Minor Works - Signing	875	0	0	0	875
				Sub-Service Total	**1,441,268**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,441,268**
			Legacy Projects	A6123 GreatEasternWay pedxing	23,386	0	0	0	23,386
				Bus Service Improvements	279,940	0	0	0	279,940

Capital Programme General Fund 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - B

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
				Canklow Rotherway metering	2,064	0	0	0	2,064
				College Road NPIF	11,773	0	0	0	11,773
				Fenton Rd Shared Cycle Footway	3,813	0	0	0	3,813
				Green Arbour Rd Laughton Com R	13,340	0	0	0	13,340
				Neighbourhoods Road Safety Mea	2,097	0	0	0	2,097
				Sub-Service Total	**336,413**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**336,413**
			Local Safety Schemes	Small Intervention Schemes	324,202	0	0	0	324,202
				Unallocated Local Safety S	41,762	0	0	0	41,762
				Sub-Service Total	**365,964**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**365,964**
			LSTF & Smarter Choices	Air Quality Modelling	18,812	0	0	0	18,812
				Sub-Service Total	**18,812**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**18,812**
			Major Schemes	A6022 Swinton to Doncaster	700,306	0	0	0	700,306
				CAZ - Bellows Road	147,829	0	0	0	147,829
				Clean Air Zones Elec Chrg Pts	933,479	0	0	0	933,479
				CRSTS Broom Wickersley Corrido	1,188,168	0	0	0	1,188,168
				CRSTS Fitzwilliam Corridor	1,319,342	0	0	0	1,319,342
				Greasbrough The Whins	185,876	0	0	0	185,876
				Ickles Roundabout improvement	1,022,083	0	0	0	1,022,083
				O0047 Broom Road AT	445,354	0	0	0	445,354
				T0004 A6178(PT) - Sheffield Rd	1,451,775	0	0	0	1,451,775
				T0005 A631 aka Maltby Bus Corr	52,081	0	0	0	52,081
				T0022 Manvers Way	25,486	0	0	0	25,486
				Traff Signal renewal Prog	175,380	0	0	0	175,380
				Traffic Signal Refurb Prog	14,746	0	0	0	14,746
				Sub-Service Total	**7,661,905**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7,661,905**
			Network Management	Unallocated Network Man	400,000	0	0	0	400,000
				Sub-Service Total	**400,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**400,000**
			Service Area Total		**12,796,681**	**500,000**	**0**	**0**	**13,296,681**
		Service Total			**69,053,853**	**34,820,597**	**7,541,495**	**0**	**111,415,945**
	Directorate Total				**104,492,746**	**47,835,108**	**12,472,795**	**14,140,217**	**178,940,866**
General Fund Total					**149,274,708**	**79,197,015**	**36,116,310**	**57,820,326**	**322,408,359**

Capital Programme HRA 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - C

Directorate	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
HRA	61,749,055	76,842,508	49,153,186	106,594,628	294,339,377
Total	**61,749,055**	**76,842,508**	**49,153,186**	**106,594,628**	**294,339,377**

Funding:

Funding Stream	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
3) Capital Receipts HRA	4,705,369	4,772,810	3,208,219	18,386,729	31,073,127
4) Grants and Contributions	2,837,293	2,883,292	816,312	27,846,622	34,383,519
5) Housing Major Repairs Allow	36,964,356	25,255,962	27,803,485	28,669,155	118,692,958
6) Revenue Contributions	3,182,915	12,923,542	6,000,000	6,510,955	28,617,412
8) Unsupported Borrowing-S	14,059,122	31,006,902	11,325,170	25,181,167	81,572,361
Total	**61,749,055**	**76,842,508**	**49,153,186**	**106,594,628**	**294,339,377**

Capital Programme HRA 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - D

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
HRA	Neighbourhood Capital Programm	Fair Access to All	Aids and Adaptations (Public S	Public Adaps Bud Unall	3,259,157	3,365,305	3,253,865	3,349,791	13,228,118
				Sub-Service Total	**3,259,157**	**3,365,305**	**3,253,865**	**3,349,791**	**13,228,118**
			Service Area Total		**3,259,157**	**3,365,305**	**3,253,865**	**3,349,791**	**13,228,118**
		Improving Council Housing & Ho	Asbestos	Asbestos-Testing & Removal	300,000	0	0	0	300,000
				Sub-Service Total	**300,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**300,000**
			District Heating	District Heating Conversions	310,000	0	0	0	310,000
				Sub-Service Total	**310,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**310,000**
			Electricals	Electricals	360,000	0	0	0	360,000
				Sub-Service Total	**360,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**360,000**
			Environmental Programme	Environmental Bud Unall	800,000	0	0	0	800,000
				Sub-Service Total	**800,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**800,000**
			External Insulation	Thermal Improvments	1,300,000	0	0	0	1,300,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,300,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,300,000**
			Garage Site Investment	Garages Investment	100,000	0	0	0	100,000
				Sub-Service Total	**100,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**100,000**
			General Structures	Capital Structural Work	1,020,000	0	0	0	1,020,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,020,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,020,000**
			HRA support Properties	PW2C - 14 Greenwood Road	7,268	0	0	0	7,268
				PW2C - 18 Elliott Drive	25,042	0	0	0	25,042
				PW2C - 5 ALPHA ROAD	1,121	0	0	0	1,121
				PW2C - 8 Cawthorne Close	68,730	0	0	0	68,730
				PW2C 65 Park Road	31,950	0	0	0	31,950
				Sub-Service Total	**134,111**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**134,111**
			IHMS (IT System)	ICT Hardware & Software	500,000	1,051,657	1,084,621	0	2,636,278
				Sub-Service Total	**500,000**	**1,051,657**	**1,084,621**	**0**	**2,636,278**
			Improving Council Housing	Improving Council Housing	3,328,543	24,090,000	24,800,000	26,080,000	78,298,543
				Sub-Service Total	**3,328,543**	**24,090,000**	**24,800,000**	**26,080,000**	**78,298,543**
			Major Voids Capital Prog	Lot 2 - Major Voids	2,136,000	0	0	0	2,136,000
				Mears - Major Voids	4,430,000	0	0	0	4,430,000
				Sub-Service Total	**6,566,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**6,566,000**
			Refurbishments	Damp & Mould Eradication Work	500,000	0	0	0	500,000
				Design & Appraisal	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
				HRA Flood Resilience Works	213,793	0	0	0	213,793
				Mears - Internals	2,000,000	0	0	0	2,000,000
				Refurb Bud Unall	10,955,098	14,999,651	14,972,590	15,981,713	56,909,052
				Site Prelims	450,000	0	0	0	450,000
				Windows/Doors & Fire Doors	550,000	0	0	0	550,000
				Sub-Service Total	**14,718,891**	**14,999,651**	**14,972,590**	**15,981,713**	**60,672,845**
			Replacement of Central Heating	Lot 2 - Ad Hoc Boiler Repl'ts	2,480,000	0	0	0	2,480,000
				Lot 2 -Boilers Scheme 1	2,000,000	0	0	0	2,000,000
				Sub-Service Total	**4,480,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,480,000**
			Service Area Total		**33,917,545**	**40,141,308**	**40,857,211**	**42,061,713**	**156,977,777**
		Neighbourhd Regeneration & Re	HRA Non Dwellings	HRA Play Areas	80,000	0	0	0	80,000
				Sub-Service Total	**80,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**80,000**
			Service Area Total		**80,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**80,000**

Capital Programme HRA 2025/26 to 2029/30

Appendix 1 - D

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	Total Project Budget
		New Housing Provision	New Growth New Build	Boswell Street	500,000	13,149,542	2,364,926	0	16,014,468
				Bushfield Road Site B	804,312	553,363	0	0	1,357,675
				Denman Road Site A	1,265,721	942,687	0	0	2,208,408
				Grayson Road Greasboro	500,000	2,875,219	0	0	3,375,219
				Princess Street Site A	1,117,984	0	0	0	1,117,984
				Princess Street Site B	673,120	0	0	0	673,120
				Ship Inn Swinton	900,048	0	0	0	900,048
				Tenter Street Thornhill	500,000	4,924,815	0	0	5,424,815
				Valley Drive Site C	708,119	491,174	0	0	1,199,293
				Warden Street Hsg Development	1,400,660	653,421	0	0	2,054,081
				Sub-Service Total	**8,369,964**	**23,590,221**	**2,364,926**	**0**	**34,325,111**
			Strategic Acquisitions	Brampton Vale SA	3,153,479	1,084,977	1,769,864	933,300	6,941,620
				Development budgets unallocate	0	0	0	60,249,824	60,249,824
				LAHF Acquisitions	287,064	0	0	0	287,064
				Laughton Gate 42 units	1,688,061	515,018	303,679	0	2,506,758
				Market Acquisitions Phase 1	2,839,086	0	0	0	2,839,086
				Market Acquistions Phase 2	5,600,000	3,400,000	0	0	9,000,000
				Poppyfields Ravenfield SA	1,326,479	1,308,799	603,641	0	3,238,919
				Rivelin Way, Waverley 3C	229,284	2,179,552	0	0	2,408,836
				Sorby Park Waverley P3	998,936	1,257,328	0	0	2,256,264
				Sub-Service Total	**16,122,389**	**9,745,674**	**2,677,184**	**61,183,124**	**89,728,371**
			Service Area Total		**24,492,353**	**33,335,895**	**5,042,110**	**61,183,124**	**124,053,482**
		Service Total			**61,749,055**	**76,842,508**	**49,153,186**	**106,594,628**	**294,339,377**
	Directorate Total				**61,749,055**	**76,842,508**	**49,153,186**	**106,594,628**	**294,339,377**
HRA Total					**61,749,055**	**76,842,508**	**49,153,186**	**106,594,628**	**294,339,377**

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Appendix 2

Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A)

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an equality analysis.

1. Title	
Title: Financial Outturn 2024/25	
Directorate: Finance and Customer Services	**Service area: Finance**
Lead person: Rob Mahon	**Contact:** 01709 254518

Is this a:

	Strategy / Policy	X	**Service / Function**		**Other**

If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The Council has a framework of budgetary monitoring and reporting that ensures budget management is exercised within annual cash limits.

Each month the Budget Manager receives timely information on income and expenditure to enable them to fulfil their budgetary responsibilities. Following the review of the budget information, each budget manager provides a forecast of their projected outturn position on each service. The Strategic Director subsequently provides a consolidated forecast for their directorate to the Chief Finance Officer and relevant Cabinet Member.

Appendix 2

A budget monitoring report, which includes an up-to-date outturn forecast, information about significant variances from approved budgets and proposals for dealing with them, is submitted to Cabinet at least 6 times a year, culminating with the Councils Financial Outturn report.

Whilst the framework described above relates to revenue budgets, the capital programme is also similarly monitored and reported alongside the Council's revenue position.

The financial monitoring position report summarises the key variances for each directorate and considers the key financial pressures and risks.

This report is the final financial report in the financial year, it sets out the Councils final revenue outturn position. The report also covers off any other key items to be noted at this time.

Given that the revenue and capital budgets have been approved by Council in February each year, when equality assessments would have been considered at that time in respect of the budget proposals, there are no further issues in respect of equality and diversity.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and any other relevant characteristics (for example socio-economic status, social class, income, unemployment, residential location or family background and education or skills levels).

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?		x
Could the proposal affect service users?		x
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?		x
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		x
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		x
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or		x

Appendix 2

employment practices?		

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason.

Given that the revenue and capital budgets have been approved by Council in February each year, when equality assessments would have been considered at that time in respect of the budget proposals, there are no further issues in respect of equality and diversity.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals prior to carrying out an **Equality Analysis.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below and use the prompts for guidance.

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

N/A

- **Key findings**

N/A

- **Actions**

N/A

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	n/a
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	n/a
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	n/a

Appendix 2

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Rob Mahon	Assistant Director Financial Services	16/06/2025

6. Publishing	
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date screening completed	
Report title and date	Finance Final Outturn Report 2024/25 to Cabinet 7th July 2025
If relates to a Key Delegated Decision, **Executive Board**, **Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision** – **report date and date sent for publication**	
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	17/06/2025

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	None				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None				
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields: *None – this report constitutes an update on previous activity.*

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? *There are no specific impacts on resilience identified as part of this assessment. Significant new actions will be or have been subject to their own climate impact assessments.*

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: As this report is a financial update on previous events, updates on levels of funding moving forwards and doesn't approve anything directly to happen, it does not have any carbon implications.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Nikki Kelly Finance Manager (Corporate Finance) Financial Services Finance and Customer Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	*N/A*
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	*N/A*
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA492

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?
No, but it has been included on the Forward Plan

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services

Report Author(s)
Karen Middlebrook, Head of Procurement
01709 334755 or karen.middlebrook@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
Ethical behaviour is at the core of the Council's procurement activity and the Council expects the suppliers it does business with to share similar values and ethical ethos in the way they deliver their services. The Ethical Procurement Policy sets out the range of measures and policy decisions / commitments that have been taken by the Council over the years to achieve this and drive ethical practice, with the aim to encompass this into one comprehensive policy.

The Policy was first approved in January 2020, with at the time, a recommendation for the Policy to be reviewed on a 3-yearly cycle. Following a review in 2024 the Policy was updated via an officer decision taken on 9 February 2024 at which point it was agreed to review the Policy annually and this report summarises the updates following a review of the Policy in 2025.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Formalise the support of the UK Steel Charter as the successor to the Sustainable British Steel Charter.

2. Approve the updated Ethical Procurement Policy for 2025.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Ethical Procurement Policy (v3 – updated July 2025)
Appendix 2 Equalities Screening (Part A)
Appendix 3 Equalities Analysis Form (Part B)
Appendix 4 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Ethical Procurement Policy (v2 – updated Feb 2024)
UK Steel Charter
UK Steel Charter Guidance

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025 Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025

1. Background

1.1 The Council's Ethical Procurement Policy was first approved by Cabinet in January 2020, with at the time, a recommendation for the Policy to be reviewed on a 3-yearly cycle. Following a review in 2024 the Policy was updated via an officer decision taken on 9 February 2024 at which point it was agreed to review the Policy annually.

1.2 The aim of the Ethical Procurement Policy is to act as an umbrella policy, that holds all of the ethical decisions which affect procurement related activity in one central place.

1.3 A review of the current Policy has taken place, and a refresh undertaken to ensure the content within the Policy is reflective of the Council's current position for 2025 onwards.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Detailed below is a summary of the key changes proposed to the Policy:

2.1.1 **Paragraph 1:** Updates to the financial year and amount of expenditure made with third party suppliers.

2.1.2 **Paragraph 2:** In February 2025, the procurement legislation changed from the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 to the Procurement Act 2023. Therefore, the legal context that procurement operates within has been updated to reflect the objectives set out in the Procurement Act and some of the mechanisms for testing the reliability and ethical practices of the suppliers participating in Council procurement activity.

2.1.3 **Paragraph 4:** A review of the commitments / decisions taken has resulted in the following:

- For all decisions a hyperlink inserted within the date field to access the decision record.
- The Charter for Sustainable British Steel – see paragraph 2.2 – 2.4.
- Charter against Modern Slavery – additional information has been included to further explain the role of the Modern Slavery working group that has been established and chaired by Community Safety, as well as reference to the Council's most recently published Modern Slavery Transparency Statement.
- Social Value Policy – removal of the reference to the Policy approved in 2019 and instead reference to the updated version that was refreshed in 2024.
- Climate Change Emergency – the month the motion was taken has been inserted into the date. In addition, reference made to the climate change working group and action plan supporting services to procure new solutions to reduce carbon emissions.

- Fair Tax Declaration – removal of references to changes in procurement legislation. As referred to above, this has now occurred.
- Case Study – Updates have been made to the case study reflecting the increase in commitments and delivered targets during the revised reporting period, along with reference that the Council was shortlisted for the Making Core Award at the 2024 Social Value Conference.

2.2 In carrying out the review for 2025, a check was undertaken to confirm the Council's name appeared on the relevant websites where external commitments have been made. This exercise identified that the Charter for Sustainable British Steel (committed to in October 2015) had been rebranded and relaunched to the UK Steel Charter, and as a result Rotherham Council are no longer listed as a signatory.

2.3 The aims and objectives of the new UK Steel Charter include:

- Support jobs and job creation within the UK steel sector and its domestic supply chains.
- Maximise the economic benefits to the UK of the Councils steel procurement spend.
- Strengthen and build strong UK manufacturing supply chains.
- Minimise the environmental impact of the Councils steel use, cutting transport emissions and working with a UK steel sector dedicated to decarbonisation.

2.4 The UK Steel Charter is promoted by Make UK who have provided a guidance document that sets out 9 steps that could be undertaken to support the agenda. These are similar to the steps for consideration as part of the original 2015 motion, which reaffirms the position that this is not a new consideration, the original intentions still apply. The Council has continued to act in a manner to support the commitment. This action will now see this support formalised with the Council being listed as a signatory to the successor scheme.

2.5 A copy of the refreshed Ethical Procurement Policy for 2025 can be found at Appendix 1.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 **Option 1: Do not formalise support of the UK Steel Charter as the successor to the Sustainable British Steel Charter and do not approve the updated Ethical Procurement Policy for 2025:** This option does not align with the original intention of the commitment made to supporting British steel made in 2015 and would also mean the Ethical Procurement policy is outdated, and does not reflect the most accurate and up to date legislative and policy positions made.

This is not the recommended option.

3.2 **Option 2: Formalise the support of the UK Steel Charter as the successor to the Sustainable British Steel Charter and approve the updated Ethical Procurement Policy for 2025:** This option ensures the

Council maintains is position in terms of supporting the intention made in 2015 regarding UK Steel and ensure the Ethical Procurement Policy is up to date with legislation and policy positions made.

This is the recommended option.

3.3 The recommended option is to proceed with option 2.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Consultation was conducted for each of the individual policies / commitments / decisions made.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Following approval of the refreshed policy, this will be updated on the Council's website.

5.2 Following the endorsement to formalise the support of the UK Steel Charter, arrangements will be made with Make UK to organise a formal signing event and associated press release. This activity will be concluded by the end of September 2025.

5.3 The Ethical Procurement Policy will be scheduled for review again in July 2026.

5.4 For all new procurement activity, Services will be encouraged to give due consideration during the pre-procurement phase to the key themes (where appropriate) making up the Ethical Procurement Policy and ensure this is documented in the pre-procurement business case/sourcing strategy.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 This Policy pulls together the range of actions already being conducted within procurement around ethical behaviour and practice, the way the Council procures services, and the expectations it places in its supply chain.

6.2 As such there are no direct procurement implications arising from the recommendations detailed in this report. Implications were considered for each of the individual policies / motions at the time they were agreed.

6.3 The procurement team will continue to work with Service Areas to encourage them to give due consideration to the key themes identified in the Ethical Procurement Policy pre-procurement, and then once the contract is handed over for them to manage the delivery.

6.4 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 As stated in the body of the report the Procurement Act 2023 places a strong emphasis on ethical procurement, requiring contracting authorities to prioritize value for money, public benefit, and integrity. The Procurement Act 2023 also requires authorities to consider ethical standards when evaluating suppliers and also makes it clear that supplier management and qualification will be key to delivering ethical procurement.

7.2 The Ethical Procurement Policy is compliant with the Procurement Act 2023 and sets out how the Council will pursue the objectives and principles of the Act.

7.3 The commitments and proposals in respect of matters contained within the Ethical Procurement Policy, which are made by suppliers during the procurement process are fully incorporated into contracts with the Council upon award. All contracts which are concluded with suppliers, contain robust terms and conditions around contract and performance management, along with terms in relation to non-performance, regarding amongst other things, the issues set out within the Policy.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct HR implications associated with this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 This Policy reinforces decisions / commitments already made which contribute towards ethical practice in procurement. The outcomes from these individual decisions / commitments support the Council's priorities: Children & Young People Achieve and Residents Live Well from ensuring that appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place for vulnerable individuals through to seeking education and employment support through the Social Value Policy by having An Economy That Works for Everyone.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report. This Policy acts as an umbrella policy for all the commitments made whereby full consideration to equalities and human rights will have been considered.

10.2 The activities as part of these commitments made, support and promote wider inclusion in terms of education, employment and skills and steps to ensure vulnerable children and adults are protected.

10.3 An equalities screening assessment and analysis form is provided for at Appendix 2 and 3.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 Whilst there are no direct impacts in relation to the recommendations detailed in the report, as identified the policy that has been refreshed acts as an umbrella policy for other Council policies / commitments that, if implemented by Services in the design of their procurement activity, could drive improvements relating to climate change.

11.2 A climate change impact assessment has been provided at Appendix 4.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 Implications for partners was considered at the time for each individual policy / commitment / decision that has been made.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There is a risk that Suppliers fail to deliver against commitments made in a tender. It is therefore essential that robust Terms and Conditions are developed and published at the time of tender so suppliers are aware of the consequences of under-performance, and that Services effectively manage the delivery of their contracts to ensure commitments made are realised.

14. Accountable Officers

Karen Middlebrook, Head of Procurement

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	12/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	13/06/25

Report Author: *Karen Middlebrook, Head of Procurement*
01709 334755 or karen.middlebrook@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

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Ethical Procurement Policy

1. Introduction

In the financial year 2023/24 the Council spent approximately £425m (net) with third party suppliers/contractors on a range of Goods, Works and Services. Procurement is therefore considered an enabler in assisting the Council to deliver its strategic objectives by using its purchasing power to drive socio-economic and environmental improvements for its residents and society at large.

Ethical behaviour is at the core of delivering against this agenda, and the Council expects the suppliers it does business with to share similar values and an ethical ethos. This Policy sets out the range of measures and initiatives the Council is utilising to achieve this and should be read in conjunction with the Council's Social Value Policy as a core suite of documents.

2. Legal Context

As a Local Authority, the Council has a duty to comply with the legal framework governing public procurement, namely the Procurement Act 2023("the Act); and ethical practice is at its core.

The Act provides the operational framework for conducting procurement procedures above certain thresholds and sets overarching objectives to be achieved when awarding contracts, including:

- Delivering value for money
- Maximising public benefit
- Sharing information for the purpose of allowing suppliers and others to understand the authority's procurement policies and decisions; and
- Acting, and being seen to act, with integrity

The procurement regime seeks to provide confidence that suppliers taking part in procurements and delivering contracts are reliable, and therefore the Act includes an exclusion regime, that where appropriate in certain circumstances, suppliers (including Associated Persons, Connected Persons and sub-contractors) are excluded where they pose particular risks to public procurement. These circumstances are detailed in Schedule 6 (mandatory exclusion grounds) and Schedule 7 (discretionary exclusion grounds) of the Act and are summarised below:

Mandatory exclusions

- Corporate manslaughter or corporate homicide
- Terrorism
- Theft, fraud, bribery etc
- Labour market, slavery and human trafficking offences
- Organised crime
- Tax offences and misconduct in relation to tax

- Cartel offence
- Ancillary offences
- Threats to national security
- Competition law infringements
- Failures to cooperate with investigations via a Minister of the Crown

Discretionary Exclusions

- Labour market misconduct
- Environmental misconduct
- Insolvency, bankruptcy etc
- Potential competition infringements
- Professional misconduct
- Breaches of contract
- Acting improperly in procurement
- National security

3. Professional Standards

Rotherham Council takes pride in delivering high quality, professional procurement services. Senior Officers within the Council's Corporate Procurement Team are qualified members of their professional body the Chartered Institute for Procurement and Supply (CIPS). The CIPS qualification is considered to provide the ideal training for procurement professionals of all levels and is accredited by the organisation that promotes and protects the high standards of the sector.

As a qualified member of CIPS, officers are required to adhere to the CIPS Code of Conduct which defines a range of ethical behaviours and actions which must be maintained and promoted across all organisations they engage with. This includes:

- Enhancing and protecting the standing of the profession
- Maintaining the highest standard of integrity in all business relationships
- Promoting the eradication of unethical business practices
- Enhancing the proficiency and stature of the profession
- Ensuring full compliance with laws and regulations

To further embed the professional standard, the Council will aim to ensure all members of the Procurement Team in a buying capacity are qualified in the profession (where appropriate).

4. Policies, Commitments and Decisions

Over recent years the Council has made positive commitments to drive forward ethical practices in its procurement activity and change / improve behaviours in its supply chain over and above the requirements set out within the legal framework referred to above. However, these are all currently captured in separate policy statements, Council motions, and Cabinet decisions. The aim of this Ethical

Procurement Policy therefore is to pull all these individual commitments / decisions into one comprehensive Policy.

Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
November 2004	Council passed a motion to support the principles of Fair Trade.	Council resolves to take the necessary steps to move towards Fair Trade Status for the Rotherham Borough	Rotherham Town obtained Fair Trade status in 2006. Continued consideration is to be given through pre-procurement activity, to the products being procured and whether fair trade is a requirement. Where it is identified to be appropriate this should be built into the tender documentation accordingly.
July 2018	Council passed a motion to adopt the Cooperative Party's Charter against Modern Slavery.	The key aim of the Charter is to ensure that the Council's practices don't support slavery recognising the important role the Council can play in ensuring their contracted arrangements don't contribute modern slavery and exploitation by: • Training its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply. • Requiring its contractors to comply fully with the Modern	Modern Slavery will be considered at all stages through the Commissioning and Procurement cycle. Alongside the details provided within the Charter, modern Slavery is one of the key requirements stipulated within the Legal Context for procurement. Relevant commercial organisations are required to demonstrate their compliance with the reporting requirements under the Modern Slavery Act 2015, with failure to comply resulting in elimination from the tender process. A standard clause is also included in all contracts

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance. • Challenging any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery. • Highlighting to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one. • Publicising its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery. • Requiring its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery. • Reviewing its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery. • Highlighting for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the	making it known/understood that suppliers/contractors have a safeguarding responsibility and Modern Slavery is one element of this. Through the pre-procurement activity consideration is given to those high risk industries where slavery is more prevalent, and clear consideration is given to additional specification requirements / method statement question for the bidders to respond to, to evidence their approach to eliminating modern slavery through their own supply chains. Following an Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) spotlight review, a working group has been established (chaired by Community Safety) to raise awareness, ensure cross organisation working and to try and better tackle modern slavery across the organisation as a whole. The 2025/26 Modern Slavery Transparency Statement was approved at the 17 March 2025 Cabinet meeting.

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		relevant agencies to be addressed. • Referring for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery. • Reporting publicly on the implementation of this policy annually.	
October 2019	Council passed a motion to declare a Climate Change Emergency	As part of the work it is proposed to develop an informed target for the Council's carbon reduction by 2025 and to review this every five years thereafter, and to develop a "Carbon Action Plan" towards these goals. To assist in achieving this reduction external providers of Council services should be encouraged to reduce their carbon emissions as part of the Council's Social Value Policy.	Through the pre-procurement activity consideration is to be given to carbon impacts and how this might be mitigated / reduced and ensure that where suppliers make a commitment through their tender submissions to reduce carbon emissions, ensure that this is delivered and reported. Procurement is represented on the Officer Climate Change working group, supporting the development and delivery of the Council's climate change action plan and is supporting Services across the Council to procure new solutions to reduce carbon emissions (i.e. new fleet, decarbonisation projects to buildings etc).

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
August 2021	Officer Decision taken by the Chief Executive to apply to become Real Living Wage accredited by the Living Wage Foundation (LWF)	This action supports the commitment made by the Council through the Social Value policy (see above). In becoming an accredited Living Wage Employer, the Council can ensure that all their directly employed and third-party contracted staff engaged in "in scope" contracts are earning a wage that meets the cost of living, safeguarding them from in-work poverty and providing enough income to live a healthy life.	Through the pre-procurement activity consideration is given to whether the services being procured are within scope of the LWF accreditation: (i) Are aged 18 or over; (ii) Are either contracted or sub-contracted by the Council; (iii) Provide a service to or on behalf of Rotherham Council involving 2 or more hours of work a week, for 8 or more consecutive weeks in a year on: a. Rotherham Council's premises; and/or b. Property owned or occupied by the Council (including where Rotherham Council is a tenant and is provided building related services through a Lease); and/or c. Land which Rotherham Council is responsible for maintaining or on which it is required to work. The accreditation is assessed annually by the LWF following the submission of evidence by the Council.
May 2022	Council passed a motion to	Ask the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to consider	As referenced in the detail of the motion passed, the activity picked up as part

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
	declare a Nature Crisis for Rotherham	commissioning a review into how the Council can support improvements to ensure a more natural environment is enhanced. Ensure our responsiveness on tackling climate change is extended to be complimentary to this separate but well aligned cause. Continue to further our work on enhancing biodiversity by adopting innovative approaches to support wild flowered areas and ecological approaches to grounds maintenance. Note the ongoing significant progress the Council is making through its Climate Change Action Plans for a carbon neutral Council by 2030 and Borough by 2040.	of this declaration, will be addressed under the Climate Change emergency theme.
June 2022	Cabinet approved the Council's equality, diversity and inclusion strategy 2022-25	The Council Plan 2022/2025 sets out the Council's ambition to create an inclusive borough for people to live, work and enjoy. A borough where nobody is left behind and where all are welcome and treated fairly. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy	Equality and Diversity is one of the key requirements stipulated within the Legal Context for procurement. Organisations are required to demonstrate their commitment to equality and diversity.

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		sets out the commitments that the Council is making to support those outcomes. It ensures that equality objectives truly underpin the themes of the Council Plan to ensure that achieving equality outcomes are embedded in everything that the Council does. It also commits to achieving the highest national standards set out in the Equality Framework for Local Government.	Through the pre-procurement activity consideration will be given to whether additional specification requirements / method statement question for the bidders to respond to are required to evidence their approach to support this policy commitment.
November 2022	Cabinet approved the Council's Corporate Safeguarding Protocol	The Corporate Safeguarding Protocol superseded the previous Safeguarding Policy that had been in place for the previous 5 years. The Corporate Safeguarding Protocol makes clear that safeguarding is everyone's business and does not only apply to Council employees but also to suppliers delivering services to, or on behalf of the Council. For commissioning activity that involves vulnerable children, young people or adults, the Council's Commissioning teams are required to consider safeguarding requirement specific to the contract.	Safeguarding will be considered throughout all stages of the commissioning and procurement lifecycle. A standard specification requirement is included in all contracts making it known/understood that suppliers/contractors have a safeguarding responsibility. Where the contract involves direct contact with vulnerable individuals, consideration shall be given during the pre-procurement phase to determine the exact safeguarding requirements and how these are translated into the tender (i.e. contract clause, specification requirement and supplier

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
			response to method statement question).
November 2022	Council passed a motion to support the 'Councils for Fair Tax Declaration' as promoted by the Fair Tax Foundation	The key aim of the Declaration is to do whatever the Council can within existing frameworks and pledge to do more given the opportunity by being active supporters of international tax justice by: • Approving the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration. • Leading by example and demonstrating good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities. • Ensuring IR35 is implemented robustly, and contract workers pay a fair share of employment taxes. • Not using offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty. • As far as possible, undertaking due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately by suppliers as an artificial device to reduce the payment	The Council already has in place robust arrangements, processes and procedures for determining the IR35 status of contract workers. Recognising the limitations within procurement legislation, the Council will include a non-scored question (for information only) within its tender documentation.

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		of tax and business rates. • As far as possible, demanding clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers UK and overseas and their consolidated profit & loss position, given lack of clarity could be strong indicators of poor financial probity and weak financial standing. • Promoting Fair Tax Mark certification especially for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due. • Supporting Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who are proud to promote responsible tax conduct and pay their fair share of corporation tax. • Supporting calls for urgent reform of UK procurement law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct	

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		through their procurement policies.	
March 2024	Cabinet approved the Council's 2024-27 Social Value policy	This was a refreshed policy from its original implementation in 2019. Through this policy the Council aims to increase over time the proportion of its spend with local businesses, supporting the local economy and helping small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) flourish. The Social Value Framework, sets out the methodology for measuring Social Value through the procurement process and its framing around six high level outcomes, which include:- • Good local jobs and skills development for local people. • A strong local economy. • Young people have the opportunity to develop skills and find worthwhile employment. • Equality of opportunity for disadvantaged people and communities including disabled people. • Strengthened and sustainable community and	Build social value into all Council contracts (>£100k) and introduce a rigorous system for assessing and measuring social value commitments which is reported on annually via cabinet. Social Value will account for 20% of the marks available from the evaluation criteria (with other component parts being quality and price). When the Council invites written quotations – where possible – at least one of the quotes will be from a Rotherham organisation, and where this is not possible from the Sheffield Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority region. Commit to co-designing services wherever possible and adoption of the Keep it Local principles. A RtP social value action plan has been developed that considers how collectively Partners can take forward Social Value to drive wider benefits to communities at place level. Work now moves

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		voluntary organisations. • Greater environmental sustainability including accessible green public spaces. In addition, through the policy there is an intention that this approach will also bed to the Council's Partners and progress work on this agenda through the Rotherham Together Partnership.	into how this is best implemented. To further support the local business community, specific interventions have been commissioned to provide business advice, which will guide suppliers about how they can access and participate in public sector procurement opportunities.
July 2025	Cabinet agreed to formalise the continued support of the UK Steel Charter promoted by Make UK	The Sustainable British Steel Charter was passed as a Council motion in 2015. The UK Steel Charter as the successor Charter to this sets out the following aims and objectives: • Support jobs and job creation within the UK steel sector and its domestic supply chains. • Maximise the economic benefits to the UK of our steel procurement spend. • Strengthen and build strong UK manufacturing supply chains. Minimise the environmental impact of our steel use, cutting transport emissions and working with a UK steel	The UK Steel Charter provides for a range of steps that could be undertaken to support the agenda. As this is a continuation of the original commitment made, the Council will continue to give consideration to the steps through its pre-procurement activity and documented through the pre-procurement business case, including steps such as specifying that steel must confirm to BES6001, BS8666 or equivalent and for relevant contracts, ensuring that the origin of steel is recorded. Further work will also take place by joining the UK Steel Charter network to better understand the

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Date	Commitment / Decision	Detail	Rotherham Approach
		sector dedicated to decarbonisation.	steps other signatories are taking.

Case Study

As documented in the Council's annual update to Cabinet around Social Value (March 2024), since the implementation of the Social Value policy the Council had £27,840,292 Social Local Economic Value (SLEV) committed from the Contracts it has procured over this period, with £8,002,270 delivered (up to the end of November 2023).

The type of commitments being made span the full range of measures available under the Council's framework including local employment, new employment for disadvantages groups, skills (i.e. apprenticeships, unemployment support, work-placements), through to local supply chain opportunities and supporting VCSE organisations.

In recognising the Council's drive and commitment to this agenda, the Council won the Public Sector Leadership award at the 2023 Social Value Conference (Towards a Social Value economy) and was shortlisted for the Making Core award at the 2024 Social Value Conference (Social Value in Action).

In addition, and in support of the Council's commitment to the Real Living Wage, since the Council made it's submission to the Real Living Wage foundation to become an accredited employer, it has maintained this accreditation with the Foundation recognising we go further than required by securing this as a contractual commitment.

5. The Rotherham Approach

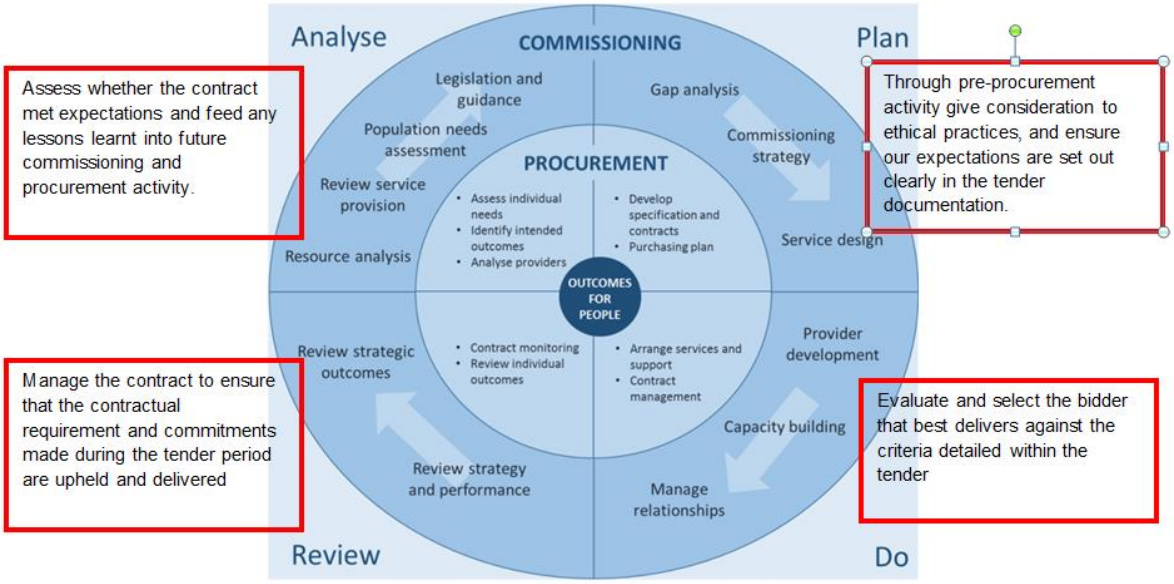
The Council is continually seeking to ensure it maximises its spending power for the benefit of Rotherham residents, businesses and communities.

Ethical practice is considered at all stages of commissioning and procurement related activity. The diagram below at *Figure 1* gives a high level illustration of the interface between commissioning and procurement and the types of activity that are undertaken to ensure ethical practice is embedded.

From the cycle presented below the **Plan** phase is critical. It is during this phase, the Council will consider whether there is still a need for the delivery of a contract, and if so, whether this is best delivered directly by the Council, in collaboration with another public service provider or by an external organisation. All decisions will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Where it is deemed delivery is best met by external organisations, ethical practice, behaviours and approaches will be considered. The Council's expectations will be clearly documented through the tender procedure and organisation's will be expected to fully understand these requirements when making their tender submission as through the management of the contract, the Council will ensure these expectations are adhered to and/or delivered.

Figure 1: Commissioning and Procurement Cycle



6. Review Process

The Council will review this policy annually to ensure it is kept as a live and up to date document.

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Ethical Procurement Policy Update 2025	
Directorate: Finance & Customer Services	**Service area:** Financial Services
Lead person: Karen Middlebrook	**Contact:** 01709 334755

Is this a:

✓	**Strategy / Policy**		**Service / Function**		**Other**

If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This policy pulls together a range of other policy decisions / commitments made into one comprehensive Ethical Procurement Policy aimed at improving ethical practice through the Council's supply chain. The decisions in this policy aren't new – they have been considered as separate stand-alone decisions. Annually a review of the Ethical Procurement Policy is undertaken to ensure the content remain up to date with legislative and policy decisions. This report reflects the update undertaken in 2025.

The report makes a recommendation to formalise support of the UK Steel Charter by signing up to this. This isn't a new decision, the UK Steel Charter, is the successor Charter to the Sustainable British Steel Charter whereby the Council passed as motion in 2015 to sign up to this. This intentions and principles from the original charter in 2015 still remain

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		✓
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		✓
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		✓
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		✓
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		✓

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

N/A

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

As previously referenced, this report provides an update on the refreshed Ethical Procurement Policy. The policy acts as an umbrella policy to capture in one centralised place the commitments / decisions taken by the Council to drive ethical practice in its procurement activities. Each of the decisions taken will have considered equality and diversity, such as the Social Value policy driving improvements in employment and skills opportunities for disadvantaged groups experiencing barriers to accessing the employment market.

In addition, were Services are undertaking procurement activity, they are required to give appropriate consideration equality and diversity in the design of the specification.

- **Key findings**

Addressing inequalities is at the core of a number of the commitments / policy decisions taken as summarised below:

- Social Value Policy – supporting disadvantaged individuals that are experiencing barriers in accessing the employment market to have greater access to education, employment and training.
- Real Living Wage – ensuring individuals of paid a fair wage for the work they undertake.
- Modern Slavery – ensuring the Council's supply chain acts in an ethical manner, to enable the identification of industries/sectors where modern slavery may be prevalent and the steps to be taken to prevent this from occurring
- Safeguarding – ensuring the Council's supply chain support the Council's policy position regarding safeguarding and know how to identify, report and escalate any issues.

- **Actions**

Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering the impacts and outcomes required for each individual commissioning/procurement process and this will be documented through the pre-procurement business case, which is to be approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant/Strategic Director.

There is a duty for procurement to ensure the procurement processes designed as proportionate to the scale of work being procured and do not present unnecessary barriers for Small to Medium Enterprises to engage in the opportunity. An ongoing action will therefore be for the procurement team to continue to liaise with the business support offer available through RiDO (Go 4 Growth and SYMCA Business Support and Supply Chain Advisors) to ensure local SMEs are upskilled in participating in local government procurement processes.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	Please see Part B (Equality Analysis Form) The Ethical Procurement Policy is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering the impacts and outcomes required for each individual commissioning / procurement project or the relevant policy / motion they are responsible for.
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	Please see Part B (Equality Analysis Form) The Ethical Procurement Policy is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering the impacts and outcomes required for each individual commissioning / procurement project or the relevant policy / motion they are responsible for.
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering the impacts and outcomes required for each

	individual commissioning / procurement project or the relevant policy / motion they are responsible for. Karen Middlebrook (Head of Procurement) will be overall responsible for this Ethical Procurement Policy and its ongoing review.

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Karen Middlebrook	Head of Procurement	27/05/2025

6. Publishing	
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date screening completed	27/05/2025
Report title and date	Ethical Procurement Policy Update 2025
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Cabinet
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	28/05/2025

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 28 May 2025	
Directorate: Finance & Customer Services	**Service area:** Financial Services
Lead Manager: Karen Middlebrook	**Contact number:** 01709 334755
Is this a: ☑ **Strategy / Policy** ☐ **Service / Function** ☐ **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Karen Middlebrook	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Head of Procurement
Rob Mahon	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Assistant Director; Financial Services
Louise Hayter	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Procurement Performance & Compliance Manager

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance
Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known) This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, others groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.) This policy pulls together a range of other policy decisions / commitments to form an umbrella Ethical Procurement Policy aimed at driving improved ethical practice through the Council's supply chain. The policy therefore impacts suppliers wanting to engage in procurement activity with the Council, with Rotherham residents, business and communities being the end beneficiaries of any outcomes achieved.
What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken) This policy pulls together a range of other policy decisions / commitments made by the Council to form an umbrella Ethical Procurement Policy. Equality considerations was considered as part of these individual decisions / commitments made. From a purely procurement perspective, the Procurement team already collate information on the location suppliers are based (Rotherham, South Yorkshire, Yorkshire and Humber, National and International).
Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of? Work is ongoing to identify analysis to be able to better understand the size of organisations doing business with the Council (i.e. Micro, Small, Medium, Large) aswell as the company trading type (i.e. PLC). Under the Procurement Act 2023, the Council has a duty to give regard to the barriers faced by SMEs in engaging in procurement activity, so this data will help inform our performance in this area.
What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

This policy pulls together a range of other policy decisions / commitments made by the Council to form an umbrella Ethical Procurement Policy. Relevant monitoring arrangements will be in place for each of these individual decisions / commitments (were appropriate). In addition, some of the policies / commitments made are used to inform how Services draft specification requirements for future contracts, and therefore the monitoring arrangements will be applicable at the contract level.	
Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	N/A
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	*Direct engagement has not been undertaken with Staff but various training workshops around procurement is routinely undertaken throughout the year where procurement legislation, process and procedure is covered, but also specific reference to the Ethical Procurement Policy.*

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)
How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance) Individual officers within Service Areas are responsible for considering the needs of different communities and groups for each individual commissioning / procurement process they undertake and this approach will be documented through the pre-procurement business case demonstrating how consideration has been given to this policy, which is approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant/Strategic Director.
Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups? Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering problems or barriers to communities or groups for each individual commissioning / procurement process and this will be documented through the pre-procurement business case, which will be approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant / Strategic Director. The Council has a legal obligation to consider the engagement of Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in it's procurement activity, therefore in delivering against the differing policy commitments in the Ethical Procurement Policy careful consideration must be given

by Services in the development of their pre-procurement activity to ensure that the requirements identified are presented in a proportionate manner so as not to act as a barrier for SMEs to engage in the process.

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

In the financial year 2023/24 the Council spent c£425m with third party suppliers / contractors on a range of Goods, Works and Services. Procurement is therefore considered an enabler in assisting the Council to deliver its strategic objectives by using its purchasing power to drive socio-economic and environmental improvements for its residents and society at large through its supply chain.

Individual officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering positive impacts for each individual commissioning / procurement process and this will be documented through the pre-procurement business case, which will be approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant / Strategic Director

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

It is not expected there will be a significant impact. The key objectives from the Procurement Act 2023 are detailed below:

Section 12 – Covered procurement: objectives

1. In carrying out a covered procurement, a contracting authority must have regard to the importance of
    a. delivering value for money;
    b. maximising public benefit;
    c. sharing information for the purpose of allowing suppliers and others to understand the authority's procurement policies and decisions;
    d. acting, and being seen to act, with integrity.

2. In carrying out a covered procurement, a contracting authority must treat suppliers the same unless a difference between the suppliers justifies different treatment.

3. If a contracting authority considers that different treatment is justified in a particular case, the authority must take all reasonable steps to ensure it does not put a supplier at an unfair advantage or disadvantage.

4. In carrying out a covered procurement, a contracting authority must
    a. have regard to the fact that small and medium-sized enterprises may face particular barriers to participation, and
    b. consider whether such barriers can be removed or reduced.

When procuring individual contracts, officers within Service Areas will be responsible for considering community relations specific to their requirement and this will be documented through the pre-procurement business case, which will be approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant/Strategic Director.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025
Directorate and service area: Finance & Customer Services / Financial Services
Lead Manager: Karen Middlebrook
Summary of findings:
There are no direct findings as a result of the refresh of this policy. Equality considerations were considered at the time the individual policy decisions commitments were made and the principles of equality are embedded into procurement legislation that describes how procurement activity is to be undertaken. For future commissioning / procurement projects, equalities will be considered and incorporated into the pre-procurement business case which will be approved by the relevant Service Area Assistant/Strategic Director.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.

Name	Job title	Date
Karen Middlebrook	Head of Procurement	28/05/2025
Rob Mahon	Assistant Director; Financial Services	02/06/2025

7. Publishing

The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date Equality Analysis completed	28 May 2025
Report title and date	Ethical Procurement Policy Refresh 2025
Date report sent for publication	

Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	29.05.25

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	Decrease	As an umbrella policy for other commitments / policies agreed such as Climate Change, the UK Steel Charter and Social Value, it should be expected that these would drive a decrease in emissions in this area. Through the Council's pre-procurement activities, Services should be giving full and proper consideration in the design of their specifications to lower emission options for non-domestic buildings and ensuring this is incorporated into the tender requirements for Contractors to bid against and become contractually bound by if they are successful.			As the Ethical Procurement Policy is an umbrella policy capturing commitments / decisions no direct monitoring will be undertaken via this policy, but is likely to be captured in other updates linked to the Social Value Policy and the Council's climate change workstreams.

Emissions from transport?	Decrease	As an umbrella policy for other commitments / policies agreed such as Climate Change, the UK Steel Charter and Social Value, it should be expected that these would drive a decrease in emissions in this area. Through the Council's pre-procurement activities, Services should be giving full and proper consideration in the design of their specifications to lower emission options for transport and increase our spend with local suppliers and ensuring this is incorporated into the tender requirements for Contractors to bid against and become contractually bound by if they are successful.			As the Ethical Procurement Policy is an umbrella policy capturing commitments / decisions no direct monitoring will be undertaken via this policy, but is likely to be captured in other updates linked to the Social Value Policy and the Council's climate change workstreams.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Decrease	As an umbrella policy for other commitments / policies agreed such as Climate Change, the UK Steel Charter and Social Value, it should be expected that these would drive a decrease in emissions in this area.			As the Ethical Procurement Policy is an umbrella policy capturing commitments / decisions no direct monitoring will be undertaken via this policy, but is likely to be captured in other updates linked to the Social Value Policy and the Council's

		Through the Council's pre-procurement activities, Services should be giving full and proper consideration in the design of their specifications to lower emission options from waste, or by considering how waste could be reduced, re-used and recycled and ensuring this is incorporated into the tender requirements for Contractors to bid against and become contractually bound by if they are successful.			climate change workstreams.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Decrease	As an umbrella policy for other commitments / policies agreed such as Climate Change, the UK Steel Charter and Social Value, it should be expected that these would drive a decrease in emissions in this area. Through the Council's pre-procurement activities, Services should be giving full and proper consideration in the design of their specifications to lower emission options for			As the Ethical Procurement Policy is an umbrella policy capturing commitments / decisions no direct monitoring will be undertaken via this policy, but is likely to be captured in other updates linked to the Social Value Policy and the Council's climate change workstreams.

		housing and domestic buildings and ensuring this is incorporated into the tender requirements for Contractors to bid against and become contractually bound by if they are successful.			
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Decrease	As an umbrella policy for other commitments / policies agreed such as Climate Change, the UK Steel Charter and Social Value, it should be expected that these would drive a decrease in emissions in this area. Through the Council's pre-procurement activities, Services should be giving full and proper consideration in the design of their specifications to lower emission options from construction or developments and ensuring this is incorporated into the tender requirements for Contractors to bid against and become contractually bound by if they are successful.			As the Ethical Procurement Policy is an umbrella policy capturing commitments / decisions no direct monitoring will be undertaken via this policy, but is likely to be captured in other updates linked to the Social Value Policy and the Council's climate change workstreams.

Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				
Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields: *N/A*					

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? Whilst there are no direct impacts in relation to the recommendations detailed in the report, as identified the policy that has been refreshed acts as an umbrella policy for other Council policies / commitments that if implemented by Services in the design of their procurement activity could drive improvements relating to broader resilience, and by extension resilience to climate change impacts. These could include increased spend with local suppliers; tackling modern slavery and supporting the Real Living Wage.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: Whilst there are no direct impacts in relation to the recommendations detailed in the report, as identified the policy that has been refreshed acts as an umbrella policy for other Council policies / commitments that if implemented by Services in the design of their procurement activity could drive improvements relating to climate change.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Karen Middlebrook Head of Procurement Financial Services Finance and Customer Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	*N/A*
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	*N/A*
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA480

	Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Fitzwilliam Road Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Strategic Director Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
Catherine Lunn, Community Protection & Environmental Health Manager
01709 823118, catherine.lunn@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Fitzwilliam Road/Eastwood - Rotherham East

Report Summary

The current Fitzwilliam Road Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) was renewed in June 2022 for a period of three years.

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 created powers to introduce Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in order to prevent individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in public spaces.

Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime are key objectives for the Council, linking to a number of the Council Plan Themes including:

- Places are thriving, safe, and clean,
- Residents live well,
- One Council that listens and learns.

The current PSPO has the following conditions attached to it:

1. The consumption of alcohol and/or the possession of an open container containing or purporting to contain alcohol in a public place other than at those places identified.

2. Behaving in such a way or using language that causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to another person.

3. Causing noise that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a person(s) quality of life.

4. Each relevant person must ensure that the wheelie bin(s) for their property or waste presented for collection in a manner specified for their property is not situated outside the boundary of their premises other than between 6pm on the day before collection is due, and 9pm on the day of collection unless the wheelie bin is in an identifiable bin storage area or yard for wheelie bins of their property.

It is proposed that the above conditions remain in place with a slight amendment to condition one which adds clarity to the specific times it would be enforced (see 3.4).

On 16 April 2025, following a review of available evidence a public consultation was authorised to run from 22 April 2025 to 20 May 2025. This consultation was extended to 23 May 2025 due to a relatively low level of response. The purpose of the consultation was to seek the views of the public and partners in relation to the existing PSPO and the proposed conditions that would be considered as part of any new order.

The report outlines the consultation and responses which, in summary, has shown support for the PSPO being in place, identifying an ongoing need to utilise the full range of legislation available to address community safety matters. As such, this report recommends the renewal of the PSPO in place for a period of 3 years from July 2025. Over half the respondents confirmed they had confidence in the effectiveness of a future Order, (as set out in question 3 in Appendix 3), while providing some challenge around the ability of the Police and Council to enforce the Order. As a result of this feedback, this report also outlines further steps to provide additional assurance and oversight on the application of the tools by both the Police and Council, subject to the renewal of the Order.

Recommendations

The Cabinet approves the renewal of the Fitzwilliam Road Order (Appendix 1) for a period of three years upon expiry of the current Order in July 2025.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Fitzwilliam Road PSPO in draft state
Appendix 2 South Yorkshire Police ASB Rotherham East data 2021-2024
Appendix 3 Consultation Response Data Summary
Appendix 4 Public Spaces Protection Orders Consultation Plan
Appendix 5 Email from Chief Inspector Bradley in support of the PSPO
Appendix 6 Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A)
Appendix 7 Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part B)
Appendix 8 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers

Agenda item - Fitzwilliam Road Public Spaces Protection Order, June 2022 - Rotherham Council
Decision - Fitzwilliam Road Public Space Protection Order - Rotherham Council

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals, Home Office, March 2023

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Fitzwilliam Road Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

1. Background

1.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 created powers to introduce Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in order to prevent individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in public spaces.

1.2 Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime are key objectives for the Council, linking to a number of the Council Plan Themes including:

- Places are thriving, safe, and clean,
- Residents live well and
- One Council that listens and learns.

1.3 On 16 April 2025 an Officer Decision approved a consultation exercise on proposals to extend, vary or discharge the PSPO in relation to the Fitzwilliam Road.

1.4 This report provides the outcome of the consultation and statistical data which supports the recommendation to Cabinet for extending the PSPO and adopt the drafted Order as set out in Appendix 1.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides for PSPOs, to be made for a maximum period of three years.

2.2 The Act requires that, where Orders are to be introduced or extended, consultation must be undertaken with:

- The Chief Officer of Police, and the local policing body, for the police area that includes the restricted area;
- Whatever community representatives the local authority thinks it appropriate to consult;
- The owner or occupier of land within the restricted area.

2.3 In addition, the Act also stipulates that necessary publicity must be undertaken which means:

- In the case of a proposed new order or variation, publishing the text of it
- In the case of a proposed extension or discharge, publicising the proposal.

2.4 The consultation authorised by Officer Decision on 16 April 2025 looked to build upon the statistical data provided in relation to ASB and crime from both the Council and South Yorkshire Police, which provides a strong evidence base for the proposed PSPO.

2.5 Since the designation of the Public Spaces Protection Order in the Fitzwilliam Road, complaints of Anti-Social Behaviour have slowly been on the rise and peaked in 2024 with numerous reports of drinking in the pocket parks and Eldon Road playing field. This shows that the condition regarding drinking alcohol in open spaces in the current PSPO is still relevant to a future PSPO. (See appendix 2).

2.6 To increase the capacity to enforce the PSPO, the Council's partnering boroughwide enforcement service, provided by City of Doncaster Council, have been delegated powers to enforce the PSPOs in place alongside relevant Rotherham Council officers and Police Officers. This was an addition to previous arrangements of this type which have historically included littering and dog fouling offences. This took effect from April 2024 and provides experienced, uniformed and equipped officers able to take effective action against the Orders and builds on existing enforcement capacity.

2.7 There have been 30 fixed penalty notices served in the area since 2022 and there is some anecdotal evidence provided of lower-level interventions such as verbal warnings and surrender of alcohol, where no offence is made because the advice/warning was complied with.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Fitzwilliam Road continues to experience significant levels of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and neighbourhood crime. According to the data (Appendix 2) between January 1, 2021, and September 30, 2024, there were 568 ASB incidents and 339 neighbourhood crime incidents reported. The most prevelant ASB Types are rowdy behaviour, begging, theft from vehicles, and shoplifting.

3.2 The persistent issues of ASB and crime in the Fitzwilliam Road area underscore the need for a continued Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). Implementing a PSPO would provide a further legislative tool to give agencies an oppportunity to address these behaviours, enhance community safety, and improve the quality of life for residents.

3.3 Option one. (**not recommended)**.

3.3.1 The Council does not extend the existing PSPO due to expire in July 2025. This would mean that Council Officers and the Police could not continue to take action under the powers provided by the PSPOs. Alternative powers which could be used are:

Civil Injunctions

- A versatile tool that can target individual, groups, or businesses to control problematic behaviour.
- Enforced by Council and Police and can have positive requirements for problematic drinkers to engage with support services.
- Can also be used in conjunction with other powers.
- Can be used on under 18s.
- Can carry a power of arrest.

- Can be used as a “banning order” for individuals not to congregate in Eastwood.

Community Protection Warnings (CPW) and Notices (CPN)

- Enforced by Council and Police.
- Can be used to address behaviour of street drinkers via fines/imprisonment.

Dispersal Powers

- Applied for and enforced by Police.
- Directs individuals to leave a specified area for a period of up to 48 hours if they are engaging in, or likely to engage in, anti-social behaviour. This includes situations where alcohol consumption is a contributing factor. Can be tailored to be used during peak times of ASB/street drinking.

Closure Orders

- Enforced by Council and Police.
- Targeted at problem properties (partying/street drinking) and local businesses (contributing to street drinking/ASB). Allow authority to close properties for up to 6 months.

Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)

- Enforced by Council and Police once granted in Court.
- Individuals involved in ASB/crime and convicted, Police or Council can request a CBO be applied for on conviction.

3.3.2 As noted elsewhere within the report, the evidence base for continuing levels of anti-social behaviour is strong and the proposals have been supported through the public consultation.

3.4 Option 2 **(Not recommended).**

3.4.1 The Council may choose to vary the Order should further prohibitions be required and supported by the quantitative data both in reported ASB and Crime data and the survey responses. Whilst this was considered for inclusion, it was noted that other legal powers exist (as above) and the current conditions of the proposed order are sufficient to tackle the behaviours which cause the most concern.

3.5 Option 3 (**Recommended**).

3.5.1 The statistical data from the Council and Police in September 2024 gives a strong evidence base that indicates the need for an Order so that additional tools and powers may be brought in to tackle ASB in the area. Through the Service Level Agreement with City of Doncaster Council, aditional enforcement staffing is now available to enforce the terms of the PSPO and consequently increase the level of enforcement activity. The PSPO provides an important additional tool to tackle the problems within the area, with powers available to the Council and South Yorkshire Police alike. This option allows the PSPO legislation to be utilised alongside the wider powers detailed in option one above.

3.6 As such, the recommendation is to extend the current Order, in its current form with the variation to clarify the situations in which it would be acceptable to have alcohol in public and enhance officers ability to enforce appropriately, for the maximum period of three years to July 2028. The challenge laid down by a high proportion of the respondents is around resourcing and applying the Order formally, and so further steps are required and outlined in this report to provide additional oversight and assurance.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Following the approval of the Officer Decision to proceed with the consultation process, an engagement programme was implemented between 22 April 2025 to 20 May 2025. This was then extended by three further days to allow additional responses.

4.2 The main method of engagement was through surveys and internet-driven communication, using information published on the Council's website where users were invited to complete an online survey. Hard copy questionnaires were also made available on request, and hand-delivered to businesses in order to promote wide responses. A completed activity tracker which outlines the steps taken to gather responses can be seen in Appendix 4.

4.3 In accordance with statutory guidelines detailed under Section 72, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, the Council must undertake consultation with the affected parties. As part of this process, the Council consulted directly with local residents and statutory consultees which included the Chief Inspector of Rotherham Neighbourhood Policing. An email of support and comment can be found in Appendix 5.

4.4 The Council also notified all Ward Councillors and Parish Councils via a written briefing and an offer of meetings/workshops should it be required. The consultation was also discussed in Community Action Partnership (CAP) meetings during the consultation period.

4.5 Throughout the consultation the Council received a total of 58 responses from members of the public or businesses. Appendix 3 gives a summary of the responses received via the website and a further six forms were received in paper format.

4.6 Of the 58 responses received, the respondents were self-described as:

- 19 Residents
- 18 Tenants
- 4 Landlords
- 1 Business Representative
- 9 Visitors
- 7 Other

4.7 A return of only 16% of respondents felt that the current Order had been effective in reducing ASB in the area, however 47% felt that a future Order might

assist in the same. This shows that both the Council and the Police have a challenge to address the perception of visibility and achieve formal outcomes from the order. This would give further confidence and reassurance to the public around tackling ASB in Eastwood. This is further assessed in the risks and mitigation section of this report.

4.8 The clauses presented to the public for consideration drew strong support. With most respondents indicating experience of the clauses. The following were referenced most frequently in the consultation responses:

- people being rowdy, noisy or causing a nuisance as a result of drinking alcohol
- people using foul and/or abusive language
- people causing noise and creating a disturbance.

4.9 The Police in their formal response, as the jointly authorised agency in enforcement of the Order, wrote in support of the Order identifying it as a key tool particularly in Eastwood (Appendix 5).

4.10 In addition to the above responses, key themes that emerged from the consultation were:

- Increased patrols by uniformed officers i.e. Police and Council Officers and particularly request for the Order to be enforced.
- Concerns relating to feelings of safety and wider crime and anti-social behaviour types in specified areas.
- Environmental concerns particularly in relation to litter, fly-tipping and vermin.

4.11 Current conditions and proposals for any future order:

Condition	In current Order	Recommendation	Rationale
The consumption of alcohol and/or the possession of an open container containing or purporting to contain alcohol in a public place other than at those places identified	Yes	Vary wording so that it reads: The consumption of alcohol and/or the possession of an open container containing or purporting to contain alcohol in a public place other than at licensed premises or at a licensed event.	This has been the most frequently enforced clause under the current Order. While recording of such crime/ASB data is not broken down at such a level to show this, the proportion of levels of rowdy and nuisance behaviour may be driven by underlying factors such as alcohol misuse. The recommended wording has been revised based on legal advice to enhance the ability to enforce rather than material change regarding the intent.

Behaving in such a way or using language that causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to another person.	Yes	Proceed to draft order	There is no specific offence category, but the high levels of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour suggests that the continued power to control foul and abusive language may assist officers in addressing ASB.
Causing noise that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a person(s) quality of life.	Yes	Proceed to Draft Order	This remains relevant and is therefore proposed to continue
Each relevant person must ensure that the wheelie bin(s) for their property or waste presented for collection in a manner specified for their property is not situated outside the boundary of their premises other than between 6pm on the day before collection is due, and 9pm on the day of collection unless the wheelie bin is in an identifiable bin storage area or yard for wheelie bins of their property.	Yes	Proceed to Draft Order	This remains relevant and is therefore proposed to continue

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The PSPO will be designated following Cabinet decision, subject to call-in.

5.2 Sam Barstow, Assistant Director, Community Safety and Street Scene, will be accountable for this decision.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The majority of the consultation undertaken was on-line, so the costs associated with the consultation have been minimal and have been contained within the approved revenue budget for the Service.

6.2 The costs of utilising these PSPO powers, including officer time and associated legal costs, will be contained within the approved revenue budget for the Service.

6.2.1 Any income generated through Fixed Penalty Notices will be used to support the cost of the enforcement activity.

6.3 There are no procurement implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The power to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order is set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The Act gives the Council the authority to draft and implement a Public Spaces Protection Order in response to particular issues affecting the community, provided it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met.

7.1.1 The first condition is that:

a. activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or
b. it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

7.1.2 The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

a. is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
b. is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
c. justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

7.2 The Council will need to fully consider all evidence gathered as a result of the consultation process in order to be satisfied that the above conditions are met and to be satisfied that the Public Spaces Protection Order is necessary and proportionate in the circumstances. Any requirements or prohibitions imposed must be reasonable.

7.3 The Act itself sets out the ability to challenge the validity of any Order and so it is vital the Council follows the correct process in terms of the implementation of the Order and this includes the requirement to consult. The Council must carry out the necessary consultation and the necessary publicity, and the necessary notification (if any), before:

a. making a public spaces protection order,
b. extending the period for which a public spaces protection order has effect, or

c. varying or discharging a public spaces protection order.

7.3.1 The Council must consult with:

a. the chief officer of police, and the local policing body, for the police area that includes the restricted area;
b. whatever community representatives the local authority thinks it appropriate to consult;
c. the owner or occupier of land within the restricted area (this does not apply to land that is owned and occupied by the local authority and applies only if, or to the extent that, it is reasonably practicable to consult the owner or occupier of the land.

7.4 The Council must also comply with the necessary publicity and notification requirements set out in the Act. The necessary publicity means

a. in the case of a proposed order or variation, publishing the text of it;
b. in the case of a proposed extension or discharge, publicising the proposal;

7.5 The necessary notification requirements means notifying the following authorities of the proposed order, extension, variation or discharge:

a. the parish council or community council (if any) for the area that includes the restricted area;
b. in the case of a public spaces protection order made or to be made by a district council in England, the county council (if any) for the area that includes the restricted area.

7.6 Any Order can last for a maximum of 3 years, unless extended under the provisions of the Act, and any such Order can be varied and/or discharged at any time.

7.7 The Council has complied with the legal requirements set out within the Act and referred to above. The legal test for making the PSPO has also been fully considered, details of which are set out within the body of the report.

7.8 The recommendation to renew the Order is based upon evidence gathered via the required consultation process.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

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

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Any activity in relation to enforcement is delivered in line with the Council's Enforcement Policy, which gives consideration to appropriate enforcement approaches in relation to Young People or Vulnerable Adults.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 An Initial Equality Screening Assessment and Full EqualityAnalysis have been completed and are attached at Appendices 6 and 7.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no carbon or climate implications arising from this report. An assessment is contained at Appendix 8.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1. South Yorkshire Police are a key partner in the delivery of the requirements of Public Spaces Protection Order and have commented in support of the Order at Appendix 5.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The consultation has highlighted some challenges around the perceived lack of visibility and enforcement of the Order by both the Police and Council.
The Council and the Police are working collaboratively with partners to ensure enforcement is appropriately prioritised and outcomes relating to use of the order are communicated effectively to seek to improve resident, business and visitor confidence.

13.2 This will help co-ordinate joint activity and focus resources in hotspot areas and to address particular community safety issues. This will sit alongside already established operational groups such as Tasking and Community Action Partnerships, and governance will be achieved through the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

14. Accountable Officers

14.1 Sam Barstow Assistant Director, Community Safety and Street Scene.

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	12/06/25
Assistant Director, Legal Services	Phil Horsfield	13/06/25

(Monitoring Officer)		

Report Author: Catherine Lunn, Community Protection & Environmental Health Manager, 01709 823118; catherine.lunn@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website

Appendix 1

Public Spaces Protection Order

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act

Part 4 Chapter 2 Section 59

The Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (Fitzwilliam Road) Public Spaces Protection Order 2025

1. Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council has exercised its powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") and being satisfied that all the requirements of the Act have been met hereby makes the following Order, known as:

The Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (Fitzwilliam Road) Public Spaces Protection Order 2025

2. The order shall come into force on a [DATE] and shall have an effect for 3 years thereafter, unless extended, varied or discharged by further order as set out in the Act.

3. This order relates to the land described in the Schedule below and defined by the red border on the plan attached to this Order ('the restricted area'), being a public place in the Council's area to which the Act applies.

4. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Section 59 (2) of the Act have been met. Namely, that activities carried out in a public place within the authority's area have had or it is likely that they will have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, namely;

4.1 Acting in a drunken manner, which may include being loud, intimidating or incapable

4.2 Using loud, foul or abusive language

4.3 Shouting, screaming or acting in a generally rowdy and inconsiderate manner

4.4 Lack of control of household waste and appropriate use of specified receptacles for household waste

5. The Council is also satisfied that the conditions set out in Section 59 (3) of the Act have been met. Namely, that the effect or likely effect of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature and that these activities are unreasonable and justify the restrictions imposed by this Order and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this Order for the purpose of reducing crime and/or anti-social behaviour in a public place.

6. The effect of this order is to prohibit the following activities within the restricted area as shown on the map contained in the Schedule and outlined in red:-

6.1 The consumption of alcohol and/or the possession of an open container containing or purporting to contain alcohol in a public place other than at licensed premises or at a licensed event.

6.2 Behaving in such a way or using language that causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to another person.

6.3 Causing noise that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a person(s) quality of life.

Appendix 1

7. The effect of this order is to require the following activities within the restricted area as shown on the map contained in Schedule 1 and outlined in red:-

7.1. Each relevant person must ensure that the wheelie bin(s) for their property or waste presented for collection in a manner specified for their property is not situated outside the boundary of their premises other than between 6pm on the day before collection is due, and 9pm on the day of collection unless the wheelie bin is in an identifiable bin storage area or yard for wheelie bins of their property.

8. Unless otherwise stated, the prohibitions and requirements contained in this Order shall apply to all persons, at all times of the day and all days of the week throughout the calendar year and throughout the entirety of the restricted area.

9. Any person who carries out acts from which they are prohibited from doing or fails to comply with a requirement set out in this Order under 6.2, 6.3 and 7.1 above, within the restricted area, commits an offence under section 67 of the Act and is liable to receive a fixed penalty notice at a maximum of £100 and on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (£1,000).

10. Any person who carries out an act from which they are prohibited from doing under 6.1 above is guilty of an offence under section 63 of the Act if they fail to comply with the request of an authorised officer to not consume alcohol in breach of this Order (or anything that the authorised officer reasonably believes to be alcohol) or surrender any sealed or unsealed containers of alcohol (or anything that the authorised officer reasonably believes to be alcohol) in their possession and is liable to receive a fixed penalty notice at a maximum of £100 and on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale (£500).

11. An authorised person may issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone he or she believes has committed an offence. The level of the fixed penalty shall be £100. A person committing an offence and failing to pay the fixed penalty may be prosecuted.

12. Additional Information and Definitions for the purpose of the Order:

12.1 “Public place” means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as a right or by virtue of express or implied permission.

12.2 “Alcohol” has the meaning given by section 191 of the Licensing Act 2003.

12.3 “Authorised person” means a police officer, an employee of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council or other person who is authorised in writing by the Council.

12.4 A prohibition at 6.1 on consuming alcohol does not apply to—

(a)premises (other than council-operated licensed premises) authorised by a premises licence to be used for the supply of alcohol;

(b)premises authorised by a club premises certificate to be used by the club for the supply of alcohol;

(c)a place within the curtilage of premises within paragraph (a) or (b);

Appendix 1

(d)premises which by virtue of Part 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 may at the relevant time be used for the supply of alcohol or which, by virtue of that Part, could have been so used within the 30 minutes before that time;
(e)a place where facilities or activities relating to the sale or consumption of alcohol are at the relevant time permitted by virtue of a permission granted under section 115E of the Highways Act 1980 (highway-related uses).

12.5 For the purposes of 7.1 above “relevant person” means all persons in a position to control residential premises that are within the specified area, (all such premises referred to hereafter as “relevant premises”) and includes any person residing permanently or temporarily, by legal right or simple occupation, at relevant premises and also any owner or managing agent of relevant premises. Each relevant person shall have an equal and separate responsibility in relation to the household waste requirements set out in this order whether physically present at the relevant premises at the relevant time or not.

13. In accordance with section 66 of the Act, any interested person who wishes to challenge the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council did not have the power to make the Order or that a requirement under the Act has not been complied with may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date upon which the Order is made.

THE COMMON SEAL OF)

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN)

BOROUGH COUNCIL)

was affixed to this Order)

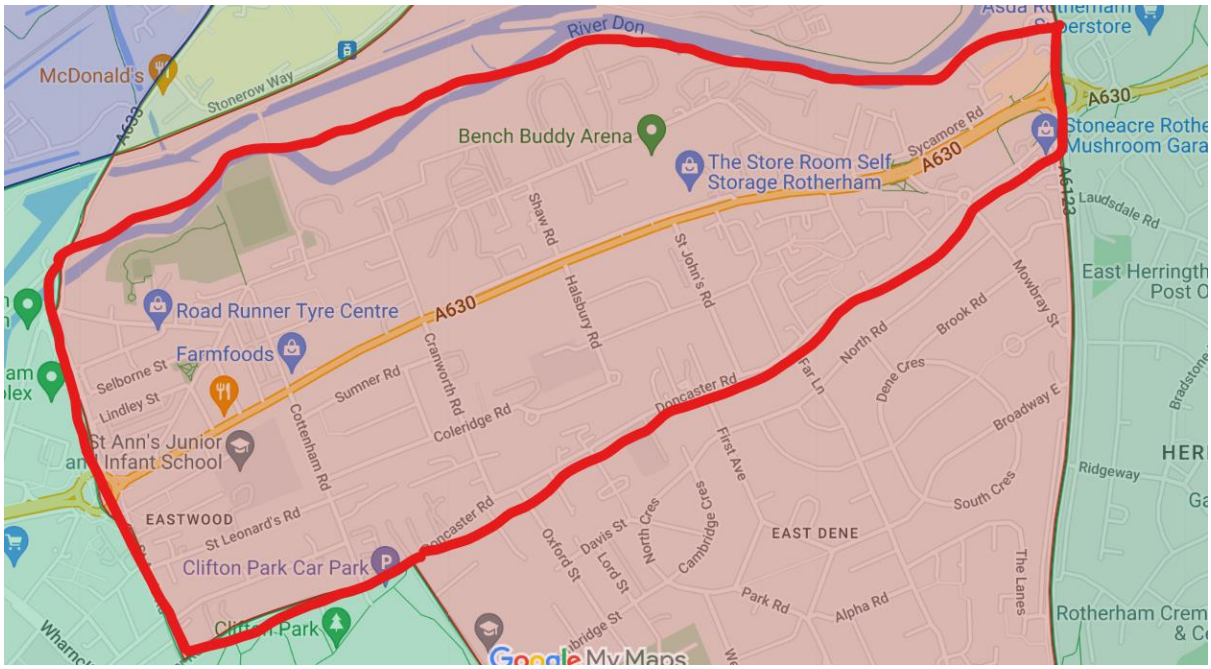
in the presence of)

Duly Authorised Officer

Appendix 1

Schedule - The Restricted Area

1. Outlined in red, bordered by the River Don, Doncaster Road, St Ann's Road and Aldwarke Lane.



Appendix 2

Eastwood

Overview/Summary of situation:

This area consists of 13 Census Output Areas. These Output Areas (OAs) have experienced 568 ASB incidents and 339 Neighbourhood Crime investigations between 01/01/21 and 30/09/24. Of Rotherham's 878 OAs, these 13 all rank within the top half (<337) by proportion of private rented (five within the top 50), and the top two thirds (<569) by amount of total Neighbourhood Crime and ASB incidents (three within the top 50). These 13 OAs span three Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), all of which fall into Rotherham East Ward.

Eastwood

Selected Census Output Areas around Eastwood.

South Yorkshire POLICE

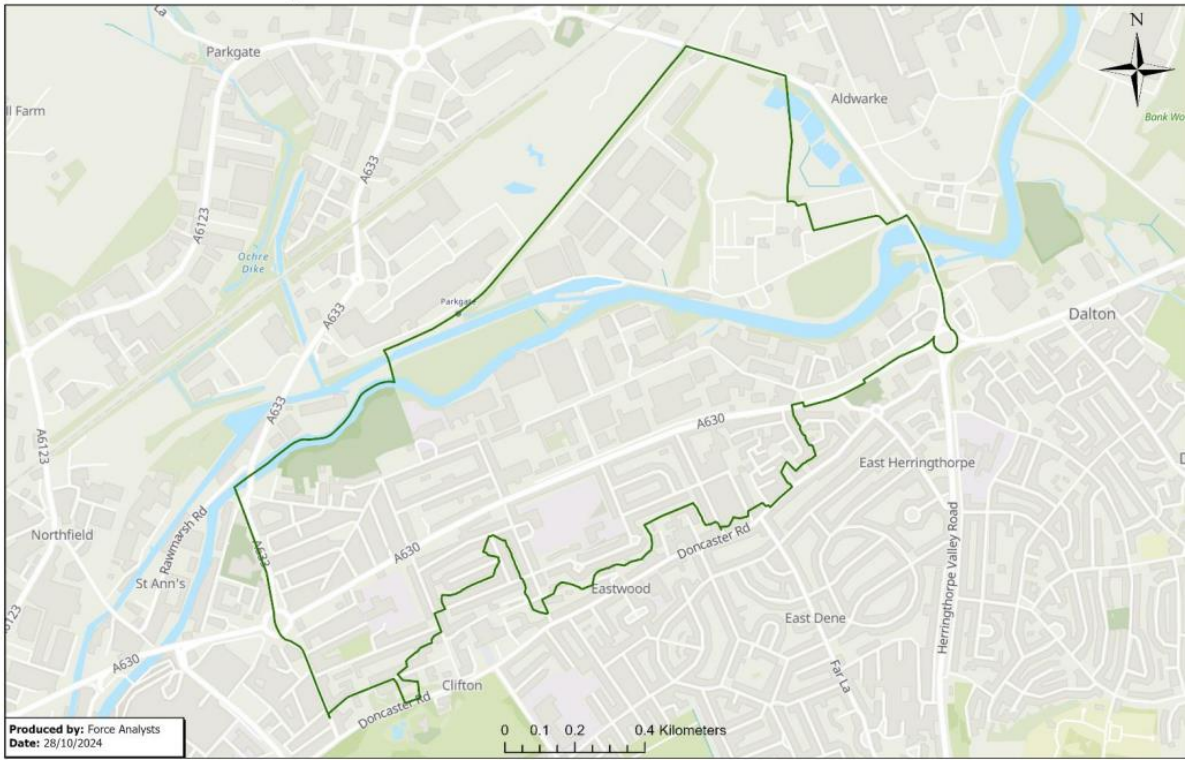


Table 4 – *shows the highest volume ASB types and NHC HO Groups that recorded the highest volumes in the Eastwood area during the data period*

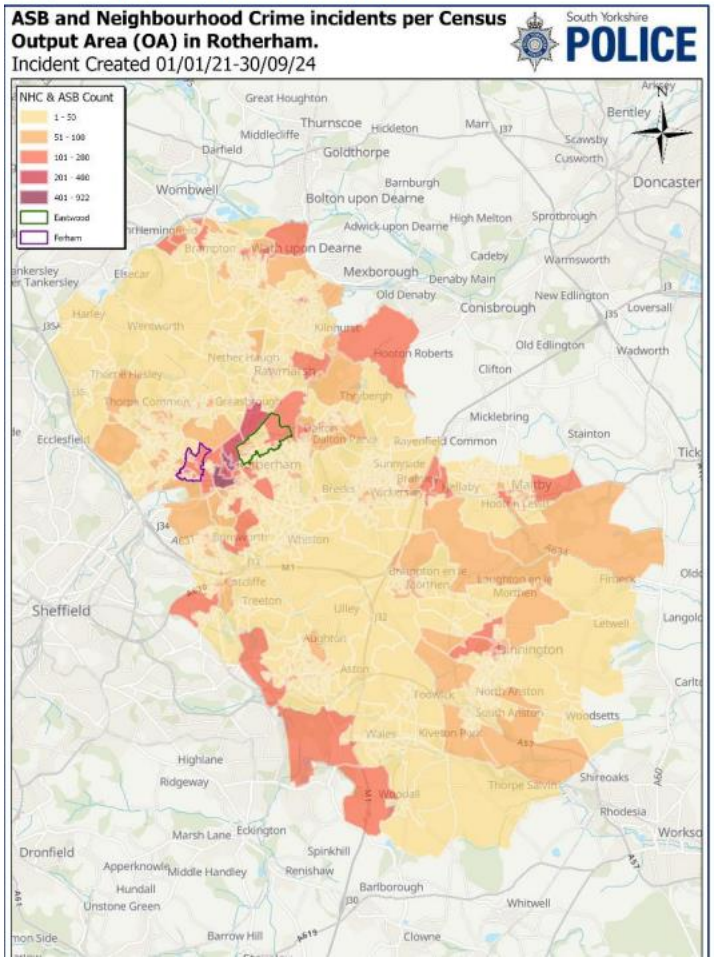
Highest volume ASB Types/HO Groups	Volume
ROWDY/INCONSID	236
BEGGING/VAGRANCY	77
THEFT FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	64
BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL	62
ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	56
NOISE	49
THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	49
NUISANCE NEIGHBOUR	42
VEH NUISANCE/INAPP USE	42
FIREWORKS	32
BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL (HOME)	30
ABND VEH NOT STOLEN	25
ANIMAL PROBLEM	19
OFF ROAD BIKE/QUAD	18
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL	18
INTERFERING WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE	18
THEFT FROM THE PERSON	18
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL (HOME)	15
LITTER/DRUGS TRAPPINGS	13

Table 5 – *shows the LSOA and OA codes within the Eastwood area and the volumes of ASB and NHC as well as the average % private rented properties within that area*

LSOA / OA Code	Total NHC & ASB	Sum of NHC	Sum of ASB	% private rented
E01007769	**408**	**113**	**295**	**48%**
E00039352	103	20	83	52%
E00039353	76	29	47	49%
E00039354	146	30	116	54%
E00039358	36	12	24	53%
E00039363	47	22	25	32%
E01007768	**207**	**89**	**118**	**26%**
E00039337	56	30	26	31%
E00039351	83	22	61	34%
E00039355	18	10	8	23%
E00039359	50	27	23	16%
E01007736	**292**	**137**	**155**	**21%**
E00039183	67	22	45	21%
E00039185	144	68	76	38%
E00039187	32	13	19	11%
E00039189	49	34	15	16%
Grand Total	**907**	**339**	**568**	**33%**

Appendix 2

Map 2 – *Incident rates in Rotherham*

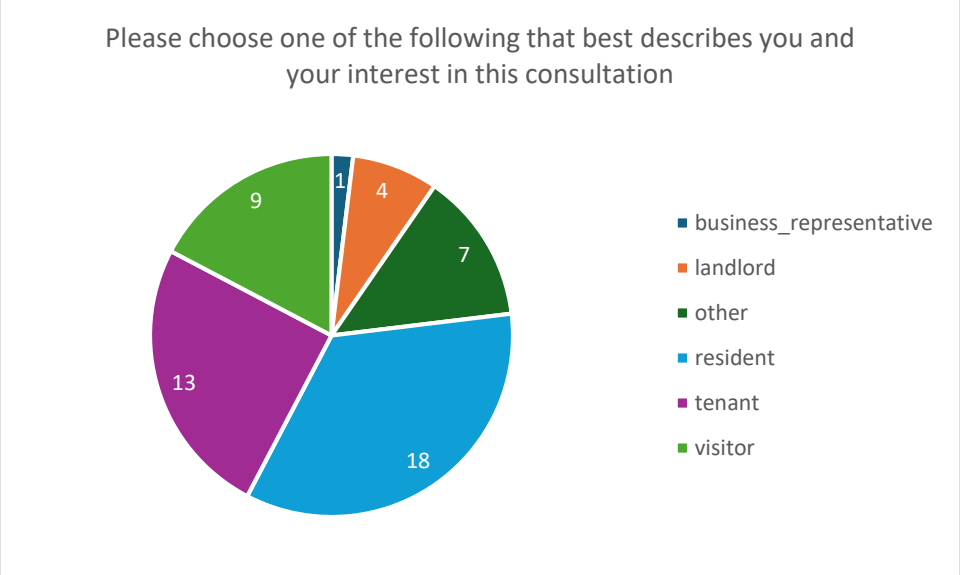


- The **Eastwood area consists of 13 Census Output Areas**. These Output Areas (OAs) have experienced **568 ASB** incidents and **339 Neighbourhood Crime investigations** between 01/01/21 and 30/09/24.
    - Of Rotherham's 878 OAs, **these 13 all rank within the top half (<337)** by proportion of private rented (five within the top 50), and **the top two thirds** (<569) by amount of total Neighbourhood Crime and ASB incidents (three within the top 50).
    - These 13 OAs span three Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), all of which fall into Rotherham East Ward.
- In **Eastwood** the highest volume ASB Type/HO Groups were Rowdy/Inconsid (236), Begging/Vagrancy (77), Theft from a motor Vehicle (64), Burglary Residential (62) and Robbery of personal Property (56).
- Within the **Eastwood** area, **LSOA E01007769** accounted for both the **highest volume of total NHC & ASB** (408), as well as the **highest proportion of private rented properties** (48%).

Appendix 3

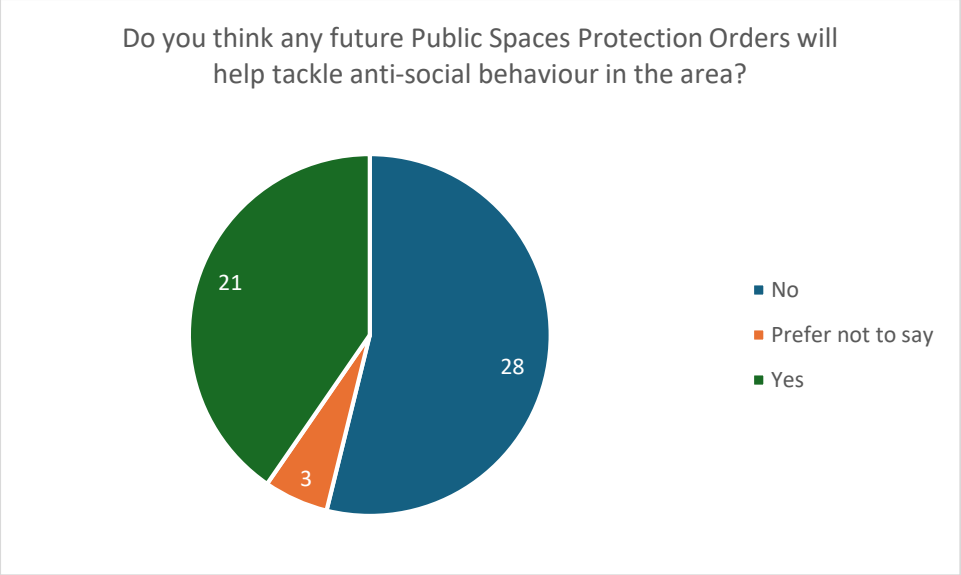
Summary of Consultation Data

Please choose one of the following that best describes you and your interest in this consultation	
Answer	**Count**
Business representative	1
Landlord	4
Other	7
Resident	18
Tenant	13
Visitor	9
Grand Total	**52**

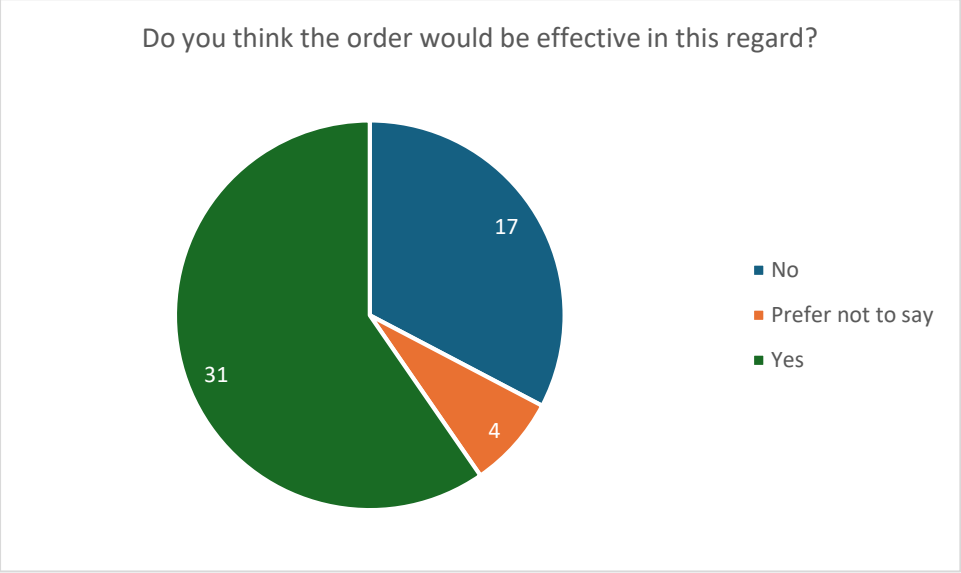


Do you think any future Public Spaces Protection Orders will help tackle anti-social behaviour in the area?	
Answer	**Count**
No	28
Prefer not to say	3
Yes	21
Grand Total	**52**

Appendix 3



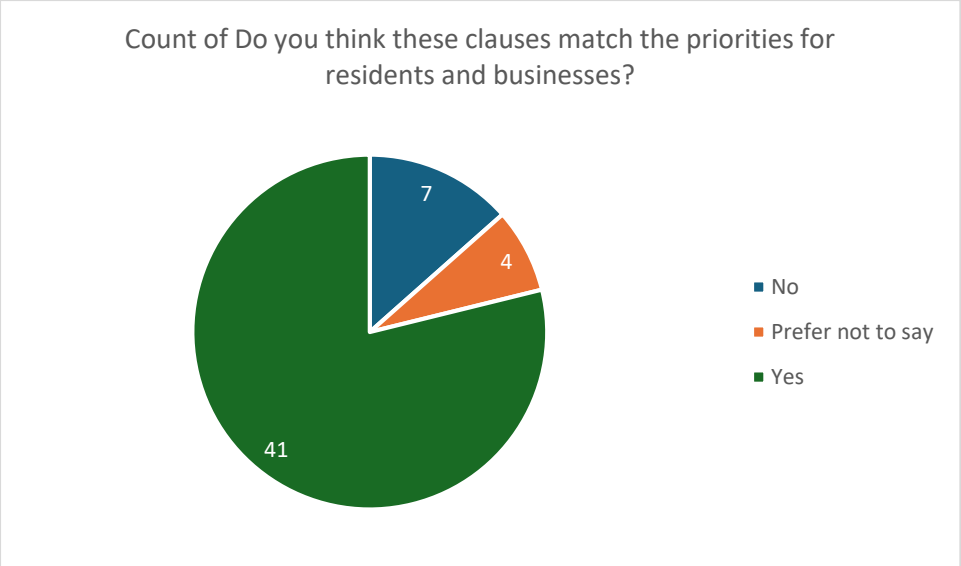
Do you think the order would be effective in this regard?	
Answer	**Count**
No	17
Prefer not to say	4
Yes	31
Grand Total	**52**



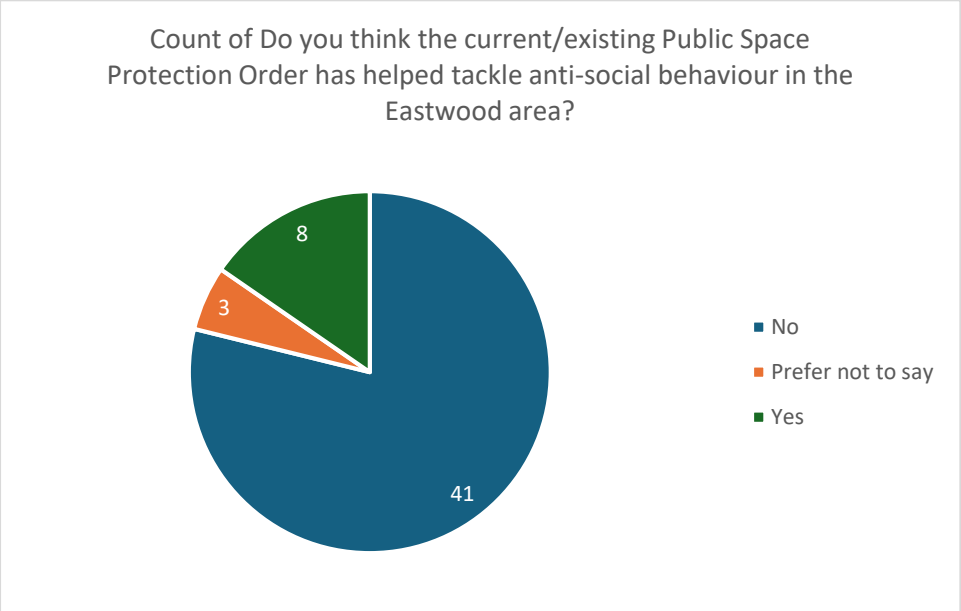
Do you think these clauses match the priorities for residents and businesses?	
Answer	**Count**
No	7
Prefer not to say	4

Appendix 3

Yes	41
Grand Total	**52**

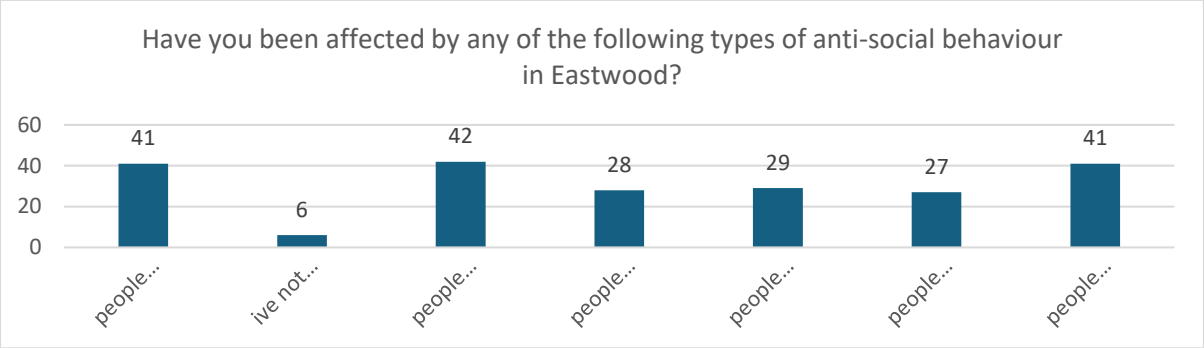


Do you think the current/existing Public Space Protection Order has helped tackle anti-social behaviour in the Eastwood area?	
Answer	**Count**
No	41
Prefer not to say	3
Yes	8
Grand Total	**52**



Appendix 3

Have you been affected by any of the following types of anti-social behaviour in Eastwood?	
People being rowdy noisy or causing a nuisance as a result of drinking alcohol	41
I've not been affected by any anti-social behaviour	6
People causing noise and creating a disturbance	42
People letting off fireworks	28
People urinating, defecating or spitting in the street	29
People using foul and/or abusive language	27
People being rowdy noisy or causing a nuisance as a result of drinking alcohol	41



Appendix 4: Public Spaces Protection Orders Consultation Plan

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs)

Consultation Plan

Introduction and Overview

PSPO's are intended to deal with a nuisance or problem in a specific area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing appropriate and proportionate conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone.

The Order impacting Fitzwilliam Road and Eastwood, was renewed for 3 years in June 2022. In the consultation process leading to these renewals, support was seen in relation to varying the Orders in terms of variation of requirements and prohibitions. This consultation will look to further build on this with a view the new Order due in July 2025.

Current Fitzwilliam Road PSPO Prohibitions

i. Consuming alcohol other than on licensed premises or at a licensed event
ii. Behaving in such a way or using language that causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to another person.
iii. Causing noise that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a person(s) quality of life
iv. Each relevant person must ensure that the wheelie bin(s) for their property or waste presented for collection in a manner specified for their property is not situated outside the boundary of their premises other than between 6pm on the day before collection is due, and 9pm on the day of collection unless the wheelie bin is in an identifiable bin storage area or yard for wheelie bins of their property.

Consultation issues:

- What are stakeholders current priorities in relation to Eastwood ASB?
- How does the current Order match to these priorities?
- Consider varied requirements/ prohibitions in relation to the following proposed issues to be included:

- **Fitzwilliam Road PSPO**
  - Consuming alcohol other than on licensed premises or at a licensed event
  - Behaving in such a way or using language that causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to another person.
  - Causing noise that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a person(s) quality of life
  - Each relevant person must ensure that the wheelie bin(s) for their property or waste presented for collection in a manner specified for their property is not situated outside the boundary of their premises other than between 6pm on the day before collection is due, and 9pm on the day of collection unless the wheelie bin is in an identifiable bin storage area or yard for wheelie bins of their property.
  - Continuing to consume alcohol when required to stop doing so by any authorised officer

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- Any other matter arising from Consultees responses and corroborated by Crime and ASB data held by Agencies.

Consultation Period

The consultation period will run for 4 weeks, commencing on 22 April 2025 and end on 20 May 2025. This will allow submission of a further report and amended Order(s) for Cabinet in July 2025.

Who will be consulted?

- South Yorkshire Police – Chief Inspector Kevin Bradley
- South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- All Ward Councillors
- RMBC departments:
  - Early Help
  - Youth Offending Service
  - Community Protection
  - Housing
  - Homelessness Team
  - Neighbourhoods
  - Greenspaces
  - Highways
  - Rotherham Youth Cabinet
- Transport
  - Travel South Yorkshire – Rotherham Interchange
  - National Rail – Rotherham Railway Station
- Schools and Colleges
  - Rotherham College
  - Eastwood Village Primary School
- Community Organisations
  - REMA
  - Clifton Learning Partnership
- Businesses
  - All local businesses
- The Public

Methods of consultation

- In writing (Partners/Organisations)
- Online survey (RMBC Website)
- Printed questionnaires at public facing events and on request
- Drop in sessions at Community Organisations
- CAP / Ward Briefings – in person
- Visits to Eastwood businesses / Eastwood Walkabouts

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Communication

- RMBC Website
- Safer Rotherham Partnership Website
- Social media
- Posters/leaflets in local community
- Neighbourhoods communication
- Member briefings

Data and Information

Quantitative Data will be requested from South Yorkshire Police Data and Performance team in relation to the Orders. This will focus on the geographical area, ASB and crime trends in the Eastwood. Similarly, internal Council departments such as Environmental Health and Housing will provide data for interrogation and analysis.

Qualitative data will also be invited from operational officers in relation to how the tools are used, and nature of the incidents they are asked to deal with on a day-to-day basis.

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Proposed Activity Tracker

This tracker will be updated throughout the Consultation project and will be provided with the further Cabinet Report due at the close of consultation for assurance and update.

Date of Planned Activity	Activity	Update / RAG / Further action
W/C 24 March 2025	Member briefing with offer of face to face or Teams meeting with relevant Ward Members – Rotherham East,	Completed
February 2025	Meeting with South Yorkshire Police Intelligence team to request relevant data within 14 days	Completed
March 2025	Officer Decision recommending consultation on the Orders reviewed and authorised	Completed
W/C 15 April 2025	Public Consultation commences – online survey goes live with Council Social media signposting and Press Release	Completed
W/C 22 April 2025	Establish PSPO Consultation Task & Finish Group to meet weekly to review data, consultation responses received so far and identify any further opportunities or challenges. Key representatives: - Regulation and Enforcement Management - Central South Yorkshire Police NPT Inspector - Neighbourhoods	Completed
W/C 31 March 2025	Briefing to all Members re: Consultation with email link to survey. Offer of Teams Briefing around Member availability to be made as part of same briefing. Environmental Health attendance at all intervening CAP briefings to reaffirm.	Completed
W/C 24 March 2025	Formal engagement with South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner/ South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (Email & survey links)	Completed
W/C 24 March 2025	Formal engagement with South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue (Email & survey links)	Completed
W/C 24 March 2025	Email engagement with Children's Services Lead – Consultation activity - agree communication to Young People / Young Carers / Children in Care / Youth Council (via email to lead representatives and social media channels / news forums)	Completed

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W/C 24 March 2025	PSPO Consultation Task & Finish Group to meet weekly to review data, consultation responses received so far and identify any further opportunities or challenges.	Completed
April 2025	Pro-active Visits to Eastwood businesses with post card type leaflets with QR code to survey	Completed
W/C 15 April 2025	PSPO Consultation Task & Finish Group to meet weekly to review data, consultation responses received so far and identify any further opportunities or challenges.	Completed
April 2025	PSPO Consultation Task & Finish Group to meet weekly to review data, consultation responses received so far and identify any further opportunities or challenges. **This meeting will be used to reflect on quantity and quality of responses so far, and plan and execute the final 3 weeks of consultation accordingly – noting the statutorily required activity will also be complete but may need nudging.**	Completed
May 2025	Stand at Clifton Learning Partnership - printed leaflets and questionnaires	Completed
20 May 2025	Public Consultation Closes	Completed
20 May – 27 May 2025	Analyse consultation responses, draft new Orders and report with recommendations.	Completed
July 2025	New report on future of the Orders reviewed in Cabinet.	

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Appendix 5

From an SYP perspective,

As part of the ongoing consultation around the Public Spaces Protection Order, South Yorkshire Police fully support the renewal of the Fitzwilliam Road, Eastwood. Our rationale is documented below.

Numerous complaints are regularly received from the local community which relate to anti-social behaviour, specifically noise, rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and street drinking. This is also corroborated by the local Neighbourhood Policing Team who will regularly observe and manage such behaviour first hand, as well as receiving concerns and complaints from the members of the public and the local community.

Since the start of this year, there have been 23 reports to South Yorkshire Police within the area under consultation in relation to those above categories of anti-social behaviour. This is in addition to the issues that have been managed through officer intervention rather than a police incident being created or anti-social behaviour that has been recorded under another crime category.

The renewal of this Public Spaces Protection Order would afford both South Yorkshire Police and partner agencies the necessary legislative tools to manage such complaints in a robust manner. This is a real positive given some of the current legislative challenges in dealing with certain circumstances.

The additional powers afforded under the Public Spaces Protection Order would serve to reassure the community that both South Yorkshire Police and partners are taking their concerns seriously, and seeking to take appropriate action. Tacking crime and anti-social behaviour remain one of the priorities for South Yorkshire Police and building Safer Stronger Communities is a priority for the Safer Rotherham Partnership. The renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order would help achieve these priorities.

Please let me know if you require this on formal, SYP letter headed paper.

Any issues, please come back to me.

Regards

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Appendix 6

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Public Spaces Protection Orders – Fitzwilliam Road	
Directorate: **Regeneration and Environment**	**Service area:** **Regulation and Enforcement**
Lead person: **Catherine Lunn**	**Contact number:** **01709 823118**
Is this a: [X] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The report and recommendation on the designation of the Fitzwilliam Road Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPOs) is defined through the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and Statutory Guidance which provides a legal framework within which PSPOs can be implemented. Orders can be introduced in a specific public area where the local authority is satisfied on reasonable grounds that certain conditions have been met.

Appendix 6

The first test concerns the nature of the anti-social behaviour, requiring that:
• activities that have taken place have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will take place and that they will have a detrimental effect
• the effect or likely effect of these activities:
- is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature
- is, or is likely to be, unreasonable
- justifies the restrictions being imposed

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*	x	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		X
If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason		

Appendix 6

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity
If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.** Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation. Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).
• **How have you considered equality and diversity?** This latest consultation will seek to gather further supporting evidence and views from all stakeholders by: • Signposting of the online consultation by the Council's Social Media platforms. • Internal consultation with key impacted services. • Inclusion of the consultation on Corporate newsletters including 'Rotherham Round-Up' Newsletter which has thousands of subscribers. • Email to all registered private sector Landlords and Managing Agents inviting participation as Rotherham residents or Business Representatives. • Discussion with key stakeholders within frontline practitioner meetings and Ward Briefings. • Inclusion of the news item on a Voluntary Action Rotherham e-bulletin with 1,300 subscribers. • Letters of invitation to reply to the key statutory agencies such as the Police, PCC, SY Fire & Rescue as well as well-established voluntary and third sector organisations such as Clifton Leaning Partnership, REMA and RotherFed. • To consider equality and diversity throughout this consultation Clifton Leaning Partnership will be used as a base to consult the residents, most of whom fall within the protected characteristics. This will ensure their views will be fully taken into account in the consultation and will for part of the decision moving forward. .
• **Key findings** The application of the Order is required to be considered in line with the Council's General Enforcement Policy, and requires it to be enforced fairly, honestly and transparently – therefore protecting the most vulnerable from unfair treatment.

Appendix 6

The Order has been in place in Rotherham since 2016, with no known adverse impact on groups.
• **Actions** A Part B will be completed after the consultation ends, and will consider the consultation findings. The consultation findings will then be fed in to the order and will ensure equality when enforcement action is required

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	22/4/25
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	2/5/25
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Catherine Lunn Community Protection and Environmental Health Manager

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Catherine Lunn	Community Protection & Environmental Health Manager	10/3/25
Lewis Coates	Service Manager	

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Appendix 6

Date screening completed	10/3/25
Report title and date	~~Fitzwilliam Road PSPO~~ Public Spaces Protection Orders – Fitzwilliam Road Published 29/4/25
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Key delegated Officer Decision, Public Spaces Protection Orders – Fitzwilliam Road (needs a date)
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	19/3/25

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Appendix 7

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Public Spaces Protection Orders – Fitzwilliam Road	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 29 May 2025	
Directorate: **Regeneration and Environment**	**Service area:** **Regulation and Enforcement**
Lead Manager: **Catherine Lunn**	**Contact number:** **01709 823118**
Is this a: [x] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify:**	

Appendix 7

Part A Equalities Impact accepted link to email

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Catherine Lunn	RMBC	Community Protection & Environmental Health Manager
Paul Field	RMBC	ASB Principal
Adam Corker	RMBC	Environmental Health Systems Officer – technical Support lead

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance
Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known) This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, other groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.) The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is one of the powers available to Local Authorities under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This legislation enables the Local Authority to introduce a PSPO to an area to deal with a particular nuisance which is detrimental to the local community's life. It is designed to ensure that the majority of people can use and enjoy public spaces safe from crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). PSPOs are a useful tool to tackle and reduce anti-social behaviours in the local authority's area in order to allow public spaces to be enjoyed by the law-abiding majority and to make them feel safer. Individuals or groups that fail to meet the requirements of the PSPOs will be subject to criminal sanctions such as service of a fixed penalty notice (maximum £100) and prosecution (maximum fine on conviction of £1000). Restrictions on the proposed behaviours could potentially have an impact on protected characteristics or other equalities such as the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, mental well-being, community resilience and disability. The impact on all factors has been considered through previous declarations where is has been shown that there has been very little impact on protected characteristics.
What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken) The equalities data attached to the consultation provided little return as most respondents answered 'no' to the option of providing further information about themselves. This means the data is limited at best, hence there is a reliance on other sources of data sources. As the Policy is locality based in its impact and implication, the best source of data is the

Appendix 7

Rotherham Data Hub which provides a summary of the 2021 Census information: Community and Neighbourhoods – Rotherham Data Hub	
Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of? The equalities data attached to the consultation provided little return as most respondents answered 'no' to the option of providing further information about themselves. This means the data is limited at best, hence there is a reliance on other sources of data sources. As the Policy is locality base in its impact and implication, the best source of data is the Rotherham Data Hub which provides a summary of the 2021 Census information: Community and Neighbourhoods – Rotherham Data Hub	
What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics? Both enforcing agencies have case management systems which enable some capture of protected characteristics and this will be encouraged where possible. Monitoring will be carried out through the Regulation and Enforcement Dashboard which is updated every week. Some further training around Human Rights and Equality Act 2010 has been identified and forms part of the action plan below.	
Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	Public consultation ran from 22 April to 23 May 2025 – Broadly there was support for the designation of the Public Space Protection Order. No objection based on equalities were raised. In order to reach a decision about the future of Public Spaces Protection Orders in Rotherham, the lead Officer consulted with: • South Yorkshire Police – Chief Inspector Kevin Bradley • Police Crime Commissioner • South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue • All Ward Councillors • RMBC departments: - Early Help - Youth Justice Service - Community Protection - Housing - Homelessness Team - Neighbourhoods - Greenspaces - Rotherham Youth Cabinet • Schools and Colleges

	• Community Organisations • Businesses • Parish and Town Councils • Licensed Premises Holders • Landlords and Managing Agents (Selective Licensing) Methods of consultation • In writing • Online survey (RMBC Website) • Hard copy questionnaires • Workshops • Posters and leaflets with QR codes Each online form and hard copy questionnaire came complete with an equality's questionnaire Consultation was carried out by: • Webform – weblink or QR code in leaflets/Facebook posts • Paper forms and leaflets at Clifton Learning Partnership, also advertised on their Facebook pages • Leaflet drop to businesses and residents • Consultation event at Clifton Learning Partnership on Monday 19 May 2025 from 10am to 2pm • Community Safety/Environmental Health Facebook page advertised the consultation four times • Circulated on the Councils Intranet • Email to all Strategic Partners twice including Clifton Learning Partnership and REMA including link to consultation • Email to all local partners • Email to all Landlords/Managing agents operating within the area
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	Staff engagement was undertaken via Team meetings and internal communications and internal workshops, including the intranet and email from 22 April to 23 May 2025. There remained an appetite for PSPOs and no objections based on equalities matters were raised.

Appendix 7

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)
How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance) Age - All members of the community are treated fairly and equally regardless of their age. This one of the underpinning values of the published General Enforcement Policy. Where necessary additional support measures would be put in place through prevention, education and sign posting to relevant services. Young people will be referred into the safeguarding mechanisms and under 18's parents/guardians will be spoken with. It is not the intention of the Policy to target and criminalise any particular age group, though Under 18s are exempt. Disability - The Council would address disability concerns and put additional support measures in place if required through prevention, education and sign posting to the relevant agencies. Those with registered assistance dogs, who, as a result of their disability are unable to comply with the order around removal of dog faeces will be exempt. Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity – no anticipated impact and neither does the Order specifically target these groups.
Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups? Should potential barriers be identified through data we collate, we will look to engage with that specific group of people and understand why these issues are occurring and look to undertake an education path. Since 2016 when PSPO has been in operation in Rotherham, no groups have been identified as being adversely affected.
Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers? The restrictions imposed by the Public Space Protection Orders must be reasonable, and either prevent or reduce the detrimental effect of the problem behaviour, or reduce the risk of that detrimental effect continuing, occurring or recurring. When assessing what is 'unreasonable' activity, councils will need to balance the rights of the community to enjoy public spaces without ASB, with the civil liberties of individuals and groups who may be affected by any restrictions imposed.

Appendix 7

The Order is reviewed on expiry (maximum every three years) to form a view on these types of considerations. As the Order require re-active enforcement in relation to responding to complaints and on a pro-active basis in order to provide a deterrent and detection resource, this can be said to remove some barriers to access to services (telephone reporting and digital reporting being typical barriers) The PSPOs help strengthen the Council's ability to tackle discrimination and harassment by providing the ability for an authorised officer to enforce against a list of specified anti-social behaviours. The PSPOs seek to ensure the Fitzwilliam Road area remains a safe place to live, visit and work. This has a positive impact on society as well as helping to assist the economic development of Eastwood.
What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another) As the Order works to improve the life of those who are victims of ASB and Crime, it would be hoped that community relations would be improved. The PSPOs strengthen the Council's ability to provide a safe environment, and therefore promote good community relations by listening to and acting on the concerns of the community. The authorised parties should focus resource in geographical areas that attract complaints to provide a robust response to the publics concerns. Some tensions may arise between reporters of ASB and Crime, and those alleged to be offending and perpetrating crime and ASB, but this is normal for such enforcement matters and the investigative process will manage this where needed.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Public Space Protection Order
Directorate and service area: Regeneration & Environment – Regulation & Enforcement
Lead Manager: Catherine Lunn
Summary of findings:
The intention of the Order is to reassure the public at large, and provide Officers with the tools to tackle individuals who are committing breaches / offences. In essence, the Orders protect rights of all individuals to reside, work or visit Rotherham and be free of ASB and crime, or the fear of it. This document highlights some impacts on groups such as age and disability which are accounted for both in legal exemptions and via associated policies such as the General Enforcement Policy.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Where possible equality data will be collated when enforcement action is conducted to monitor whether any protected groups are more likely to offend. This could result in targeted educational work being implemented. This will take place quarterly from July 2025.	**All/Any**	**December 2025 and quarterly thereafter**
Deliver training/ guidance for enforcing stakeholders on the impact on Human Rights and Equality Act implications – including offence disposal options where vulnerabilities are identified (ie. signposting to education / support)	**All**	**December 2025**

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.

Name	Job title	Date
Lewis Coates	Regulation and Enforcement Service Manager	29/5/25
Andrew Bramidge	Strategic Director	29/5/29

7. Publishing

The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date Equality Analysis completed	29/5/25
Report title and date	Public Space Protection Order – Fitzwilliam Road
Date report sent for publication	3 June 2025

Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	29 May 2025

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Appendix 8

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across Rotherham as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	Increase	Small increase projected due to travel associated with consultation activity.		Where time allows and distance allows, officers to be encouraged to travel by active travel, public transport or car sharing to any consultation events.	Officer travel is included with the council's net zero 2030 greenhouse gas emissions accounting.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None				

Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				
Identify any emission impacts associated with this decision that have not been covered by the above fields: There may be additional carbon impacts arising from the implementation of any updated PSPO.					

Please provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:
There may be a small increase from officer travel involved in carrying out the consultation. This can be minimised by officers choosing lower-carbon travel options.

Supporting information:	
Completed by: (Name, title, and service area/directorate).	Catherine Lunn, Community Protection & Environmental Health Manager, Regeneration & Environment
Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this [form].	None
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	None
Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]	Tracking reference: CIA 438 Arthur King, Principal Climate Change Officer, Finance and Customer Services

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report with Exempt Appendices
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Housing Delivery Programme Report 2025-26 Update

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

Report Author(s)
Alex Young, Housing Growth Manager
alex.young@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-wide

Report Summary

This report provides the regular six-monthly update to Cabinet, setting out the latest developments and plans for the Council's Housing Delivery Programme ('the Programme'). This report also seeks Cabinet approval to ensure the continued delivery of this Programme which recently reached the milestone of the 680th new Council home delivered since 2018.

Contained within the report are proposed changes to the programme, which are designed to manage overall costs and secure the delivery of 1,000 new Council homes by Summer 2027.

It is proposed that Housing Delivery Programme update reports continue to be presented to Cabinet on a six-monthly basis.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the continued progress made in delivering the Council's Housing Delivery Programme, including the delivery of 57 new homes in the period covered by this report, and the ongoing work to deliver 1,000 new Council homes by Summer 2027.

2. Approves the purchase of homes from any of the schemes identified in Exempt Appendix 2.

3. Approves the programme changes outlined in this report to facilitate the delivery of 1,000 new homes 'on time' (by Summer 2027) and 'on budget' (within the financial resources allocated to the Programme from the Housing Revenue Account). This includes the removal and addition of specific schemes as outlined in Section 2, paragraphs 2.10 to 2.20 of the report.

4. Approves the disposal of the four sites listed in Table 4, subject to Cabinet approval of Recommendation 3 (above), and following the usual Council disposal process. The receipts to be ringfenced to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Housing Delivery Programme.

5. Approves the appropriation of 19 Cranworth Road into the Housing Revenue Account, and its refurbishment for use as a Council home via the Market Acquisitions workstream (see Section 2, paragraph 2.19 and Section 6, paragraph 6.7 of the report).

6. Agrees to continue to receive an update on the housing development programme every six months.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Council-owned sites proposed for residential development
Appendix 2 **EXEMPT** Proposed strategic acquisitions
Appendix 3 Photographic summary & tenants feedback on housing delivery
Appendix 4 Initial Equalities Screening (Part A)
Appendix 5 Equality Analysis (Part B)
Appendix 6 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Rotherham Housing Strategy 2022-25
Cabinet Report - Housing Delivery Programme 2024/25 update

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
Improving Places Select Committee (via annual updates on the Housing Strategy)

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
Yes – Exempt Appendix 2 (purchase of homes from the open market)

An exemption for Appendix 2 under Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is sought, as this part of the report contains commercially sensitive information.

When purchasing homes, either as Section 106 acquisitions, Market Acquisitions or turn-key acquisitions via the Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative, the Council may be

in competition with others. Exempt Appendix 2 sets out planned acquisitions which, if pursued, will be subject to a commercial negotiation. Publishing this information would therefore put the Council at a competitive disadvantage. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information.

Housing Delivery Programme Report 2025-26 Update

1. Background

1.1 In 2018, the Council embarked on a Housing Delivery Programme. Since this time, the Council has established a strong track-record of delivery and achieved success in using its own land and resources to build and acquire new Council homes, delivering 687 new Council homes to the end of May 2025 (552 homes for Council Rent [80%] and 135 homes for Shared Ownership [20%]. In addition, 125 homes have been delivered for Market Sale that do not contribute towards the 1,000 new homes target). The programme remains on track to deliver 1,000 new Council homes by Summer 2027.

1.2 This delivery to date has been achieved through a mixed programme of activity, with delivery across four workstreams:

- New build homes on council-owned sites.
- Delivery by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME) developers through the Council's innovative Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative.
- Section 106 acquisitions from developers as part of their planning obligations.
- The acquisition of homes from the open market ('market acquisitions').

1.3 Specifically, in the period from 1st December 2024 to 31st May 2025 (and covered by this report), the programme has delivered a total of 57 new homes. This has been achieved through 42 Market Acquisitions and 15 Section 106 Acquisitions.

1.4 In the same period work has continued to progress on the Council's own new-build programme with construction starting on 14 new Council homes across three sites in West Melton and Swinton, and an application for planning permission submitted for 28 new homes in Wath.

1.5 An updated photographic summary of delivery from 1st December 2024 to 31st May 2025, along with a selection of quotes from tenants, is provided at Appendix 3.

1.6 The need for this continued delivery programme is evidenced by the more than 7,000 households on the Council's housing register. The Council's ability to meet this demand continues to be eroded by the Right to Buy, which has seen 1,095 council homes sold between January 2018 and the end of May 2025.

2. Key Issues

Programme Options and Project Delivery

2.1 It is necessary for any programme of this scale, type and complexity, to over-programme to mitigate risks to delivery. The current programme has the potential to deliver 1,108 homes, exceeding the remaining available

budget and target number of homes. This programme position is summarised in Table 1 below with further detail provided in Appendix 1 and Exempt Appendix 2.

Table 1: Current Programme Position – Previously Approved

Workstream	Completed	In Build	In contract	Pipeline	Total
Council Build	411	27	149	42	629
SME	7			46	53
S106	193	69		44	306
Market Acquisition	76		16	28	120
Total	**687**	**96**	**165**	**160**	**1108**

2.2 At this point in the programme, key decisions need to be made about which projects to progress, and conversely which projects to stop or slow the delivery of. This limits costs, enables the effective and efficient prioritisation of resources, and ensures the delivery of a balanced programme.

2.3 Based on current cost estimates, and the combination of estimated future delivery, a total of 1,005 homes can be delivered whilst retaining a programme-level contingency of circa £5m. This contingency provides some flexibility to cover any cost increases, risk areas, and further costs from schemes which may not progress. This proposed programme position, in line with recommendation 3, is summarised in Table 2 below with further detail in Appendix 1 and Exempt Appendix 2.

Table 2: Proposed Programme Position – Recommendation 3

Workstream	Completed	In Build	In contract	Pipeline	Total
Council Build	411	27	104	17	559
SME	7			26	33
S106	193	69		28	290
Market Acquisition	76		16	31	123
Total	**687**	**96**	**120**	**102**	**1005**

2.4 Set out in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.8 is an overview of the number of homes delivered to the end of May and the proposed future delivery for each workstream of the programme to achieve 1,005 new Council homes by mid-2027. Some movement between the final number of properties delivered per workstream is likely. This is a normal function of a programme of this size and complexity. Any changes will be reported in future updates to Cabinet.

2.5 **Market Acquisitions:** Delivered 76 homes since late 2023, with a further pipeline of 47 homes, 16 of which are already in the legal process with a further 31 to identify from the open market. This workstream has been critical in enabling the acquisition of homes for general needs. It has also enabled the Council to quickly increase the supply of homes available for use as Temporary Accommodation, with Local Authority Housing Fund investment secured to purchase 20 homes which can be used to reduce homelessness pressures (directly or indirectly). Overall, this workstream is

expected to deliver a total of circa 123 homes (including the 20 Local Authority Housing Funded properties) towards the 1,000 homes target.

2.6 **Section 106 Acquisitions:** This workstream delivers the best value for money new build homes, with homes purchased at a discount as part of developers' planning obligations. Overall, the Council expects to deliver 290 homes through this workstream, with 262 of these homes either already delivered or in contract at the end of May 2025.

2.7 **Council New build homes:** This type of delivery, whilst the most expensive and often with viability challenges, provides the greatest degree of control over what and where housing is delivered. Delivered on Council-owned sites, it secures genuine additionality and contributes towards Local Plan housing delivery targets. To date, 411 homes have been delivered through this delivery route, and it is expected to contribute a further 148 new build homes by mid-2027. This includes five new homes forecast for delivery through the conversion of the Hurley Croft Neighbourhood Centre.

2.8 **SME homes on privately owned sites through the Council's Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative**: This initiative offers the opportunity to deliver high quality, affordable housing by unlocking development opportunities for SME developers on sites they have secured within the Rotherham borough. This workstream has delivered 7 new-build homes to date with a further 26 expected by mid-2027.

2.9 The delivery profile to achieve 1,005 new homes includes the following forecast milestones.

- A total of 1,000 new homes 'locked in' (in contract, have started on site or are already delivered) by 31st December 2026.
- A total of 988 new homes delivered by 30th June 2027.
- The target of 1,000 new homes delivered by 31st of August 2027.

Programme Review and Proposed Changes

Council Build

2.10 The delivery of new build homes on council-owned sites remains the area of the programme with the greatest risk and therefore has been subject to the greatest amount of overprogramming. The current programme includes a total of circa 218 homes yet to be delivered for this workstream (the combined total of In Build, In Contract and Pipeline homes on the Council Build line in Table 1).

2.11 As part of the Council's ongoing approach to programme and risk management, all projects in this workstream not already in build have been re-assessed in terms of technical deliverability, affordability and ability to contribute to the 1,000 homes target.

2.12 This has led to the identification of 6 schemes (55 homes) for removal from the programme. There are numerous contributing factors, including escalating costs and unforeseen abnormal costs linked to topography,

ground conditions and infrastructure, which make project delivery unviable and unaffordable for the Council. Regulatory changes, such as Building Regulations and the implementation of Bio-Diversity Net Gain, have added further to the cost of development.

2.13 An additional 20 Council Build homes are now programmed to deliver post Summer 2027. These have therefore been removed from the 1000 new homes target and forecast as part of the future, post 1000 new homes programme. Work to bring forwards these homes will continue and a start on site for the construction will be achieved in the current programme period.

2.14 The final change to the Council Build workstream is the addition of 5 homes to be delivered via the conversion of an unused Neighbourhood Centre at Hurley Croft.

2.15 In summary, the difference between the Council build homes in the current programme (629 – Table 1) and the proposed programme (559 – Table 2) is 70 homes. This is comprised of the removal of 75 homes (55 homes removed from the current programme and 20 homes to be delivered in the future programme after the Summer of 2027) and the addition of 5 homes through the conversion of a Neighbourhood Centre.

SME

2.16 An SME scheme which was forecast to deliver 20 new homes via the Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative has been removed from the proposed programme. The proposed developer does not own the site or have an option to purchase it, and the site does not have any existing planning permissions. Furthermore, viability concerns exist on this scheme related to expected land values. The scheme is no longer able to deliver new homes by Summer 2027. This change is reflected in the total number of 53 SME units in Table 1 reducing to 33 in Table 2.

Section 106

2.17 For the Section 106 workstream, 16 homes from the current programme need to be deferred to the future programme beyond the Summer of 2027. This reflects the developer's current delivery profile which forecasts these homes will be delivered outside the current programme period. This change is reflected in the reduction of the total number of Section 106 units from 306 in Table 1 to 290 in Table 2.

Market Acquisitions

2.18 The final programme change recommended in this report are the addition of 3 homes to be delivered via the Market Acquisitions workstream. These additions contribute towards the programme outturn position of 1,005 new homes and provides some mitigation towards the risk of other homes within the programme not being delivered or delivery coming outside of the current programme period. This change sees the total number of Market Acquisitions increase from 120 in Table 1 to 123 in Table 2.

Further information on mitigating this risk is outlined in paragraphs 2.26.1 to 2.26.3.

2.19 In addition, a former Council-owned 'education property' is surplus to the current operational requirements of the Children and Young Peoples Directorate. There is high demand for this type of property (a 3-bedroom house located at Eastwood) for Council rent. Following a review by the Council's Asset Management Board, the Officer recommendation is that the property should be appropriated (transferred) to the Housing Service and used as a General Needs Council home. The works required to refurbish the property and bring it up to the required standard will be funded from the Market Acquisitions budget.

2.20 The specific changes to the proposed programme are summarised in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Proposed Programme Changes

Scheme	Location	Ward	Delivery Route	Change	Units
Hurley Croft Neighbourhood Conversion	Brampton Bierlow	Hoober Ward	Council Build	Added	5
Market Acquisitions	Borough wide	Borough wide	Market Acquisitions	Added	3
Symonds Avenue (Site A and Site B)	Rawmarsh	Rotherham West Ward	Council Build	Removed	14
Occupation Road	Broom Valley	Boston Castle Ward	Council Build	Removed	9
Far Lane	East Dene	Rotherham East Ward	Council Build	Removed	14
The Lanes	East Dene	Rotherham East Ward	Council Build	Removed	8
Carver Close	Harthill	Wales Ward	Council Build	Removed	7
Staple Green/St Leonard's Ave	Thrybergh	Dalton & Thrybergh Ward	Council Build	Removed	3
Roberts Grove	Aston	Aston & Todwick Ward	SME	Removed	20
Maltby Tickhill	Maltby	Maltby East Ward	S106 Acquisition	Deferred (future Programme).	16
Tenter Street	Thornhill	Rotherham West Ward	Council Build	Deferred (future Programme).	20

2.21 These changes result in Council owned sites across 6 schemes not being used for delivery of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme as per previous Cabinet reports. The recommendation for 4 of these sites is to

dispose of them in line with all statutory consents and approvals (including Secretary of State consent where required) and the Council's established process. Part of this process is consideration as to whether other Council Services have a use for sites prior to marketing them for disposal. The specific sites and recommendations are presented in Table 4 below. Any disposal of sites will be specifically for housing, meaning the Council is enabling housing delivery by others.

Table 4: Site Recommendations

Scheme	Ward	Units	Site Recommendation
Rawmarsh - Symonds Avenue (Site A and Site B)	Rotherham West Ward	14	Disposal subject to the usual Council process
Broom Valley - Occupation Road	Boston Castle Ward	9	Disposal subject to the usual Council process
East Dene – Far Lane	Rotherham East Ward	14	Disposal subject to the usual Council process
East Dene - The Lanes	Rotherham East Ward	8	Retain - Development to be considered as part of potential area investment
Harthill - Carver Close	Wales Ward	7	Retained as HRA asset
Thrybergh - Staple Green/St Leonard's Ave	Dalton & Thrybergh Ward	3	Disposal subject to the usual Council process
Total		55	

2.22 Costs have been incurred in exploring the feasibility of the schemes recommended to be removed from the programme. These costs are estimated to be £613,671, subject to contract termination agreement and negotiations. This estimate includes all fees and costs to the Council including Survey Fees, Professional Fees and, where projects have progressed to further stages, Planning Fees and Pre-Construction Services Agreement Fees (where a Contractor has been appointed at the design stage).

2.23 A total investment of circa £222.5m has been identified to deliver the target of 1,000 new Council homes (those already delivered and those in the remaining programme). The cost of the feasibility work for schemes to be removed from the programme is therefore less than 0.3% of the total programme investment. With such a complex development programme, it is normal to incur costs of this type, often at a far higher value, as 'the cost of doing business'. A review of processes and programme decision making will be undertaken to inform the planning of the post Summer 2027 programme, with the aim of further limiting such costs in future.

Delivering a Balanced Programme

2.24 The HRA Business Plan 2025/26 approved by Council on 15th January 2025 includes provision for £151m investment to deliver the existing pipeline of projects and to ensure the continuation of the Housing Delivery Programme into 2027/28 and 2028/29. The provision was based on existing cost assumptions when the HRA Business Plan was finalised.

2.25 The proposed programme changes outlined in this report recognise that the HRA Business Plan effectively sets the maximum level of investment which can be committed to the Council's Housing Delivery Programme, and balances this against the need to provide 1,000 new homes in the current programme period.

Securing the Delivery of 1,000 Council Homes by Summer 2027 - Options and Mitigations

2.26 The proposed programme retains sufficient flexibility to consider options within the budget allocations for both the current and future programme (from mid-2027). These options provide mitigation against the risk of schemes not progressing which are planned to contribute towards the 1,000 new homes target. The options are listed in paragraphs 2.26.1 to 2.26.3.

2.26.1 Accelerated delivery of schemes expected to start on site in the current programme period, but that won't complete until after mid-2027. Specifically, this relates to the sequencing of the projects at Grayson Road and Tenter Street, with flexibility to deliver either one of these projects first.

2.26.2 Respond to new opportunities which may come forward via the Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative – given these are market/opportunity-led, the pipeline is less visible.

2.26.3 Accelerate the delivery of Market Acquisitions towards the end of the current programme period should there be any risk to the delivery of the 1,000 homes target. This is the most flexible delivery option at relatively short notice which provides the most controllable mitigation of this risk.

2.27 Whilst the current Programme is focused on the delivery of 1,000 new Council homes, work on building a future pipeline of sites and schemes is ongoing and will be the subject of a future Housing Delivery Programme Cabinet Report.

External Funding

2.28 To deliver the Housing Delivery Programme, it is estimated that a minimum of circa £30m of non-HRA funding from a range of sources (some of which are already held by the Council) is required to invest alongside the Councils own HRA resources. The main source of this external grant funding is from the Government, with funding currently available via the Affordable Homes Programme.

2.29 During 2024, and with the current Affordable Homes Programme coming to an end, Government indicated that almost all the available AHP funding (circa £11.5bn across England since 2021) had been deployed. This led to a short pause in accepting new bids for funding.

2.30 In October 2024, as part of the Autumn Budget, the Government announced a £500m top-up to the Affordable Homes Programme. These

funds were almost entirely committed by the end of January 2025. During this time, the Council secured circa £2.96m of grant to support several of its new build projects.

2.31 In February 2025, Government committed a further £300m top-up. Projects that can start on site during the first 3 months of the 2025/26 Financial Year and complete by March 2027 will be prioritised for funding. The Council expects to secure further grant funding as part of this extension.

2.32 In March 2025, Government committed a further £2bn to the 2025/26 Affordable Homes Programme, as a bridging fund to the multi-year settlement expected to be announced at Spending Review. Positive conversations have begun about the ability to apply this grant funding to the Council's Housing Delivery Programme project, many of which are due to start on site during the current (2025/26) financial year. Notably this includes the Maltby cluster, the largest Council build scheme in the programme at 45 homes, and most expensive in terms of total scheme costs.

2.33 The total amount of Affordable Homes Programme funding secured by the Council since January 2024 is over £3.5m. When including Local Authority Housing Fund and Brownfield Housing Fund, the total amount of external grant funding since annuary 2024 is circa £5.32m.

2.34 Discussions are ongoing with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority regarding recently announced Brownfield Housing Funding and the potential to secure investment from this source to several of the Council's schemes.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

Option 1: Maintain the existing programme without the changes outlined in this report and retain for delivery the sites that are recommended for disposal in Table 4.

3.1 The HRA Business Plan 2025/26 effectively sets the maximum level of investment which can be committed to the Council's Housing Delivery Programme. Housing delivery is reliant on a range of different factors and the cost escalation on specific Council build schemes detailed in this report is such that it is not now feasible to deliver all previously programmed build units. There are further schemes included in the report which will no longer deliver new homes or are forecast to deliver outside of the current programme. It is a normal function of this type of programme to both add and remove sites and opportunities in response to the changing environment.

3.2 This option is not therefore recommended.

Option 2: Approve proposed programme changes in line with recommendation 3, to take forward the reviewed programme of an anticipated 1005 new homes by the Summer of 2027. To appropriate 19

Cranworth Road. To ensure that the delivery target of 1000 new homes is achieved within the budget provision set out in the HRA Business Plan 2025/26. Dispose of the sites that are recommended for disposal in Table 4.

3.3 To manage risk and maximise delivery of a programme of this scale and complexity within the desired timescales, there is a need to over programme and retain a degree of delivery flexibility. As the deliverability of such a programme clarifies over time, it is necessary to determine which schemes will contribute to the programme.

3.4 The re-assessment of Council build schemes, including the technical deliverability, affordability and ability to contribute to the 1,000 homes target, and the wider review of the remaining workstream schemes, has informed this decision-making process. The proposed programme changes will enable the Council to deliver the 1000 new homes target within the maximum level of investment set out in the HRA Business Plan.

3.5 This option is recommended.

As option 2 but retain the sites recommended for disposal in Table 4.

3.6 Despite the challenges posed to the Council by these sites, they are likely to remain attractive to a self-builder or small developer and therefore generate a capital receipt for the Council. Retention of the sites, which have already been identified as surplus by Housing Management and are not feasible for development by the Council, only serves to retain a liability in terms of the financial and resource costs of site maintenance.

3.7 This option is not recommended.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Local Ward members have been consulted on the impact of recommendations of the Programme Review where this affects proposed projects in their Wards. Ward members whose ward includes a Council Build scheme recommended for removal from the programme were invited to in-person or Teams meetings to advise them of the recommendations regarding those developments. Where ward Members were unable to attend, those members in attendance agreed to share the information with colleagues or an email was sent outlining the recommendation, background and next steps. In one ward there will be by request, a further meeting to update members regarding the future of the relevant site. All ward members will be kept informed of key decisions regarding future of the sites.

4.2 Ward members will be engaged with directly through the neighbourhood working model regarding any changes to the Housing Delivery Programme which affects schemes in their respective wards.

4.3 As individual new build schemes are progressed through the design process, Ward Members will continue to be consulted through the

neighbourhood working model at an early stage, and ahead of planning permission being sought.

4.4 Ongoing engagement is undertaken with developers, Registered Providers of Social Housing, and external funders through a range of communication channels, including the Council's Strategic Housing Forum and a Housing Growth and Affordable Housing Roundtable event held by the Council in March 2025.

4.5 The Strategic Housing and Development Service will use all stakeholder feedback to shape the future programme and help ensure continuous improvement in the delivery of new Council homes.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Interim Assistant Director of Housing will have responsibility for implementing the programme. The Assistant Director, Legal Services will have responsibility for the negotiating, approving, and completing of all applicable legal documentation necessary to deliver the scheme, including contracts.

5.2 In-line with previous programme reports, this latest report presents a rolling, continuous programme of delivery. Further reports will be presented to Cabinet on a six-monthly cycle through to Summer 2027 to keep Cabinet appraised of progress, refresh existing approvals and to seek new approvals as required.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The HRA Business Plan (BP) model tests the programme for affordability and budgets are in place to support the existing programme. The HRA BP and the budgets assume a level of grant income received from Homes England and the use of Right to Buy receipts. A six-month review of the HRA BP will assess revised scheme costings and expected external income.

6.2 The development of sites identified in Appendix 1 and the programme of acquisition opportunities listed in Exempt Appendix 2 will be subject to individual business cases and assessed for affordability. The changes outlined in this report balance the available budget against the need to provide 1,000 new homes in the current programme period.

6.3 External grant funding will be sought on a scheme-by-scheme basis and will be subject to the usual governance processes prior to applications being made. See paragraph 2.33 for information on grant funding secured for completed or in progress schemes since January 2024.

6.4 There will be a financial impact on the programme if funding is not secured at levels included within the HRA Business Plan. Recent grant approvals have exceeded Business Plan assumptions, assisting the programme to mitigate increased costs.

6.5 The estimated cost of removing the Council build schemes from the programme is £613,671, subject to contract termination agreement and negotiations. This will be a charge to revenue budgets which will be a pressure in 2025/26.

6.6 A total of 4 sites have been recommended for disposal as per Table 4 in Section 2, paragraph 2.21. These sites have been valued at total of £570k. All valuations are subject to market conditions and the disposal route and should be viewed cautiously to reflect the subdued land market.

6.7 The appropriation of 19 Cranworth Road will result in a change to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) to reflect the appropriation. The property is valued at £125k so the General Fund CFR will decrease by this amount and the HRA CFR will increase by the same amount. This will result in the HRA paying additional annual interest of £4.5k which is charged at 3.56% of the increase of £125k to the CFR.

6.8 Housing Services continue to engage with the Council's Procurement Team to ensure procurement activity is being undertaken in compliance with the relevant procurement legislation (Public Contracts Regulations 2015 / Procurement Act 2023, whichever is the applicable dependent on the route to market), and the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The recommendations contained in this report are consistent with the Council's constitution and former Cabinet reports on this subject matter. The regular updates allow for timely and flexible decisions to be made in respect of potential housing delivery and the changes to the delegations proposed allow flexibility which has been shown to be desirable in the operation of this programme thus far.

7.2 The contractual implications of removing schemes from the programme, including the contract termination process, have been subject to internal and external legal advice. Under the contract terms, the Council can terminate the contracts at this stage and by doing so will not create legal implications.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 The development programme will deliver two, three, and four, bedroom homes which will allow families with children to access high quality, affordable homes, thus contributing to improving children's health, wellbeing, and opportunity.

9.2 The programme is further delivering bungalows and more specialised 'disabled person units' (DPU) which will allow older and disabled people to

live in safe, suitable accommodation that meets their needs and allows them to live independently for longer.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Through its wider development programme, the Council will increase the local supply of high quality, affordable homes to meet a range of needs. The Council holds a wide range of data which is used to determine the different needs and influence the types of homes being acquired. For example, of Rotherham's 265,800 residents, around 26% are aged 60 years or over and 9% are aged 75 years or over and the proposed acquisitions include bungalows that are suitable for older people, as well as people with disabilities.

10.2 The Council's development programme is critical to supporting families who are on the Housing Register, into high quality and affordable accommodation. Any new homes offered for rent by the Council are managed through the Council's Allocations Policy to ensure a fair and transparent approach to helping people in the greatest housing need to gain access to suitable and appropriate accommodation.

10.3 Surveys will be carried out with the occupants of new homes, and equality and diversity results analysed and compared with other relevant data sets such as the Housing Register. This will allow the Council to understand whether any protected characteristic groups are over or under-represented in new build homes and take appropriate action if required.

10.4 Both an Initial Equality Screening (Part A) and an Equality Impact Assessment (Part B) have been completed and are attached as Appendices 4 and 5.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 Climate change poses a significant threat to environments, individuals, communities, and economies on local, national, and international scales. In recognition of this the Council has aimed to be net carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030, and for Rotherham as a whole to achieve the same position by 2040.

11.2 Council Build: Through its own delivery programme, the Council has the ability to ensure that the new homes are high quality and energy efficient, which will contribute to reducing domestic carbon emissions in the longer-term.

11.3 Section 106 Acquisitions: The level of carbon emissions allowed for all new homes is subject to increasing controls. Changes to Part L of the building regulations came into force in June 2022, requiring a 31% reduction in CO2 emissions compared to 2013 standards. All new homes that submit plans after June 2022 or which have not begun construction before June 2023 must comply. New homes acquired by the Council from private builders are specified and built to the housebuilder's usual specification with some changes paid for by the Council to ensure the

Council's requirements are met. Further to this the Council will examine whether further changes can be agreed, on a case-by-case basis, to reduce carbon emissions beyond the requirements of building regulations.

11.4 Market Acquisitions: All existing stock acquired through the Market Acquisitions will be improved to Energy Performance Certificate C as part of the refurbishment work required to meet the Council's lettable standard. Future energy performance improvements will be considered as part of wider stock investment programmes.

11.5 Both Council-build and acquisitions will increase emissions. Whilst mitigations are in place, with an explicit aim to exceed Building Regulations Part L requirements where feasible, the overall net carbon emissions status of Rotherham's social housing stock will increase in the short term. Homes brought forward with electrically sourced heating and hot water provision, however, should become effective carbon neutral once the electricity grid itself achieves zero-carbon. In addition to delivering new homes, the Council continues to improve and sustain its existing homes, including investment to maintain the Decent Homes Standard and improve energy and thermal efficiency.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 The Council has an existing partnership with Equans and Mears through the housing repairs and maintenance contracts and the existing contract terms allow for some housing development. As such, the delivery programme may also provide an opportunity for the partners to work with the Council on housing development schemes where this would not be at a detriment to the core repair and maintenance functions.

12.2 Housing associations continue to play an important role in delivering affordable housing in Rotherham. The Council has a successful track record of working with housing associations to bring land forward for development and maintains strong relationships with many of the largest and most reputable organisations through the Rotherham Strategic Housing Forum.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The key risks are summarised in the table below. A detailed risk assessment will be provided alongside the business case for individual schemes as they are brought forward.

13.2

Risk	Mitigation
Pressure on construction labour and materials (both in terms of supply and costs) resulting from the Covid pandemic, EU Exit and invasion of Ukraine.	Risks recorded and monitored for all individual schemes, advance ordering, and storage of materials where appropriate / possible. All costs remain projections as actual costs will be highly dependent on the nature of the sites, the construction method, specifications, and property

	types. Options to reduce costs may need to be explored and this could include switching tenure or rent type, delivering more smaller properties and amending specifications
Site suitability - even at a late stage in the process, sites can be found to be unsuitable (for example due to severe contamination or high flood risk) or need to be restricted in terms of the type and numbers of new housing which can ultimately be achieved.	A mixed approach will be taken with regards to scheme procurement. The Council are carrying out ground investigations at an early stage and are engaging with developer partners early to ensure optimal delivery within the programme timeframe and that any particularly problematic sites are dealt with and potentially removed from the programme before the Council is contractually committed to build. The Council have also allowed for an expected degree of over-programming to mitigate against the removal of any sites. Grant funding will also help the Council to mitigate against the cost of ground remediation works but where a site is ultimately unsuitable for development it will not be brought forward.
Volatility in the construction sector and uncertainty of contractor interest, capacity and capabilities.	Early market engagement activity (December 2023 and March 2024) with contractors has led to a change in the Council's procurement strategy for the programme and a range of procurement methods are being used including different frameworks and contractors. The programme also consists of multiple workstreams to allow for flexibility.
Delays to housing development schemes resulting from utilities connections and other statutory undertakings	Early engagement with relevant organisations and internal services, and robust project management processes in place with realistic contingencies for costs and delays
Internal staff capacity – Housing, Legal, Procurement, Asset Management etc	Explore different partnering arrangements to reduce client-side resource pressures, including pre-contract service agreements whereby the contractor carries out early feasibility work at risk. Ongoing dialogue between services regarding forward planning and resource requirements, and HRA contributions to staffing costs in key supporting services.
Community opposition	Formal resident consultation takes place as part of the Planning process. However, early engagement will take place with

	Ward Members and the Neighbourhoods team to identify local knowledge and intelligence about the area, which will be utilised to help inform site specific communication plans including any pre-planning resident engagement activity.
Funding availability / eligibility	Continual dialogue with external funding bodies. Investment of time in robust business case preparation to ensure overall costs remain within approved HRA Business Plan affordability modelling and Capital Programme approvals. Regular meetings with Finance colleagues to monitor programme.
Ensuring Value for Money and delivery within the overall HRA Business Plan cost assumptions	The modelling makes assumptions about the level of grant income available from Homes England and other agencies, which in practice must be negotiated scheme by scheme. While it makes an allowance for the cost pressures facing the housing development industry, all costs remain projections as actual costs will be highly dependent on the nature of the sites, the construction method, specifications, and property types. Options to reduce costs may need to be explored and this could include switching tenure or rent type, delivering more smaller properties and amending specifications.

14. Accountable Officers

Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adults, Housing and Public Health

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	09/06/25
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	04/06/25

Report Author: *Alex Young, Housing Growth Manager*
alex.young@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

Appendix 1: Council-owned sites for residential development

Development of individual schemes is subject to appropriate consultation involving local ward members and sign-off of a completed capital business case. This content will be regularly refreshed to ensure that the latest position is presented to Cabinet in subsequent reports. All figures provided are as of 31 May 2025.

Table 1.1 Homes completed

The following homes have been completed since January 2018. This list is ordered by completion date. The 125 Market Sale units were built by the Council as part of Council build developments but were sold on the open market. They are not therefore included in the 1005 new Council homes.

Scheme	Location	Ward	Cabinet Report	Completion	Council Rent	Council S/O	Market Sale	Total
St Mary's Drive	Catcliffe	Rother Vale	Jul 2017	May 2018	2	0	0	2
Catherine Avenue	Swallownest	Aston & Todwick	Jul 2017	May 2018	4	0	0	4
Stock Conversion: Flanderwell Lane	Flanderwell	Wickersley North	Feb 2015	Nov 2018	2	0	0	2
Stock Conversion: Ash Grove	Wickersley	Wickersley North	Feb 2015	Dec 2018	4	0	0	4
Clusters: Gaitskell Close	Maltby	Maltby East	Sep 2016	Dec 2018	4	0	0	4
Stock Conversion: Caperns Road	North Anston	Anston & Woodsetts	Feb 2015	Apr 2019	4	0	0	4
Stock Conversion: Bierlow Close	Brampton	Hoober	Feb 2015	May 2019	1	0	0	1
Stock Conversion: Station Road	Treeton	Rother Vale	Feb 2015	May 2019	1	0	0	1
Clusters: Farnworth Road	East Herringthorpe	Dalton & Thrybergh	Sep 2016	Sep 2019	3	13	0	16
Clusters: Conway Crescent	East Herringthorpe	Dalton & Thrybergh	Sep 2016	Sep 2019	6	8	0	14
Clusters: Shakespeare Drive	Dinnington	Dinnington	Sep 2016	Oct 2019	5	0	0	5
Stock Conversion: Victoria Court	Kiveton Park	Wales	Feb 2015	Jan 2020	2	0	0	2
Stock Conversion: Victoria Street	Masbrough	Rotherham West	Feb 2015	Mar 2020	2	0	0	2
Clusters: Rother View Road	Canklow	Boston Castle	Sep 2016	Aug 2020	80	0	0	80
Clusters: Northgate	Maltby	Hellaby & Maltby West	Sep 2016	Aug 2020	0	15	83	98
The Bellows	Rawmarsh	Rawmarsh West	Dec 2017	Sep 2020	28	30	0	58
Broom Hayes	Broom Valley	Boston Castle	Dec 2017	May 2021	24	20	0	44
SOAHP Bungalows: Arundel Avenue	Treeton	Rother Vale	Dec 2017	Mar 2022	8	0	0	8
SOAHP Bungalows: Braithwell Road	Ravenfield	Bramley & Ravenfield	Dec 2017	Mar 2022	6	0	0	6
Town Centre Sites: Wellgate Place	Town Centre	Boston Castle	Oct 2017	May 2022	34	12	8	54
Town Centre Sites: Westgate Riverside	Town Centre	Boston Castle	Oct 2017	Feb 2023	44	8	20	72
Town Centre Sites: Millfold Rise	Town Centre	Boston Castle	Oct 2017	Apr 2023	31	0	14	45
East Herringthorpe Small Sites	East Herringthorpe	Dalton & Thrybergh	Sep 2020	Apr 2024	10	0	0	10
				Totals	**305**	**106**	**125**	**536**

Table 1.2 Homes in construction (contract secured)

The following schemes are in contract, but the homes haven't yet been completed. This list is ordered by estimated completion date
.

Scheme	Location	Ward	Cabinet Report	Est. Completion	Council Rent	Council S/O	Market Sale	Total
Warden Street	Canklow	Boston Castle	Jul 2022	Oct 2025	13	**0**	**0**	13
Albert Road (Princess Street Site B)	West Melton	Hoober	Jan 2023	Nov 2025	4	0	0	4
Princess Street (Site A)	West Melton	Hoober	Mar 2021	Nov 2025	6	0	0	6
Ship Inn	Swinton	Kilnhurst & Swinton East	Jan 2023	Nov 2025	4	0	0	4
				Totals	**27**	**0**	**0**	**27**

Table 1.3 Approved pipeline (current Programme)

The following sites have previously been presented to Cabinet and being progressed through feasibility and design, but no construction contract is yet in place and it remains possible that some sites will not be delivered. This list is ordered by ward.

Scheme	Location	Ward	Cabinet Report	Project status	Council Rent	Council S/O	Market Sale	Total
Section A: Approved pipeline (current Programme)								
Hurley Croft (Neighbourhood Centre)	Brampton Bierlow	Hoober	Jul-2025	In assessment	5	0	0	5
Grayson Road	Greasbrough	Greasbrough	Jan 2024	In assessment	12	0	0	12
Addison Road	Maltby	Hellaby & Maltby West	Jan 2023	Design Contract	27	0	0	27
Elm Tree Road	Maltby	Hellaby & Maltby West	Mar 2021	Design Contract	2	0	0	2
Larch Road	Maltby	Hellaby & Maltby West	Jan 2023	Design Contract	16	0	0	16
Netherfield Court	Eastwood	Rotherham East	Mar 2021	Design Contract	19	0	0	19
York Road	Eastwood	Rotherham East	Mar 2021	Design Contract	12	0	0	12
Denman Road	Wath	Wath	Jan 2023	Design Contract	18	0	0	18
Bushfield Road (Denman Road Site B)	Wath	Wath	Jan 2024	Design Contract	4	0	0	4
Valley Drive (Denman Road Site C)	Wath	Wath	Jan 2024	Design Contract	6	0	0	6
				Sub-Total: Number of homes within the current Programme	**121**	**0**	**0**	**121**
Section B: Approved Pipeline (future opportunities)								
Tenter Street	Thornhill	Rotherham West	Jan 2024	In assessment	20	0	0	20
Boswell Street	Herringthorpe	Boston Castle	Jan 2024	In assessment	36	0	15	51
Wadsworth Road	Bramley	Bramley & Ravenfield	Mar 2021	In assessment	3	0	0	3
Cedric Crescent (2 sites)	Thurcroft	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	Mar 2021	In assessment	5	0	0	5
St Edmunds Avenue	Thurcroft	Thurcroft & Wickersley South	Mar 2021	In assessment	3	0	0	3

Littlemoor Avenue (2 sites)	Kiveton Park	Wales	Mar 2021	In assessment	4	0	0	4
Sycamore Avenue (Site A)	Kiveton Park	Wales	Mar 2021	In assessment	1	0	0	1
Sycamore Avenue (Site B)	Kiveton Park	Wales	Jul 2023	In assessment	1	0	0	1
Sub-Total: Number of homes (future opportunities)					**53**	**0**	**15**	**88**

NB The number of estimated homes has been reprofiled for this reporting period as indicative site capacity layouts have been produced for a number of this sites which give a more accurate estimate. The estimated numbers are still subject to change during the assessment and design process.

Table 1.4 Total forecast delivery – all new homes

The following delivery may be achieved by Summer 2027 if all sites and estimated homes are brought forward. The 125 Market Sale units were built by the Council as part of Council build developments but were sold on the open market. They are not therefore included in the 1005 new Council homes.

Category	Council Rent	Council S/O	Market Sale	Total
1.1 Completed homes	305	106	125	536
1.2 Homes in construction (contract secured)	27	0	0	27
1.3(a) Approved pipeline (current Programme)	121	0	0	121
Totals	**453**	**106**	**125**	**684**

Table 1.5 Recommended to Remove

The following sites have been proposed for Council development in previous Cabinet reports, but it has since been determined that the development of the sites is currently unfeasible. It is recommended that they are removed from the Programme.

Scheme	Cabinet Report	Removed	Reason	Original Est.
Occupation Road	Jan-23	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	9
Symonds Avenue (Site A)	Jan-23	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	10
Symonds Avenue (Site B)	Jan-24	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	4
Far Lane	Jan-23	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	14
The Lanes	Jul-24	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	8
Thrybergh Zero-Carbon Prototype	Jan-20	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	3
Carver Close	Jul-22	Proposed Jul-25	No longer viable due to cost escalation.	7
			Total	**55**

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Appendix 3: Photographic summary of delivery & tenant feedback (December 2024 – April 2025):

For Photographic summary of delivery & tenant feedback January 2028 – November 2024, please see: https://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/documents/s150455/Appendix%203%20-%20Photographic%20summary%20of%20delivery.pdf

December 2024: Park House Lane, Dinnington (Strategic Acquisition)

- **7 Homes for Council Rent**



December 2024: Market Acquisitions: Stubbs Crescent and Oak Lane, Kimberworth Park, Thornton Terrace, Meadowbank, Goldsmith Drive, Herringthorpe, and Dear Leep Drive, Thrybergh (Market Acquisitions)

- **5 Homes for Council Rent**



January 2025: Market Acquisitions: James Street, Masbrough, Dovercourt Road, Henley, St Stephens Road, Eastwood, Chestnut Grove, Maltby, Highfield Road, Swinton, and Westfield Avenue, Aughton (Market Acquisitions)

- **6 Homes for Council Rent**



(Google Earth Photo)

February 2025: Market Acquisitions: Wordsworth Drive and Burns Drive, Herringthorpe, Meadowhall Road, Richmond Park, Eldon Road, Eastwood, Avondale Road and Kimberworth Road, Bradgate, South Crescent, East Dene, Russell Street, Town Centre, Duke Avenue, Maltby, and William Street, Clifton (Market Acquisitions)

- **12 Homes for Council Rent**



February 2025: Park House Lane, Dinnington (Strategic Acquisition)

- **6 Homes for Council Rent**





Park House Lane, Dinnington (Strategic Acquisition)



Feedback from Tenants (April 2025):

"We haven't had a shower before and this met the medical needs of our son, outside its very private and a double drive to allow easy access in and out of our vehicle, all block paved in area on the estate, so all looks smart".

"We love the house, best thing is downstairs the toilet as I have children with additional needs, so this is easy to get to, the garden is a nice size too".

"The house is bigger than I expected, I have 4 kids, so it is very spacious".

"We love it. The house is bigger than expected…. where we lived previously there was nowhere to park, and this caused arguments with neighbours".

February 2025: Market Acquisitions: Town Lane, Rockingham, Denman Road, Wath, Teesdale Road, Wingfield (Market Acquisitions)

- **3 Homes for Council Rent**



(Google Earth Photo)

March 2025: Market Acquisitions: Milton Road, Hatherley Road, and Bethel Road, Eastwood, Town Lane Rockingham and Luteral Drive, Swallownest (Market Acquisitions)

- **5 Homes for Council Rent**



(Google Earth Photo)

April 2025: Market Acquisitions: Beevers Road, Kimberworth Park (Marlet Acquisition)

- **1 Home for Council Rent**



(Google Earth Photo)

April 2025: Buttercup Boulevard, Ravenfield (Strategic Acquisition)

- **2 Homes for Council Rent**



April 2025: Market Acquisitions: Doncaster Road and Milton Road, Eastwood, James Street and St Johns Avenue, Masbrough, Pembroke Street and Cinderhill Road, Kimberworth, and Badsley Street, Clifton.

- **7 Homes for Council Rent**





(Google Earth Photo)

May 2025: Market Acquisitions: Clifford Avenue, Thrybergh, Sheffield Road, South Anston and Coleridge Road, Eastwood.

- **3 Homes for Council Rent**



Appendix 4

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26	
Directorate: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	**Service area:** Strategic Housing and Development
Lead person: Alex Young	**Contact number:** 01709 822098
Is this a: [ ] **Strategy / Policy** [X] **Service/Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This report sets out proposals which will continue to support the delivery of hundreds of new council homes by March 2026, through a combination of development on Council owned land and the acquisition of homes from the private sector.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are. When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	✓	
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*	✓	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		✓
If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason		

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity
If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

*(**think about** the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)*

Through the Housing Delivery Programme, the Council aims to meet a range of housing needs based on data and evidence held about local demographics and trends. The housing to be built will help to ensure the following groups can access good quality, affordable and well managed homes: families, older people, people with disabilities, single person households. The Programme has also been designed to ensure homes are built in a range of areas across the borough including deprived areas where the private sector is unlikely to deliver the homes needed, without public sector intervention. Improving deprived areas through housing and regeneration helps to tackle inequalities.

Council homes are let via the Allocations Policy, for which a full equalities assessment has been carried out. This will ensure homes are allocated fairly and that no groups with protected characteristics are disadvantaged.

The Strategic Housing and Development Service contacts tenants who move into new build properties to carry out a follow-up questionnaire or 'new build survey'. This is done to find out more about the people who have moved into recently built council homes. The equalities and diversity information is analysed and compared against the profile of people on the Council's Housing Register, so we can identify any potential issues i.e. certain protected characteristic groups being under or over-represented in new build properties.

- **Key findings**

*(**think about** any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)*

An assessment of the Programme has found that it will enable delivery of homes to meet a range of needs including people with disabilities, older people, families with children and single people.

Actions

- Conduct new build survey and analyse equalities and diversity data (ongoing)
- For each scheme, consult with colleagues in ASC and CYPS to identify any particular needs that can be met through the scheme - ongoing

• Review this equalities analysis annually, alongside future annual housing development Cabinet reports - annual	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	28/04/25
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	01/05/25
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Nick Ward, Place and Quality Manager

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Michael Hellewell	Head of Strategic Housing and Development	15/05/25
Alex Young	Housing Development Manager	02/05/25

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	02/05/25
Report title and date	Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	07/07/25
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	13/05/25

Appendix 5

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 6 May 2025	
Directorate: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	**Service area:** Strategic Housing and Development
Lead person: Alex Young	**Contact number:** 01709 822098
Is this a:	
☐ **Strategy/Policy** ☒ **Service/Function** ☐ **Other**	
If other, please specify	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Hannah Mitchell	Rotherham Council	Housing Development Coordinator
Alex Young	Rotherham Council	Housing Growth Manger
Nick Ward	Rotherham Council	Place and Quality Manager

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)
This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, other groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

This Equalities Analysis (EA) has been produced in support of an upcoming Cabinet report; Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26. This report provides an update on the Housing Delivery Programme, summarising progress since the previous programme update report approved by Cabinet in July 2024. Several changes are required to the programme and renewed approvals are sought accordingly.

The programme has been designed to ensure homes are built in a range of areas across the borough including deprived areas where the private sector is unlikely to deliver the homes needed, without public sector intervention. Improving deprived areas through housing and regeneration helps to tackle inequalities. The Strategic Housing and Development Service has already delivered specialist homes on former garage and brownfield sites which support the diverse housing needs across the borough.

Council homes are let via the Allocations Policy, which is reviewed regularly and is subject to a full equalities assessment. This document ensures new homes are allocated fairly and that no groups with protected characteristics are disadvantaged.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

The Housing Delivery Programme is underpinned by analysis of housing need and demographic data which has been gained from a variety of sources including:

- Profile of applicants on Council's Housing Register (numbers of households eligible for age restricted accommodation etc). The Housing Occupational Health Team assesses households to determine their need which leads to a

priority of allocation under the Housing Allocations Policy. A regular review of the profile of people on the housing register takes place to help plan for the types of new homes needed.

- Local population demographic data (Census 2021 emerging)
- Indices of Multiple Deprivation
- Profile of existing Council tenants (including protected characteristics)
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment
- Intelligence from Strategic Housing Forum which is attended by partners that represent different interests and groups e.g., homelessness and young people etc
- Ward Members will receive specific briefings on potential sites in their wards and their feedback will be considered and reflected in individual scheme EAs along with other relevant factors.
- Ward Profiles contain detailed, localised information both profiling housing stock in the ward and demand.
- The Strategic Housing and Development service has worked with the Neighbourhood Service to assist with consultation and dissemination of information about development in localities, identifying alignment with ward priorities. Again, any feedback will be included in individual scheme EAs.
- Housing Involvement Panel which includes Council tenant volunteers.
- Data from new rented, shared ownership and open market sales is analysed to understand the equality impact of each development. The profiling of tenants/ owners is also reflected in completions report and any lessons learnt are applied when developing new projects.

Where possible the Delivery Programme will focus on increasing a specific housing type so homes can meet identified local housing needs. This is often where a particular group of people have been disadvantaged by the local housing market i.e., they cannot afford, or do not have choice in where/how they live. The Programme aims to make housing accessible to all regardless of their income and need. This includes taking a role in increasing the supply to meet local need, as well as enabling and encouraging other stakeholders to increase supply across the private market.

Demographic information

- The Census population of Rotherham in 2021 is 265,800, an increase of 8,200 (+3.2%) compared with the 2011 Census, with around half living in and around the main urban area of Rotherham. The remainder live in smaller towns such as Wath, Dinnington and Maltby, and in numerous large villages and rural communities, all of which have their own distinct identities
- The 2021 Census further shows that Rotherham had 113,900 households, compared with 108,300 in the 2011 Census, an increase of 5,600 or 5.2%. In 2021, 17.7% of Rotherham's population were under 15 years, whilst 25.8% were aged 60 or over. The population of Rotherham aged 60 or over is slightly higher than the England figure of 24.2% and the Yorkshire and Humber figure of 25%.
- Rotherham's young population (under 15) increased from 46,000 in 2011 to 47,100 in 2021 (a 2.4% increase). This increase followed a 6% fall from 48,900 in 2001 to 46,000 in 2011. Whilst the school age population has

increased, the number of children aged 0-4 has decreased from 15,738 in 2011 to 14,600 (a 7.3% reduction).

- Rotherham's older population (over 60) has increased from 61,500 in 2011 to 68,600 in the 2021 Census, an 11.5% rise (51,700 in 2001). Rotherham's population is ageing broadly in line with national trends and the percentage aged over 85 increased from 2.1% in 2011 to 2.3% in 2021.

Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?

None identified following wider discussion with colleagues, however information has yet to be collected on the programmes completed over the last few years. We are seeking to ensure that future housing developments continue to provide for the protected characteristics identified and will be surveying household in the Council's new properties throughout the remainder of 2025. This will include information on protected characteristics.

What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

The overall progress of the Housing Delivery Programme will be reported to Cabinet as part of the request to proceed with the subsequent year's programme.

Progress with individual schemes will be reported to Housing Senior Management Team and other meetings/forums as appropriate.

Officer decisions will be formally recorded and published.

Surveys will continue to be carried out with the occupants of new homes, and equality and diversity results analysed and compared with other relevant data sets such as the Housing Register. This will allow the Council to understand whether any protected characteristic groups are over or under-represented in new build homes and act, if required.

Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	The Council holds a wealth of housing intelligence data which will be used to determine local housing need and prioritise areas for investment. A new Housing Strategy has been drafted and is due for approval by Cabinet by December 2025. It sets the direction for housing priorities for 2025-2030. The local community will be consulted on individual schemes as part of the planning process.

Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	The Cabinet Member for Housing has been engaged in the development of the programme from the outset and has been involved in shaping the overall strategic priorities for housing, through the Housing Strategy consultation. Ward Members will receive specific briefings on potential sites in their wards.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)

How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance)

Through the Housing Delivery Programme, the Council aims to increase choice and access to more homes, particularly affordable homes. Allocation to housing is dealt with via the Council's Allocations Policy. The Policy sets out how priority is allocated to people who have specific needs including people with protected characteristics.

The Programme will meet a range of housing needs based on data and evidence held about local demographics and trends. By understanding more about local need and by enabling and delivering a wider range of house types, the Programme should support and help remove the barriers that exist for specific groups of people. Particularly young and older people who are reliant on welfare support, and those who are physically disabled or have a family member who is disabled, requiring ground floor, accessible accommodation.

Of the sites listed in this report, consideration is being given to the following specific property types;

- Accessible homes for older people (+55 years),
- Larger family homes (3 and 4 bedrooms)
- Homes for wheelchair user and those with acute medical needs
- Smaller one- and two-bedroom properties

Housing Occupational Therapists are consulted when site layouts are being explored.

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?

No.

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

Homes delivered through the Programme will help to improve quality of life for households who may currently living in accommodation not suitable for their needs.

Individual schemes will be shaped in consideration of the different housing needs for each area, and the overall programme will include homes that meet the following needs:

- Larger family homes
- Homes for single people
- Homes for older people and people with disabilities and/or support needs

What effect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

No negative impacts have been identified/are anticipated.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26
Directorate and service area: Adult Care, Housing & Public Health. Strategic Housing & Development Service
Lead Manager: Alex Young
Summary of findings:
An assessment of the Programme has found that it will enable delivery of homes to meet a range of needs including people with disabilities, older people, families with children and single people. The Programme will deliver homes which will help to improve quality of life for households who may currently living in accommodation not suitable for their needs. By building in deprived areas where the public sector is not delivering the housing required, and focussing on the needs of local people in those areas, the Programme meets the needs of particular groups of people disadvantaged by the local housing market No negative impacts have been identified/are anticipated.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Monitor the impact of the housing development programme on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic	All	Ongoing

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
John Holman	Interim Assistant Director of Housing	23/05/2025
Ian Spicer	Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing & Public Health	23/05/2025
Councillor Linda Beresford	Cabinet Member for Housing	02/06/2025

7. Publishing	
The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date Equality Analysis completed	08/05/2025
Report title and date	Housing Delivery Programme – 2025/26 07/07/2025

Date report sent for publication	
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	13/05/25

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Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	Increase	Vehicle movements to and from sites will be generated during demolition and construction will create emissions, through the movement of building and waste materials and personnel. Addition of the homes to the Council's maintenance programme will also result in increased transport emissions in future years.	While it is possible that new households will increase vehicle movements, they may also reduce them, depending on where new residents work and access services. We do not know before a development is built where new residents will move from and whether this move will increase or decrease vehicle movements. However, it should be noted that the housing provision within this development includes provision for car parking as per planning policy. This does not in itself discourage car use, but this issue is outside of the	Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to demonstrate how they will minimise and mitigate emissions from vehicle movements as part of the construction, during the tendering process. All new housing developments are subject to planning controls and the planning process at the plan and policy development and planning application stages takes into account vehicle movements.	Assessment of whether the new households increase or decrease carbon emissions through vehicle movements is not monitored at this time. Overall Borough emissions are reported annually but are subject to a 2 year lag.

			remit of this carbon impact assessment. Some new properties included in the programme, i.e., the homes the Council purchases as strategic acquisitions will be built regardless of whether the Council purchases them or not.		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Increase	Construction will generate waste materials through demolition, exporting of materials from groundworks and waste construction materials.	Although new households may not necessarily mean more people living in the Borough, they are likely to create a small increase in the overall volume of waste created and, in the distance travelled by waste collection vehicles.	Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to produce a plan demonstrating how they will minimise and mitigate vehicle emissions from the movement of waste, during the tendering process. This will include the recycling / re use of materials on site where possible.	Where appropriate, we will monitor contractors implementation of wastes minimisation and management plans.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Increase	No direct emissions increase for the council.	The new properties built as part of the programme will increase emissions from the heating, lighting and powering of the new properties. Properties designed using the Future Homes Standard should decarbonise as the grid becomes more renewable without additional retrofit and are	The Council will ensure that the new homes are high quality, energy efficient and able to meet the challenge of climate change. The use of modern methods of construction will be considered, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction.	Construction will be monitored to ensure that specifications are met and, where appropriate, the energy performance of new buildings will be monitored once occupied to ensure that the stated performance standards are met.

			estimated to be 75% more efficient than part L building regulations. However, as some of these are new builds, there will still be additional emissions until the National Grid becomes decarbonised and as part of the buildings embodied carbon.	All existing stock acquired through the Market Acquisitions will be improved to Energy Performance Certificate C as part of the refurbishment work required to meet the Council's lettable standard.	
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Emissions will be increased from on site vehicles and equipment and the lighting of the sites. Also, from the heating lighting and powering of site offices and cabins. The manufacture of construction materials will increase emissions.	The emissions produced in the short term through construction and materials used will impact on Borough wide emissions. Some of the building materials will be manufactured within the Borough.	The use of modern methods of construction will be considered for all new schemes, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction.	This will be monitored through the procurement process.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	It is possible that some mature trees will be removed as part of the development of new sites which will impact on the borough's ability to capture carbon. Some of the Council's own construction projects will include the planting of trees as part of any landscaping schemes.	Removal of trees without replacement could, depending how they are disposed of, increase carbon emissions. This activity will also reduce the carbon sequestration capacity of the Borough. The balance between removal of mature trees and re-planting as part of landscaping schemes is unknown.	Where trees are present on a development site they will be retained where possible. The planning process deals with protection of trees on development sites and where it allows their removal usually requires equivalent or better replacement.	None.

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

N/A

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

Access to a long-term good quality home could help improve residents' resilience more generally. The inclusion of energy efficiency measures such as insulation could help make the homes more resistant during periods of extreme heat.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

Climate change poses a significant threat to environments, individuals, communities, and economies on local, national, and international scales. In recognition of this the Council has aimed to be net carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030, and for Rotherham as a whole to achieve the same position by 2040.

Council Build: Through its own delivery programme, the Council has the ability to ensure that the new homes are high quality and energy efficient, which will contribute to reducing domestic carbon emissions in the longer-term.

Section 106 Acquisitions: The level of carbon emissions allowed for all new homes is subject to increasing controls. Changes to Part L of the building regulations came into force in June 2022, requiring a 31% reduction in CO2 emissions compared to 2013 standards. All new homes that submit plans after June 2022 or which have not begun construction before June 2023 must comply. New homes acquired by the Council from private builders are specified and built to the housebuilder's usual specification with some changes paid for by the Council to ensure the Council's requirements are met. Further to this the Council will examine whether further changes can be agreed, on a case-by-case basis, to reduce carbon emissions beyond the requirements of building regulations.

Market Acquisitions: All existing stock acquired through the Market Acquisitions will be improved to Energy Performance Certificate C as part of the refurbishment work required to meet the Council's lettable standard. Future energy performance improvements will be considered as part of wider stock investment programmes.

Both Council-build and acquisitions will increase emissions. Whilst mitigations are in place, with an explicit aim to exceed Building Regulations Part L requirements where feasible, the overall net carbon emissions status of Rotherham's social housing stock will increase in the short term. Homes brought forward with electrically sourced heating and hot water provision, however, should become effective carbon neutral once the electricity grid itself achieves zero-carbon. In addition to delivering new homes, the Council continues to improve and sustain its existing homes, including investment to maintain the Decent Homes Standard and improve energy and thermal efficiency.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Nick Ward Place and Quality Manager Strategic Housing and Development Service Adult Care, Housing and Public Health
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	No relevant data or research used.
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	No relevant data or research used.
Validation.	Tracking Reference: CIA483 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Denman Road Housing Development, Wath

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

Report Author(s)
Hannah Mitchell, Housing Development Co-ordinator
hannah.mitchell@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Wath Ward

Report Summary
This report seeks approval from Cabinet to develop the Council-owned Denman Road site in Wath. It is projected that the site will deliver an estimated 18 new Council homes. Denman Road will be delivered as part of the 'Wath Small Sites' development, alongside Bushfield Road and Valley Drive. All three sites have previously been presented to and approved by Cabinet for inclusion as part of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme.

Appendix 1 shows the location of the 'Wath Small Sites', with the specific site requiring Cabinet approval coloured red, whilst the other two sites are outlined red.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approves development of the Denman Road site, to build an estimated 18 new Council homes, with the final number subject to planning permission and further design work.

2. Delegates authority to the Interim Assistant Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to optimise design of the sites according to strategic need, site constraints, and any requirements resulting from both stakeholder feedback and the planning application process.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Site Plan
Appendix 2 Indicative Site Layout
Appendix 3 Initial Equalities Screening (Part A)
Appendix 4 Equality Analysis (Part B)
Appendix 5 Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers

Cabinet Report: Housing Development Programme Report – 2023/24
Cabinet Meeting: 23 January 2023
Agenda for Cabinet on Monday 23 January 2023, 10.00 a.m. - Rotherham Council

Rotherham Housing Strategy 2022-25
Housing Strategy 2022-2025

Cabinet Report: Housing Delivery Programme Report – 2024/25 Update
Cabinet Meeting: 10 February 2025
Agenda for Cabinet on Monday 10 February 2025, 10.00 a.m. - Rotherham Council

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Denman Road Housing Development, Wath

1. Background

1.1 Denman Road is a Council-owned land asset held in the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The site was first approved for development by Cabinet in January 2023 as part of the 'Housing Development Programme Report – 2023/24'. The most recent version of the Programme was approved by Cabinet in February 2025.

1.2 The site is allocated for residential housing in the Local Plan and has previously housed blocks of flats that were demolished as part of clearances under the Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder. All demolition works were completed by 2009. An indicative capacity layout has been produced for 18 dwellings, currently only an estimate at this time and this number could reduce or increase, dependant on the final scheme design and planning decision. The site is currently vacant and attracting fly tipping.

1.3 Evidence set out in previous Housing Delivery Programme reports presented to Cabinet has identified that there is a clear and continuing need for more affordable homes across the Borough. As the high cost-of-living continues to affect communities, more people are turning to the Council for financial and housing support. Through the Housing Delivery Programme, which started in 2018, the Council expects to deliver 1,000 new Council homes across the Borough by Summer 2027. This project will contribute to the delivery of 1,000 new Council homes by mid-2027.

2. Key Issues

Approvals

2.1 The site has been included within previous Housing Delivery Programme reports to Cabinet (as set out at 1.1), meaning that the use of this site to deliver new Council homes has previously been approved in principle.

2.2 Due to the number of homes the Denman Road site has the potential to deliver, and in line with previous Cabinet decisions (with sites expected to deliver more than 15 new homes requiring their own Cabinet Report/decision), the recommendations in this report seek the necessary approvals required to enable progression of this project.

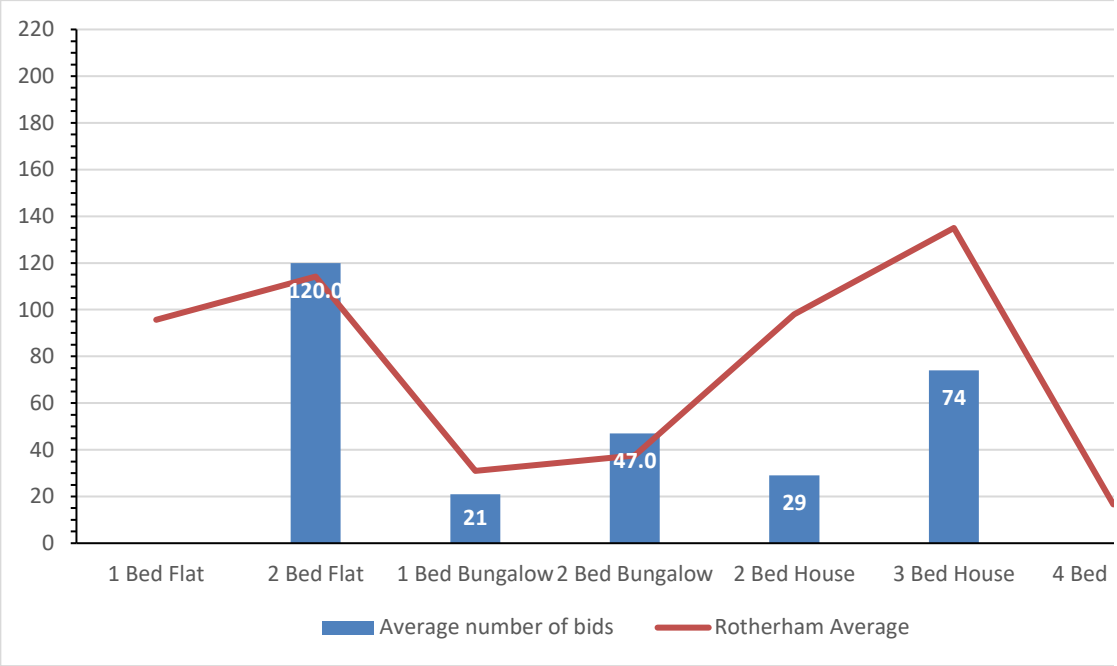
2.3 Early indications estimated the Denman Road site has the potential to deliver 18 new homes on the site and planning applications have been submitted on this basis. The final designs may be subject to change in line with recommendation 2 of this report.

Local housing need and demand – Wath

2.4 The Wath locality is situated within the Wath Ward. The area is popular with a high requirement for all property types. Two-bed apartments receive the largest number of bids in the area with two and three-bed properties receiving

the largest number of bids across the Borough as a whole. All properties are let through a Choice Based Lettings Policy.

2.5 There are currently no one-bed apartments in the Ward to show any bid data but the demand for one-bed apartments in the Borough as a whole is high.



Graph 1: *Average number of bids for each property type in Wath (Blue bars). The orange line represents the Rotherham average bids for 2024.*

2.6 As of May 2025, there are over 7,000 active applications on the housing register operated by the Council.

Council housing delivery proposals

2.7 Housing intelligence and needs data identifies that there is a housing need for multiple property types in the area and any new homes are expected to be in high demand.

2.8 Currently the initial indicative layout has been produced by the appointed contractor for stage 1 design and build and submitted for planning permission, estimates 18 new homes. As set out within recommendation 2, the final design will need to balance strategic need, site constraints, and any requirements resulting from both stakeholder feedback and the planning application process and may result in an increase or decrease in the number of homes delivered.

2.9 The initial indicative layout comprises of an estimated 18 new homes, made up of two-bedroomed houses and three bedroomed houses.

2.10 This site forms one of three sites within the “Wath Small Sites” development. The other two sites that complete the development are Bushfield Road and Valley Drive. These schemes have already been approved as part of previous

Housing Delivery Programme reports to Cabinet and therefore do not require further Cabinet approvals as the sites are estimated to deliver 6 and 4 homes respectively. Bushfield Road was approved in January 2023 and Valley Drive was approved in October 2023. These sites will aim to address the need for apartments (8 apartments and 2 houses, subject to planning permission).

2.11 In view of the Council's net zero-carbon ambitions, all the new homes will be constructed to the Government's Future Homes Standard, which means:

- No fossil fuel heating (no gas, all electric).
- Future-proofed with low carbon heating and high levels of thermal efficiency.

No further energy efficiency retrofit work will be necessary to enable them to become zero-carbon as the electricity grid continues to decarbonise.

Biodiversity Net Gain

2.12 From January 2024, new Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements apply to most development sites. Smaller sites, which deliver no more than 9 homes, or which are smaller than 0.5 hectares, became subject to the BNG requirement from April 2024.

2.13 The BNG requirement is to be secured through the planning system and will necessitate a 10% gain from the development. This can be delivered on-site, off-site, or through the purchase of biodiversity credits.

2.14 On-site delivery is preferred, although this will affect scheme design and may reduce the number of homes which can be delivered, resulting in a likely impact on scheme viability. Off-site delivery and the purchase of credits (considered to be the least cost-effective method of meeting BNG requirements) will alternatively incur more development costs, similarly, affecting scheme viability. The BNG requirement will be addressed through the detailed design phase.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Option 1: Develop the Denman Road site for an estimated 18 new homes

This project will contribute to the delivery of 1,000 new Council homes by mid-2027.

As this scheme is in stage 1 of a design and build contract, the Council retain the flexibility for the most appropriate scheme for the site, in line with Recommendation 2.

The benefit of the Council being the lead developer is full coordination of activity that achieves efficiencies whilst limiting the construction impact on the neighbouring properties and community.

3.2 This option is recommended.

Option 2: Do not develop the site for new Council homes

The site was approved for inclusion in the Programme by Cabinet in January 2023 as part of the Council's strategic aspiration to deliver hundreds of new Council homes by March 2026. This project will contribute to the delivery of 1,000 new Council homes by mid-2027.

If this site is not developed, along with not contributing to the development programme, there are ongoing costs associated with maintenance, fly tipping and anti-social behaviour.

This option is not recommended.

3.3 Option 3: Dispose of the Site

This removes the ongoing costs of fly-tipping and ASB management.

There are two options for disposal:

1. Dispose of the site via Open Market Sale or Auction at Full Market Value.

   The Council would only have control over the scheme design via the planning process. The site would only achieve Affordable Housing in line with the Planning Policy.

2. Dispose at a Discount Market Value to a Registered Provider with a guarantee of social housing.

   It is unlikely a Registered Provider would be interested in the smaller sites, Bushfield Road and Valley Drive and would therefore leave some ongoing management and maintenance to the Council.

Whilst the site could be sold to generate a modest capital receipt, this would prevent a sizeable number of new council homes from being delivered in an area with proven need for affordable homes. This site contributes to the 1,000 new homes target by mid-2027.

This option does not deliver the benefits set out in option 1.

This option is not recommended.

4. Consultation on the proposals

4.1 Wath Ward members were engaged on early proposals for the site and have been updated most recently in April 2025.

4.2 Informal community engagement will take place prior to planning applications being submitted. This is expected to comprise both online engagement questionnaires and community drop-in events.

4.3 Residents and statutory consultees will also be formally consulted as part of the planning application process which commenced on 2nd April 2025.

4.5 Key stakeholders will continue to be engaged throughout the design process.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Assistant Director of Housing will have responsibility for implementing the project. The Assistant Director, Legal Services will have responsibility for the negotiating, approving, and completing of all applicable legal documentation necessary to deliver the scheme, including contracts.

5.2 Procurement activity for the construction phase is progressing in parallel with this report, alongside the contractor working through designs. A planning application has been submitted on 2nd April 2025 to ensure the programme would not be delayed. This will enable timely delivery should the proposals in this report be approved. Subject to Cabinet approval, the aim is to secure planning permission by Autumn 2025.

5.3 The latest forecast for construction activity is to start on site by Autumn 2025, with completion targeted for the new homes by the end of 2026. The wider Wath Small Sites project is due for final completion by December 2026.

5.4 This project is being brought forward for Cabinet approval now to avoid delaying the programme and incurring additional abortive costs. In terms of current levels of programme and cost certainty, the project is at Technical Design stage, therefore there is a high confidence in the costs currently presented. These indicative costs are based on the current survey information and site layouts submitted for a Planning Application.

5.5 To be able to move from the Design element of the contract into Build efficiently and in line with the current programme, Cabinet approval is required at this stage.

5.6 The Housing Delivery Programme Report being presented to Cabinet in July 2025 supports the removal of site-specific developments. This review of the programme has allowed resource to cover the additional costs required.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The current HRA Business Plan assumes 9 units will be delivered on the Denman Road site with a total cost of £2.4m (£267k per unit).

6.2 Based on the latest indicative site plans an increase of 9 units would equate to additional £2.4m budget requirement, increasing the total cost for the Denman Road site to £4.8m. The additional costs have not been tested for affordability in the HRA BP model. (See Section 5.6). Prior to the scheme progressing, the final costs will be presented in a business case and assessed for affordability

prior to entering a Build Contract. The final specific project funding will be approved via the Council's capital governance processes.

6.3 The scheme will incur pre-development costs which will become an abortive cost and charged to revenue should the scheme not progress to delivery stage. For this development the estimated abortive cost is approximately £553k.

6.4 The HRA Business Plan assumes tenants are charged Social Rent. This aligns with the current grant funding requirements for Homes England Affordable Homes Programme 2021-2026. Although the Council expect to let these properties as Social Rent, the Council may consider letting them at an Affordable Rent, subject to an assessment of the financial viability/ relevant grant funding requirements and an assessment of affordability for prospective tenants.

6.5 Whilst the primary source of funding for the scheme will be HRA resources, from the housing growth programme, additional sources of subsidy will be pursued to improve the overall viability and affordability of the scheme and reduce the impact on both the Housing Growth Programme and the wider HRA Business Plan This may include Right to Buy (RtB) 'one-for-one' receipts (an internal form of subsidy), and/or external grant funding through Homes England or the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority. Other sources of external funding may be considered where suitable opportunities arise. The precise combination of financial resources utilised will be based on the most appropriate funding source(s) available at the time. All grant funding applications will be subject to the Council's grant funding governance process.

6.6 The procurement activity detailed in this report has been undertaken in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (which was the applicable legislation at the time this project commenced) and the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules and this position will need to be maintained as the Council moves into any future Stage 2 build contract.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The recommendations and delegations sought under this report are consistent with the Council's Constitution and previous Cabinet decisions and allow for timely and flexible decisions to be made in respect of potential housing delivery.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 The new homes will provide further opportunities for both children and vulnerable adults to be housed in good quality, safe, and thermally efficient homes.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Through its wider Programme, the Council will increase the local supply of high quality, affordable homes to meet a range of needs. The Council holds a wide range of data which is used to determine the different needs and influence the types of homes delivered.

10.2 The Council's Housing Delivery Programme is critical to supporting families who are on the Housing Register, into high quality and affordable accommodation. Any new homes offered for rent by the Council are managed through the Council's Allocations Policy to ensure a fair and transparent approach to helping people in the greatest housing need to gain access to suitable and appropriate accommodation.

10.3 Surveys will be carried out with the occupants of new homes, and equality and diversity results analysed and compared with other relevant data sets such as the Housing Register. This will allow the Council to understand whether any protected characteristic groups are over or under-represented in new build homes and take appropriate action if required.

10.4 An equalities screening and assessment has been completed and is attached at Appendix 3 and 4.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 Climate change poses a significant threat to environments, individuals, communities, and economies on local, national, and international scales. In recognition of this, the Council aims to be net carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030, and for Rotherham to achieve this same position by 2040.

11.2 The Council can ensure that new Council homes are high quality and energy efficient, which will contribute to reducing domestic carbon emissions in the longer-term.

11.3 New Council homes will ultimately increase emissions. Whilst mitigations are in place, with an explicit aim to exceed Building Regulations Part L (conservation of fuel and power) requirements where feasible, the overall net carbon emissions status of Rotherham's social housing stock will increase in the short term. Homes brought forward with electrically sourced heating and hot water provision, however, should become effectively carbon neutral once the electricity grid achieves zero-carbon. In addition to delivering new homes, the Council continues to improve and sustain its existing homes, including investment to maintain the Decent Homes Standard and improve energy and thermal efficiency.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 No implications for Partners have been identified.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The key risks are summarised in the table below. A detailed risk assessment will be provided alongside the business case for individual schemes as they are brought forward.

13.2

Risk	Mitigation
Pressure on construction labour and materials (both in terms of supply and costs).	Risks recorded and monitored for all individual schemes, advance ordering, and storage of materials where appropriate/ possible. Schemes fully designed and planning approved before committing to contractor costs.
Procurement of Contractor for Build.	The Council have only entered contract for the design stage currently and have the option to continue with the current contractor for the build element of the contract. However, if concerns arise, the Council can enter a competitive tender for the build contract and utilise another contractor. If the scheme is no longer viable, the Council can end the design contract without entering a build contract.
Site suitability - even at a late stage in the process, sites can be found to be unsuitable (for example due to severe contamination or poor ground conditions) or need to be restricted in terms of the type and numbers of new housing which can ultimately be achieved.	Scheme procurement will take place via a two-stage 'design and build' process which will allow sites to be appraised and suitable designs to be determined in advance of the Council entering build contracts. This will help ensure that particularly problematic sites are dealt with and removed from the Programme before the Council is contractually committed to build. Grant funding will also help the Council to mitigate against the cost of ground remediation works, but where a site is ultimately unsuitable for development, it will not be brought forward.
Volatility of the housing market and uncertainty of contractor interest and capabilities.	Early market engagement activity (December 2023 and March 2024) with contractors confirmed the procurement strategy was appropriate for all schemes; a direct award on challenging sites will allow early engagement with the contractor on known issues to help with mitigation.
Delays to housing development schemes resulting from utilities connections and other statutory undertakings.	Early engagement with relevant organisations and internal services, and robust project management processes in place with realistic contingencies for costs and delays.
Internal staff capacity – Housing, Legal,	Ongoing dialogue between services regarding forward planning and resource requirements, and continued HRA

Procurement, Asset Management, etc.	contributions to staffing costs in key supporting services.
Community opposition.	Early and regular consultation with Ward Members, communication strategy developed and implemented to provide information on the proposals and explain the rationale. Formal consultation also takes place as part of the Planning process.
Funding availability / eligibility.	Continual dialogue with external funding bodies. Investment of time in robust business case preparation to ensure overall costs remain within approved HRA Business Plan affordability modelling and Capital Programme approvals. Regular meetings with Finance colleagues to monitor Programme.
Project not progressing from design to build contracts due to a range of factors.	Scheme too expensive. Scheme no longer required towards target. Keep pre-development costs as low as possible, early costs engagement.
Higher development costs resulting from the introduction of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements through the planning system.	The design process will consider opportunities to deliver against the new BNG requirement on-site. Where this isn't feasible, cost implications associated with meeting BNG requirements will be factored into grant funding bids.
Higher development costs due to infrastructure requirements.	A substation, retaining structure and turning head are likely required. This will add substantial costs to the scheme and result in higher-than-expected costs. Early cost engagement and design works will ensure viability prior to development. Higher site numbers will increase the split and reduce the costs per unit price.

14. Accountable Officers

Ian Spicer, Strategic Director for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/2025
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	12/06/2025
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	04/06/2025

Report Author: *Hannah Mitchell, Housing Development Coordinator*
hannah.mitchell@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

Appendix 1 – Site Plan



Denman Road, shaded red.

Bushfield Road and Valley Drive (part of the Wath Small Sites scheme), outlined red.

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Appendix 2 – Indicative Site Layout



Key:

- 1.8m High timber fence with concrete gravel board as required.
- 1.8m High timber access gate with minimum clear opening width of 850mm.
- Paving- Marshall or similar 600x450x50mm concrete flags to paths of the properties.
- Driveways - Tarmacadam surface with pin kerbs.
- Existing trees to be retained.
- Existing trees to be removed (CAT B,C,U)
- Proposed trees shown indicatively
- Proposed landscaped areas.
- Existing vegetation to be removed.
- Retaining structure with edge protection where change in level >600mm. Stepped access provided to lower gardens.
- Timber knee rail fence. Birdsmouth profile.
- Air source heat exchanger within permeable cage
- Existing hard standing to be removed subject to confirmation.
- Wall mounted Mode 3 EV charging point. 7Kw min output. EO Mini Pro 3 EV charger or similar approved.
- Post mounted (x2) Mode 3 EV charging points 7Kw min output.
- Proposed hard standing area for wheelie bins.
- 1.8m high galvanised metal railings to electricity substation
- 1. Proposed electricity substation

General Notes:

Layout dependant upon confirmation of legal site boundary, agreement of tree removal with the council, Statutory Services Information.

Drainage strategy subject to further detailed design, subject to Phase I & II Geo-technical Survey and Drainage Assessment.

Boundary Treatments, Finish floor levels & Retainment structures subject to further detailed design.

Aspect distances subject to agreement with local authority approval.

Levels, batters and retainment shown indicatively, subject to coordinated design with structural engineer and specialist retaining contractor.

Location and provision of land drains behind retaining structure and to patio areas subject to drainage engineers design and specification.

Layout based on topographical survey by Greenhatch Group drawing nbr 53013_T_REV0.

Any change in external levels greater than 0.6m to have edge protection. Level access to front and back of houses to be provided.

Existing services and street furniture to be identified by main contractor and capped off/grubbed up/diverted as required.

House Type		Amount	Sq.ft	Sq. m	Total sq. ft	Total sq. m
	2B4P	09	850	79	7,650	711
	3B5P	09	1,001	93	9,009	837
		Total houses:	**18**	**Total area:**	16,659	1,548

Gross site area	
Hectares	0.46 ha
Acres	1.13 acres

Density	
Dwellings/ ha	39.13
Dwellings/ acre	15.92

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Appendix 3.

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title Housing Delivery Programme – Development at Wath Small Sites	
Directorate: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	**Service area:** Strategic Housing and Development
Lead person: Hannah Mitchell	**Contact number:** 01709 336009
Is this a: ☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☒ **Service/Function** ☐ **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This assessment is screening of one element of a report to the Cabinet meeting of 10th February 2025 which seeks approval from Cabinet to develop the site at Denman Road Wath, to deliver an estimated 18 new homes.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity
All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also

have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are. When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	✓	
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*	✓	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*	✓	
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		✓
If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason		

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free

society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

*(**think about** the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)*

This is a key development which will contribute to the wider Housing Delivery Programme. Through these developments we aim to meet the needs of residents, based on data and evidence held about local demographics and trends and engagement with key stakeholders locally. This scheme will provide housing opportunities, including for older people and people with disabilities to find suitable homes.

Council homes are let via the Allocations Policy, for which a full Equalities Assessment has been carried out. This will ensure homes are allocated fairly and that no groups with protected characteristics are disadvantaged.

The Strategic Housing and Development Service contacts tenants who move into new build properties to carry out a follow-up questionnaire or 'new build survey'. This is done to find out more about the people who have moved into recently built Council homes. Equalities and diversity information is analysed and compared against the profile of people on the Council's Housing Register to identify any potential issues i.e. certain protected characteristic groups being under or over-represented in new build properties.

- **Key findings**

*(**think about** any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)*

An assessment of the scheme has found that it will enable delivery of homes to meet the needs of a range of people included under the protected characteristic on the Housing Register. The delegated powers being sought as part of the report will allow amendments to the scheme design, where this is necessary to comply with Planning and other statutory consultee requirements, or where site conditions otherwise prescribe a design alteration.

- **Actions**

- Conduct new build survey and analyse equalities and diversity data (ongoing)
- Review this equalities analysis annually, alongside future annual housing development Cabinet reports.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	12/12/24
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	12/12/24

Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Nick Ward Place and Quality Manager

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Michael Hellewell	Head of Strategic Housing and Development	18/12/2024
Alex Young	Housing Development Manager	18/12/2024

6. Publishing	
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date screening completed	
Report title and date	Housing Delivery Programme – Wath Small Sites, Denman Road Development
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	10/02/2025
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	13/12/2024

Appendix 4

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Housing Delivery Programme - Wath Small Sites, Denman Road Development	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 15/05/2025	
Directorate: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	**Service area:** Strategic Housing and Development
Lead person: Nick Ward	**Contact number:** 01709 823808
Is this a:	
[ ] **Strategy/Policy** [X] **Service/Function** [ ] **Other**	
If other, please specify	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Lindsey Castle	Rotherham Council	Housing Development Coordinator
Alex Young	Rotherham Council	Housing Growth Manager
Nick Ward	Rotherham Council	Place and Quality Manager

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)
This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, other groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

This EA has been produced in support of an upcoming Cabinet report; Housing Delivery Programme - Wath Small Sites, Denman Road Development. The three sites will be developed to deliver an estimated 18 new homes.

The wider programme has been designed to ensure homes are built in a range of areas across the borough including deprived areas where the private sector is unlikely to deliver the homes needed. Improving deprived areas through housing and regeneration helps to tackle inequalities. The Strategic Housing and Development Service has already delivered specialist homes on former garage and brownfield sites which support the diverse housing needs across the borough.

The proposals at Denman Road site are to build an estimated 18 new Council homes, subject to design work. The report seeks the delegation of authority to the Assistant Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to optimise design of the sites according to strategic need, site constraints, and any requirements resulting from both stakeholder feedback and the planning application process.

Council homes are let via the Allocations Policy, which is reviewed regularly and is subject to a full Equalities Assessment. This document ensures new homes are allocated fairly and that no groups with protected characteristics are disadvantaged.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

The Housing Delivery Programme is underpinned by analysis of housing need and demographic data which has been gained from a variety of sources including:

- Profile of applicants on Council's Housing Register (numbers of households eligible for age restricted accommodation etc). The Housing Occupational Health Team assesses households to determine their need which leads to a priority of allocation under the Housing Allocations Policy. A regular review of the profile of people on the housing register takes place to help plan for the types of new homes needed.
- Local population demographic data (Census 2021 emerging).
- Indices of Multiple Deprivation.
- Profile of existing Council tenants (including protected characteristics).
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment.
- Intelligence from Strategic Housing Forum which is attended by partners that represent different interests and groups eg, homelessness and young people etc.
- Ward members will receive specific briefings on potential sites in their wards and their feedback will be considered and included in individual scheme EAs.
- Ward profiles contain detailed, localised information both profiling housing stock in the ward and demand.
- The Strategic Housing and Development service has worked with the Neighbourhood Service to assist with consultation and dissemination of information about development in localities, identifying alignment with ward priorities. Again, any feedback will be included in individual scheme EAs.
- Housing Involvement Panel which includes Council tenant volunteers.
- Data from new rented, shared ownership and open market sales is analysed to understand the equality impact of each development. The profiling of tenants/ owners is also reflected in completions report and any lessons learnt are applied when developing new projects.

Demographic information

- The Census population of Rotherham in 2021 is 265,800, an increase of 8,200 (+3.2%) compared with the 2011 Census, with around half living in and around the main urban area of Rotherham. The remainder live in smaller towns such as Wath, Dinnington and Maltby, and in numerous large villages and rural communities, all of which have their own distinct identities.
- The 2021 Census further shows that Rotherham had 113,900 households, compared with 108,300 in the 2011 Census, an increase of 5,600 or 5.2%. In 2021, 17.7% of Rotherham's population were under 15 years, whilst 25.8% were aged 60 or over. The population of Rotherham aged 60 or over is slightly higher than the England figure of 24.2% and the Yorkshire and Humber figure of 25%.
- Rotherham's young population (under 15) increased from 46,000 in 2011 to 47,100 in 2021 (a 2.4% increase). This increase followed a 6% fall from 48,900 in 2001 to 46,000 in 2011. Whilst the school age population has

increased, the number of children aged 0-4 has decreased from 15,738 in 2011 to 14,600 (a 7.3% reduction).

- Rotherham's older population (over 60) has increased from 61,500 in 2011 to 68,600 in the 2021 Census, an 11.5% rise (51,700 in 2001). Rotherham's population is ageing broadly in line with national trends and the percentage aged over 85 increased from 2.1% in 2011 to 2.3% in 2021.

Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?

None identified following wider discussion with colleagues, however information has yet to be collected on the programmes completed over the last few years. We are seeking to ensure that future housing developments continue to provide for the protected characteristics identified and will be surveying household in the Council's new properties early in the new year. This will include information on protected characteristics.

What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

The overall progress of the Housing Delivery Programme is reported to Cabinet on a six-monthly basis.

For individual schemes, all proposals requiring a decision under delegated powers will be subject to the following at an early stage:

- Briefing to Assistant Director for Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing.
- Consultation with relevant ward members.

The strategic basis and financial appraisal of an individual proposal will then be subject to the development and sign-off of an appropriate business case.

Progress with individual schemes will be reported to Housing Senior Management Team and other meetings/forums as appropriate.

Officer decisions will be formally recorded and published.

Surveys will continue to be carried out with the occupants of new homes, and equality and diversity results analysed and compared with other relevant data sets such as the Housing Register. This will allow the Council to understand whether any protected characteristic groups are over or under-represented in new build homes and act, if required.

Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	The Council holds a wealth of housing intelligence data which will be used to determine local housing need and prioritise areas for investment. Residents will be formally consulted via the planning process along with all statutory

	consultees. A formal planning application will be prepared and submitted by the end of Stage 1 of the Design and Build procurement route. Informal community consultation will also take place in advance of planning submissions.
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	Wath Ward members were engaged on early proposals for the site and have been updated in January 2025; they were extremely supportive of the proposals. Cabinet Member for Housing has received engagement throughout the design process and will continue to be engaged throughout. Key internal stakeholders are regularly engaged through the scheme design process.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)

How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance)

Through the Housing Delivery Programme, the Council aims to increased choice and access to more homes, particularly affordable homes. Allocation to housing is dealt with via the Council's Allocations Policy. The Policy sets out how priority is allocated to people who have specific needs including people with protected characteristics.

The Programme will meet a range of housing needs based on data and evidence held about local demographics and trends. By understanding more about local need and by enabling and delivering a wider range of house types, the Programme should support and help remove the barriers that exist for specific groups of people. Particularly young and older people who are reliant on welfare support, and those who are physically disabled or have a family member who is disabled, requiring ground floor, accessible accommodation.

As part of the programme as a whole, consideration is being given to the following specific property types, when determining what property types are delivered on any given site;

- Accessible homes for older people (+55 years),
- Larger family homes (3 and 4 bedrooms)
- Homes for wheelchair user and those with acute medical needs

- Smaller one and two bedroom properties

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?

No.

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

Homes delivered through the housing development programme will help to improve quality of life for households who are currently living in unsuitable accommodation.

This scheme will be shaped in consideration of the housing needs for the area, and taking into account strategic need, site constraints, and any requirements resulting from both stakeholder feedback and the planning application process.

While all schemes in the programme are assessed in relation to their capacity to deliver homes for people with particular characteristics, particularly older, younger and disabled people. The needs of all groups cannot be met on each individual scheme . This is because not every site is suitable for every type of accommodation whether because of site issues such as topography or size or due to the nature of surrounding neighbourhood. In addition, the makeup of each site is also informed by local needs data.

Also, increased costs are associated with properties which meet specific needs i.e. for older people and household which include people with disabilities. Therefore, decisions are made based on the specifics of the programme and within feasible parameters.

The indicative plans show a mix of two and three-bedroom houses these would providing homes for:

- Larger family homes
- Homes for smaller families and single people

What effect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

No negative impacts have been identified/are anticipated.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Housing Delivery Programme - Wath Small Sites, Denman Road Development
Directorate and service area: Adult Care, Housing & Public Health. Strategic Housing & Development Service
Lead Manager: Alex Young
Summary of findings:
No negative impacts have been identified/are anticipated. The scheme will provide family homes which will provide for children and the smaller homes will provide for smaller household including younger or older single people and couples who do not require any special provision.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Monitor the impact of the housing development programme on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic by:	All	Ongoing
Review this equalities analysis annually, alongside future annual housing development Cabinet reports.	ALL	Ongoing

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
John Holman	Interim Assistant Director of Housing	22/05/2025
Ian Spicer	Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing & Public Health	27/05/2025
Councillor Linda Beresford	Cabinet Member for Housing	02/06/2025

7. Publishing	
The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date Equality Analysis completed	15/05/2025
Report title and date	Housing Delivery Programme - Wath Small Sites, Denman Road Development. 07 July 2025

Date report sent for publication	07/07/2025
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	15/05/2025

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Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	Increase	Vehicle movements to and from site generated during construction will create emissions, through the movement of building and waste materials and personnel. Addition of the homes to the Council's maintenance programme will also result in increased transport emissions in future years.	While it is possible that new households will increase vehicle movements, they may also reduce them, depending on where new residents work and access services. The development is within reasonable walking distance of shops and public transport stops. We do not know before a development is built where new residents will move from and whether this move will increase or decrease vehicle movements. However, it should be noted that the housing provision within this development includes provision for car parking as per planning policy. This does not in	Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to demonstrate how they will minimise and mitigate emissions from vehicle movements as part of the construction, during the tendering process. All new housing developments are subject to planning controls and the planning process at the plan and policy development and planning application stages takes into account vehicle movements.	Assessment of whether the new households increase or decrease carbon emissions through vehicle movements is not monitored at this time. Overall Borough emissions are reported annually but are subject to a 2 year lag.

			itself discourage car use, but this issue is outside of the remit of this carbon impact assessment.		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Increase	Construction will generate waste materials through demolition, exporting of materials from groundworks and waste construction materials.	Although new households may not necessarily mean more people living in the Borough, they are likely to create a small increase in the overall volume of waste created and, in the distance travelled by waste collection vehicles.	Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to produce a plan demonstrating how they will minimise and mitigate vehicle emissions from the movement of waste, during the tendering process. This will include the recycling / re use of materials on site where possible.	Where appropriate, we will monitor contractor's implementation of wastes minimisation and management plans.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Increase	No direct emissions increase for the council.	This is a "no gas" development utilising Air-Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) therefore the carbon emissions will be greatly reduced and the development will be far more environmentally friendly than a traditional gas boiler. Properties designed using the Future Homes Standard should decarbonise as the grid becomes more renewable without additional retrofit and are estimated to be 75% more efficient than part L	The Council will ensure that the new homes are high quality, energy efficient and able to meet the challenge of climate change. The use of modern methods of construction will be considered, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction.	Construction will be monitored to ensure that specifications are met and, where appropriate, the energy performance of new buildings will be monitored once occupied to ensure that the stated performance standards are met.

			building regulations. However, as these are new builds, there will still be additional emissions until the National Grid becomes decarbonised and as part of the buildings' embodied carbon.		
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Emissions will be increased from on-site vehicles and equipment and the lighting of the sites. Also, from the heating lighting and powering of site offices and cabins. The manufacture of construction materials will increase emissions. It is possible that some mature trees will be removed as part of the development of new sites	The emissions produced in the short term through construction and materials used will impact on Borough wide emissions. However, some of the building materials will be manufactured within the Borough, reducing emissions associated with transportation. Removal of trees without replacement could, depending on how they are disposed of, increase carbon emissions. This activity will also reduce the carbon sequestration capacity of the Borough.	The use of modern methods of construction will be considered for all new schemes, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction. Where trees are present on a development site they will be retained where possible. The planning process deals with protection of trees on development sites and where it allows their removal usually requires equivalent or better replacement.	This will be monitored through the procurement process.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	It is possible that some semi-mature trees will be removed as part of the development of new sites which will impact on the borough's ability to capture carbon. Some of	The balance between removal of mature trees and replanting as part of landscaping is not currently known.	As above.	Unknown

		the Council's own construction projects will include the planting of trees as part of any landscaping schemes.			

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

N/A.

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

The climate in Rotherham is already changing, with visible impacts throughout the Borough. Hotter summers are increasing the risk of extreme temperatures such as those experienced in July 2022, as wetter winters and more intense rainfall are increasing the risk of floods such as those in 2007, 2019 and 2023. More information on climate change impacts in Rotherham is available from: https://www.reports.esriuk.com/view-report/b8eb3cee8f764147a2cfcd69cf36238f/E08000018

- *Do actions recommended in the report affect the ability of Council services to continue during, or recover after extreme heatwaves, flooding and other climate-related hazards?*
- *Will the proposal affect resident's capacity to adapt to climate change impacts?*
- *Will the proposal affect the risk of climate change impacts in the Borough of Rotherham?*

Access to a long-term good quality home could help improve residents' resilience more generally. The inclusion of energy efficiency measures such as insulation could help make the homes more resistant during periods of extreme heat.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

Emissions will be generated from energy use associated with construction sites, the vehicle movements associated with construction personnel, materials and waste. The manufacture of construction materials will also generate emissions. New homes will generate new emissions mainly through lighting and heating and the powering of domestic appliances. These increases will be mitigated through the requirement for prospective contractors to demonstrate how they will reduce emissions from the above and monitored through the construction period. The Council will continue to ensure that new homes are as energy efficient as possible and employ the use of modern methods of construction where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction. The actual energy performance of new homes will be monitored to ensure that they meet expected standards.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Nick Ward Place and Quality Manager Strategic Housing and Development Service Adult Care, Housing and Public Health
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	No relevant data or research used.
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	No relevant data or research used.
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA473 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Tenant Satisfaction Measures and Housing Regulatory Compliance Update

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?
No, but it has been included on the Forward Plan

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

Report Author(s)
Louise Robson
Head of Housing Improvement and Governance
louise.robson@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The 2024/25 Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM) survey has concluded. Overall satisfaction now stands at 78.2% (+1.3% from last year). A key area of progress is tenant satisfaction with repairs: overall satisfaction has increased to 78.6% (a 4.5 percentage point rise), and satisfaction with the time taken to complete the most recent repair has improved to 77.6% (up by 5.5 percentage points) compared with 2023/24.

Encouragingly, all tenant perception measures are above the national median, with 10 out of 12 falling within or just outside the upper quartile based on 2023/24 data published by the Regulator of Social Housing. However, there remain areas requiring further improvement, particularly in satisfaction with complaints handling, the condition of communal areas, and anti-social behaviour (ASB) management, where scores have declined slightly from the previous year.

A number of actions have already been taken to address these areas, with further improvements planned for 2025/26. Key initiatives include:

- The launch of a tenant-led Learning from Complaints Panel
- A refreshed ASB policy and improvement plan
- An additional £135,000 investment in caretaking services
- Renewed focus on tackling ASB, with eviction proceedings already initiated against two persistent perpetrators in the current financial year (2025/26)

- The ten council-reported TSMs remain strong. Repairs performance is a particular strength, mirroring the positive perception survey results:
- 96.7% of non-emergency repairs were completed within target timescales (15 percentage points above the national median)
- 98.6% of emergency repairs were completed within target (3.5 percentage points above the national median)

In addition, the Council achieved full compliance on all health and safety-related measures, including fire, asbestos, lifts, and water safety. Notably, there has been significant progress on the Decent Homes Standard: the proportion of non-decent homes has reduced from 12.0% to 7.2% year-on-year. This improvement is expected to continue following the successful launch of the Stock Condition Survey programme in April 2025.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the contents of the report.

2. Agrees to receive a further update in six months' time.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Rotherham Council Tenant Satisfaction Measures
Appendix 2 Initial Equality Screening Assessment – part A
Appendix 3 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers

Reshaping consumer regulation: Our new approach (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reshaping-consumer-regulation-our-new-approach)

Consumer Standards (April 2024) (https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/regulatory-standards-for-landlords)

Consumer Standards Code of Practice (April 2024) (https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-consumer-standards/annex-4-consumer-standards-code-of-practice)

Social Housing Regulator's Approach to Inspections (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/our-approach-to-inspections)

Tenant Satisfaction Measures (https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/tenant-satisfaction-measures)

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Tenant Satisfaction Measures and Housing Regulatory Compliance Update

1. Background

1.1 Following the passing of the Social Housing (Regulation) Act in July 2023 the Regulator for Social Housing consulted on revised consumer standards for social housing landlords. The new consumer standards came into force on 1st April 2024.

1.2 The Regulator of Social Housing (the Regulator) will gather evidence and assess providers' ability to deliver a housing service which meets the standards through inspections at least every four years and through desk-top reviews of performance data such as Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs), a mixture of performance measures and tenant perception survey results. This proactive regime replaces the largely reactive regulatory framework that was in place prior to 1st April 2024.

1.3 To ensure regulatory compliance and inspection readiness, the Council has established assurance mechanisms, including a Housing Regulatory Assurance Board chaired by the Chief Executive, to oversee the collection and review of evidence demonstrating the Council's compliance with the new consumer standards.

1.4 The Council submitted its first year of TSM data covering the 2023-24 financial year in June 2024. Surveys for the 2024-25 financial year began in August 2024 on a weekly rolling programme and year-end results are now available. The Regulator of Social Housing has also published the first national dataset of TSM results. This data was provided in the last update and is contained in full at Appendix 1.

1.5 In addition to new consumer standards, an inspection regime and the TSMs, the Government has also strengthened the role of the Housing Ombudsman and consulted on the introduction of statutory minimum timescales for dealing with certain types of housing repairs (Awaab's Law) and proposed new competence and conduct standards for social housing managers.

2. Key Issues

Tenant Satisfaction Measures

2.1 Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs) are a series of 22 performance measures, which must be collected by all social housing landlords with more than 1,000 properties. Data for ten of the performance measures is submitted directly by the Council. Data for the other 12 performance measures is captured through a Tenant Perception Survey. The performance measures, including the survey questions, are prescribed by the Regulator and cannot be deviated from.

2.2 KWest Research Limited were procured to complete the Tenant Perception Survey on behalf of the Council in accordance with the Regulator's requirements. Between September 2023 and March 2024 KWest surveyed 1,041 of Rotherham's tenants (equivalent to 5% of tenants which was the

minimum prescribed sample size). 85% of the surveys were conducted by telephone and 15% by email.

2.3 For the 2024/25 survey, the sample size increased significantly, with 3,337 tenants surveyed, approximately 16.5% of the total tenant population, substantially reducing the margin of error and increasing the representativeness across the whole tenant base. The same proportion of telephone (85%) and email (15%) responses was maintained. The larger sample size also enables more detailed analysis of the results, including breakdowns by geography, demographics, and other key factors.

2.4 In 2023-24, the Council reported that 76.9% of tenants were satisfied overall with the service. The equivalent national figure for all social landlords was 71.3%. The Council's position for 2024/25 shows a 1.3% increase in overall satisfaction, at 78.2%.

2.5 The 2023-24 TSM results (see appendix 1 for comparative data) found that 77.6% of tenants were satisfied that their home is well maintained, and 81.1% were satisfied that their home is safe.

2.6 The 2024/25 results show that all property-related satisfaction measures have either been sustained or significantly improved. While satisfaction that homes are well-maintained (77.7%) and safe (81.0%) have seen a slight increase or decrease of 0.1 percentage points respectively, other areas saw notable gains. Satisfaction with the overall repairs service rose sharply from 74.1% to 78.6%, and satisfaction with the time taken to complete the most recent repair increased from 72.1% to 77.6%.

2.7 Across all housing services, the percentage of tenants who feel generally well-informed has increased, from 74% to 76.8%, while those who feel they are treated with fairness and respect has decreased very slightly from 83.6% to 83.0%. The percentage of tenants who believe the Council listens to them and acts on their views has increased by 1.0%, from 70.5% to 71.5%. Satisfaction with complaints handling has dropped slightly from 36.2% to 34.5%. A new 'Learning from Complaints Panel' including tenants has been established and will meet quarterly to co-develop an action plan aimed at improving satisfaction with complaints handling.

2.8 In 2023-24, satisfaction with the way the Council deals with anti-social behaviour, at 64.9%, was lower than many of the other scores, albeit it was above the median score for other housing providers (58%). In the year-end results for 2024-25, satisfaction levels in Rotherham dropped slightly to 63.3%.

2.9 Another notable change between 2023-24 results and 2024-25 results is in relation to satisfaction with the cleanliness and maintenance of communal areas, which dropped from 71.6% to 68.1%. Again, these scores remain higher than the median for other housing providers based on data available.

2.10 The tenant perception survey is now a rolling programme and results will continue to be published in line with the regulatory requirements. The larger

sample size will remain for 2025/26 and the contract with KWest is due for review during this financial year. A six-monthly update will continue to be reported to Cabinet. The remaining ten TSMs evaluate the Council's performance in areas including anti-social behaviour, complaints handling, repairs and maintenance, and health and safety. The results are covered in this report under the relevant consumer standard.

Consumer Standards

2.11 The introduction of the Social Housing Regulations requires landlords to meet four consumer standards through the delivery of their services. Each standard consists of 'required outcomes', which are listed below:

Consumer standard	**Outcomes**
Safety and Quality	Stock quality Decency Health and safety Repairs, maintenance and planned improvements Adaptations
Transparency, Influence and Accountability	Fairness and respect Diverse needs Engagement with tenants Information about landlord services Performance information Complaints handling Self-referrals to the Regulator
Neighbourhood and Community	Maintenance of shared spaces Local cooperation Safer neighbourhoods Domestic abuse
Tenancy	Allocations and lettings Tenancy sustainment and evictions Tenure Mutual exchange

The Regulator has also published its likely key areas of focus during an inspection (see below).

Component	Key Areas of Focus
Service Outcomes Delivery of outcomes relating to stock quality, repairs and maintenance, health and safety compliance, local co-operation, anti-social behaviour and hate incidents, the management of domestic abuse and tenancy sustainment.	- Evidence that the landlord is collecting and using stock condition data. - Evidence that landlord health and safety compliance risks are being managed properly with robust systems in place and operating effectively. - Assessing the effectiveness of the repairs service. - Evidence that boards, councillors, and senior officers gain assurance that ASB (anti-social behaviour) and hate incidents are being dealt with appropriately. - Extent to which landlords can evidence that they have a good understanding of their role with regard to handling domestic abuse.
Transparency, Influence and Accountability The extent to which the landlord treats all tenants with fairness and respect, takes action to meet the diverse needs of tenants, provides meaningful opportunities for tenant-led engagement, collects, and uses performance information (including the TSMs), and handles complaints.	- Extent to which the landlord ensures that tenants have fair access to landlord services and that equitable outcomes are being achieved. - How the landlord seeks to obtain and maintain tenant information, and the use it makes of data and insight to improve services. - Evidence that there is a range of meaningful opportunities for tenants to influence and scrutinise the landlord's strategies, policies, and services. - Approach to collecting, processing, and publishing tenant satisfaction measures (TSMs) and extent to which this meets our requirements. - Assessing how the board, councillors and senior officers seek to understand performance and satisfaction information and can demonstrate action taken as a result. - Evidence that complaints are dealt with fairly and promptly, including the landlord's self-assessment against the Housing Ombudsman's Complaint Handling Code.

Safety and Quality Standard

2.12 The Council is continuing its Safety and Quality improvement journey through a series of key workstreams relating to the required outcomes of stock quality, decency, health and safety and repairs, maintenance and planned improvements.

2.13 Following its self-referral in June 2024, the Council has been engaging positively with the Regulator to review its health and safety compliance position. Through this engagement, the Council was able to provide assurance around key compliance areas, including fire safety, gas, electrical, lifts, asbestos, legionella and damp/mould. Significant improvements to the repairs service were also highlighted. While the Council acknowledged that a full stock condition survey including identifying hazard identification via the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) has not been undertaken since 2010, it confirmed that property knowledge has been maintained through ongoing internal surveys. Since February 2024, the Council has prioritised surveys for homes not assessed since 2010 and has finalised a comprehensive stock condition survey programme with an organisation named MLCS3. A pilot was completed in February 2025, with a full roll out in April 2025, completion of the programme is expected by 2029. The Regulator has confirmed that no regulatory action will be taken at this time and will continue to engage with the Council on a quarterly basis as it delivers this important programme of work.

2.14 Following the successful completion of the pilot programme in February 2025, during which 67 properties were surveyed, a major programme of stock condition surveys began in late April 2025. Around 6,000 properties are scheduled to be surveyed during 2025/26. The surveys will allow the service to gain a better understanding of the condition of the housing stock which will support the development of a refreshed asset management strategy and investment plan, as well as supporting stronger targeting of compliance and repairs improvement activities, backed by significant additional capital investment earmarked in the 2025-26 Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.

2.15 As of 31st March 2025, the Council reported that 964 of its homes were classified as non-decent as they had reached their component lifetime age according to data held on the Council's asset database, meaning that 95.1% of properties met the Decent Homes Standard. This is a significant improvement on the previous year's position of 87.9%. The surveyors will continue to work through the remaining properties to assess their condition. Components which are identified as failing decency based on their age and condition are being prioritised for capital works during 2025-26.

2.16 The Council has a Housing Safety and Quality Improvement Plan in place which is focused on providing additional assurance on health and safety. The Plan was developed in response to issues identified following a series of deep dives within the service, internal audit recommendations and an external audit by a housing consultant. Key improvements delivered in the last six months include:

- The implementation of the Compliance Workbook—a digital tool designed to automate and systematise the collection, analysis, and quality assurance of compliance data—is progressing at pace. The upload and validation of gas safety and electrical certification documents are now in the final stages of completion. Once this phase is finalised,

the system will be expanded to include document uploads across all remaining areas of statutory compliance. This represents a significant step forward in enhancing the accuracy, efficiency, and oversight of landlord compliance monitoring across the Housing Property Service.

- SFG20 is a web-based software tool which has been procured and now available to the Compliance Team. It provides a comprehensive library of all compliance processes and all links to current legislation. Compliance Officers have started to cross reference all streams of compliance activity against SFG20 to ensure we are undertaking all statutory duties in accordance with current legislation. This provides an additional layer of compliance assurance.
- Following successful pilot of 'Safety Culture' web-based auditing software, this has now been purchased and allows Compliance Officers to undertake all desk based and field-based activity to be undertaken digitally. This has created a consistent approach, professional reports, time saving and improved record keeping.
- The introduction of a new performance framework including a quarterly compliance scorecard, highlights of which are published on the Council's website.
- Overdue remedial actions have also been added to the monthly Housing Performance scorecard, with updates provided including a narrative on current status and planned actions. The Compliance Team have also introduced evidence-based closure for all water hygiene and fire safety related actions.
- Water safety information is now provided to tenants to raise awareness of legionella risks and how to minimise them. The tenant welcome pack has been updated to include this guidance for both new and existing tenants.
- The Building Safety Act imposed duties upon the council in relation to Beeversleigh. These duties have been reviewed and all actions taken to ensure we are ready for audit by Building Safety Regulator. This includes creation of 'Building Safety Resident Engagement Strategy', Building Safety Case Report, Mandatory Occurrence Reporting process and a simplified version of the Fire Risk Assessment. The residents of Beeversleigh have been provided with a copy of all documents and the inaugural building safety resident engagement meeting was held February 2025.
- Fire Risk Reviews have been conducted for over 1200 blocks for the first time with all evidence held in digital format. Fire risk reviews will continue to be conducted for all blocks on an annual basis in line with the Fire Safety Policy.

2.17 Housing Property Services are collaborating with the Programme Management Team to develop a dedicated damp and mould module within the dedication housing system named NEC. This enhancement will enable the service to monitor cases against the statutory timeframes mandated by Awaab's Law and automatically flag any instances where a case may be at risk of breaching legal requirements.

2.18 In parallel, work is underway to introduce an online reporting facility, allowing tenants to report damp and mould concerns directly through the Council's digital platform. This will enhance our triaging capability by capturing key information such as household medical conditions and vulnerabilities at the point of reporting. Furthermore, data and imagery obtained from stock condition surveys are being utilised to inform triage decisions and support early intervention.

2.19 The establishment of robust processes and clear procedures is essential to ensuring the Council meets its obligations under Awaab's Law. This includes the ability to differentiate between cases that fall within the legislative scope and those considered lower risk or outside its remit. These improvements form a critical part of our commitment to delivering a safe, responsive, and legally compliant housing service.

2.20 A key area of improvement in the repairs service remains the shift to a more tailored service that takes into account tenant circumstances and vulnerabilities. An initial procedure guide alongside a roadmap to more significant changes was completed by end of April 2025.

Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard

2.21 The Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard looks at the relationship that landlords have with their tenants and prospective tenants. This includes if tenants are treated with fairness and respect, how the Council understands them and their needs and whether opportunities are provided for tenants to influence decision making and hold the Council to account. Much of the scope of this work sits within the Housing Service but support is also provided by the corporate function that sits within the Assistant Chief Executive's directorate, for example the Performance and Business Intelligence and the Complaints Service.

2.22 The Tenant Engagement Team manages the tenant engagement contract which commenced in April 2024 for a period of 3 years and is delivered by RotherFed. The Housing Involvement Panel, the Screen Team and the Tenant Scrutiny Panel provide valuable feedback on council performance, services, and communications.

2.23 The Scrutiny Panel is currently concluding its latest review, which has focused on the effectiveness of the Council's approach to tenant scrutiny. As part of this exercise, the Panel, in collaboration with Rotherfed, engaged with a consultant from Tpas (the national tenant engagement experts) to gain insights into best practice in tenant-led scrutiny. The Panel's final report and recommendations are expected to be submitted to the Council by the end of May 2025. Following this, the Tenant Engagement Team will work closely with Rotherfed to develop a response to the recommendations. This will include actions relating both to the operation of the Scrutiny Panel itself and the Council's approach to responding to future scrutiny exercises.

2.24 The Tenant Connectors Pool is a group of 163 diverse tenants actively engaged in housing services opportunities. Established in July 2024, the

Pool receives regular updates and participates in flexible engagement activities. To date, 83 tenants have participated in 13 different housing services initiatives. Tenants continue to be invited and encouraged to join the Pool. In the spring Home Matters magazine there will be a QR code that tenants will be able to scan to access and complete a form to join the Pool.

2.25 In 2025, the Council will prioritise re-accreditation of its Tpas Exemplar status and deliver a comprehensive refresh of the Tenant Engagement Framework, reinforcing its commitment to placing tenant voice at the centre of housing services and ensuring feedback and recommendations drive meaningful action. In March 2025, the Tenant Scrutiny Panel recommended that customers receive a clear, comprehensive document following affordability meetings with the Income Team, outlining key calculations and rent payment options. This recommendation has been successfully implemented by the Housing Options Team, who now provide each applicant with a personalised affordability assessment document as part of the Income and Expenditure Check process.

2.26 The Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard also looks at the information the Council provides to tenants and prospective tenants, for example key policies and performance information. The service is currently reviewing key documents and policies and ensuring these are available and accessible for our tenants and prospective tenants, whilst also reviewing the website. Performance information about our services is now available to tenants, with the first reports published on the Council's website in October 2024. Tenants will also have the opportunity to influence the website redesign through the Screen Team in May 2025

2.27 As part of ensuring that data is collected and utilised around protected characteristics of tenants, the Housing Service has introduced a robust process to collect full data from new applicants and new tenants, to ensure the Council has a complete tenant profile. This information can then be used to help shape services. The Council is also finalising the development of stronger procedures to ensure information about tenant circumstances and vulnerabilities is collected, held and utilised effectively, again tailoring services to meet individual needs.

2.28 The Council has rolled out more operational satisfaction surveys to assess tenant satisfaction with key services, including damp and mould and tenancy support. Though engagement has steadily improved over Q4, it remains relatively low. Opportunities to increase engagement are being reviewed, including the timing of survey distribution, message personalisation, monetary incentives and the introduction of weekly follow-up reminders.

2.29 Like most landlords, tenant satisfaction with the complaints process remains low. To understand why tenants are dissatisfied, a focus group was held. Tenants raised service issues relating to repairs and transfer requests and were not happy with the outcome of these requests and how they had been dealt with. They also had concerns about several aspects of how the

Council had dealt with a range of enquiries relating to their tenancies. Some of the participants had made formal complaints and had concerns in respect of how they had been dealt with. Tenants made several suggested improvements linked to communication, contact channels, staff attitude and customer services. The Council's Complaints Team has worked in partnership with Rotherfed to establish a new online Learning from Complaints Panel. The Panel held its first meeting in March 2025 and will meet on a quarterly basis. Its purpose is to review tenant complaints and identify key learning and service improvement opportunities arising from them. The Complaints Team will also deliver targeted training and workshops across Housing to support a stronger complaints-handling culture.

Neighbourhood and Community Standard

2.30 The Neighbourhood and Community Standard requires landlords to deliver safe and well-maintained neighbourhoods, shared spaces and communal areas, and to work with local partners to achieve compliance with the standard.

2.31 The Housing and Estates Service works closely with the Council's Community Protection Unit, Neighbourhoods Service, Street Scene and South Yorkshire Police to ensure partnership working is at the core of the regulatory approach. To continue to deliver effective partnership working arrangements, joint service protocols and multi-agency problem solving forums have been reviewed and where needed, improvements made.

2.32 The Neighbourhood and Community standard requires landlords to work with local partners such as the police and other relevant agencies to deter and tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) and hate crime. To ensure that the Council meets this outcome and to continue to improve the service offer, the Council has delivered an ASB Service Improvement Plan. Alongside this, the Council's ASB Policy has been updated following a review of operational arrangements between the Housing and Estates Service and the Community Protection Unit. Key policy changes include clearer definitions of ASB, particularly regarding behaviours that do not constitute ASB, improved online reporting tools, and a strengthened performance monitoring framework.

2.33 The Council's Housing and Estates Service is committed to tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB). The service works in partnership with other Council services, such as the Community Protection/ASB Service and South Yorkshire Police, to investigate and coordinate responses and make full use of available enforcement powers across services. The Council's ASB Policy has been refreshed and the Housing service improvement plan was implemented in 2024/25 and continues to be further developed. Whilst the Council takes all possible steps to tackle anti-social behaviour and to prevent unnecessary evictions, eviction proceedings are initiated where all other measures have been exhausted. The Council has evicted two ASB perpetrators in the current financial year (2025/26). Further improvement actions are underway, focused on strengthening service delivery including

support and communication with those reporting ASB and ensuring timely updates throughout the case management process. A cross-service approach has been adopted for managing complex ASB cases, ensuring a balanced response that combines both robust enforcement with appropriate support for both victims and perpetrators.

2.34 In the 2023-24 TSM return, one notable feature of Rotherham's results was the small number of reported ASB hate incidents for a landlord this size, which suggests under-reporting. Rotherham had an incident rate of 0.35 per 1,000 cases whilst the Yorkshire and Humber median was 0.86 per 1,000 cases. The Council is addressing this through issuing guidance to officers and delivering training. The 2024/25 results have seen the rate rise from 0.35 to 0.40 per 1000 cases.

2.35 Partnership working arrangements are also key to the Council meeting regulatory requirements with regard to domestic abuse related services. The Council is continuing to review its approach to ensure it is supporting victims of domestic abuse as effectively as possible, as well as referring perpetrators to appropriate support.

2.36 The 2024/25 Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs) results indicate a 3.5% decrease in satisfaction with RMBC's maintenance and cleanliness of communal areas. In response, a range of actions are being implemented, including the review, update, and enhanced monitoring of service delivery and repairs reporting processes. Service delivery arrangements have been established or are in the process of being finalised across key areas. Additionally, a further £135,000 has been allocated from the 2025/26 budget to support investment in the caretaking service, following a service review undertaken in 2024/25.

Tenancy Standard

2.37 The Tenancy Standard requires landlords to ensure fair allocation and lettings of homes as well as sustain tenancies and prevent evictions where possible. The Standard requires providers to allocate and let their homes in a fair and transparent way that takes the needs of tenants and prospective tenants into account.

2.38 In June 2024 Cabinet approved a review of the Housing Allocation Policy, which is currently underway. The Council aims to complete the review by Summer 2025.

2.39 Monthly performance reports now include the number of mutual exchanges and measures to monitor compliance with the legal timeframes and decision outcomes. As at end of 2024/25, 100% of mutual exchange requests have been completed within target.

2.40 The Council continues to ensure that all tenancies offered are suitable for the needs of individual households. As part of the housing application process all new applicants, and those with a failed tenancy, complete a

tenancy ready course. An affordability assessment and individual needs are also taken into account prior to an offer.

2.41 The Housing Income and Support Service, alongside the Housing and Estate Management Service, continues to deliver a strong and effective tenancy support offer. Of 50 households at risk of eviction, the Tenancy Support Team successfully sustained 92%, resulting in just 4 evictions due to rent arrears in 2024/25. This is down significantly from 18 in 2023/24. Additionally, the Council's Financial Inclusion services, including Money and Benefits Advice, and Tenancy Support, have secured a total of £5,968,899 in additional income for tenants and residents. This includes successful benefits claims and appeals, Macmillan and other grants, as well as backdated lump sum payments.

2.42 The holistic approach to tenancy sustainment has allowed the Council to achieve consistent positive outcomes for our tenants and to continuously reduce eviction rates. The number of evictions is proportionally significantly less than other providers. For example, Hull City Council (22.5k stock) and Kirklees Council (21k stock) had evicted 14 and 45 tenants respectively by end of Quarter 3.

Governance

2.43 The Regulator of Social Housing pursues a 'co-regulatory' approach, which means significant emphasis is placed on landlords having their own robust assurance mechanisms in place. The Housing Regulatory Assurance Board, chaired by the Chief Executive and attended by the Cabinet Member for Housing, forms a key part of Rotherham's assurance model alongside the broader governance and assurance framework. Cabinet will also continue to receive updates on the TSMs and compliance with the standards.

2.44 The Council has completed recruitment to additional housing governance and assurance posts and aligning this more closely with the service improvement, tenant engagement and programme management teams already in place, to ensure the capacity is available to support the wider improvement programme and continue to enhance the governance model.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 No other options were considered as this report is an update on the work being done to meet the consumer regulations introduced following the Social Housing (Regulations) Act in 2023.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Consultation on the work set out in this report was not necessary as the Council as a social housing provider is required to meet these standards. The new consumer standards require social housing providers to involve tenants in shaping changes to service delivery and this will be a key focus of the programmed inspections. Providing a range of meaningful

opportunities for tenants to influence and scrutinise the landlord's strategies, policies and services is a requirement of the Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Cabinet is asked to note the report. The Assistant Director of Housing, is accountable for implementing the actions in the report.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The activity detailed in this report will be funded via existing staffing resources and budgets. Additional budget has been set in place in 2025/26 to fund the activity required such as Stock Condition Surveys detailed at paragraph 2.14.

6.2 Where newly arising budget requirements are identified these will be managed via in-year monitoring and governance arrangements and considered during the next budget setting and business planning process.

6.3 All activity where external suppliers are engaged to deliver the activity must be procured in compliance with relevant procurement legislation either the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Act 2023 dependent upon the route to market selected to procure, as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The Regulator of Social Housing publication; Tenant Satisfaction Measures: Tenant survey requirements, provides the basis upon which providers of social housing are required to conduct tenant perception surveys to generate a subset of Tenant Perception Measures. The Consumer Standards Code of Practice sets out the standards expected of social housing and how those standards should be maintained. The recommendations will help to ensure compliance with the new regulatory framework for social housing, and aid in preparations for an inspection of the Council's Housing Services.

7.2 Compliance with the consumer standards is mandatory. As a social landlord the Council has a duty to provide a safe environment for those living in our homes. Failure to comply could result in negative outcomes ranging from customer dissatisfaction and criticism to a requirement to submit (to the Regulator) a Performance Improvement Plan, or to take particular remedial actions as set out in an enforcement notice. If necessary, the Regulator will be able to authorise an appropriate person to enter a social housing premises to take emergency remedial action, issue penalties such as unlimited fines, or require the provider of social housing to pay compensation. A provider of social housing will commit an offence if they obstruct access or work required to undertake remedial action. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are no implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults arising from the report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 The Government's Equality Impact assessment has been considered when reviewing the work being done to make sure the Council is compliant with the new regulations. As the Government's assessment states, equality considerations were taken into account throughout the development of the new consumer standards. The work being done by the Housing service puts all groups of tenants at the heart of what we do understanding that we need to evidence that services are accessible to and offered in ways that meet the needs of those with protected characteristics.

10.2 The changes to the regulation of social housing are designed to improve services to tenants, the safety and quality of their homes and communal areas and give them access to information about how well their landlord is performing. In addition, it is a requirement of the regulations that tenants are involved in the shaping of changes to service delivery and revision of policies. The regulations are designed to improve equality of access to services for social housing tenants.

10.3 To ensure compliance with the new regulations Housing will be looking to reporting on the makeup of the tenant base in relation to protected characteristics and acting upon any issues identified. This will be part of the six-monthly updates to Cabinet on the social housing reforms.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change arising from the report.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 The report concerns the Council's functions as a landlord, but some of those functions are dependent on partners including contractors and other public sector agencies. The Strategic Housing Forum is the principal mechanism for bringing key housing partners together in Rotherham and the implications of regulation have been discussed there.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The key risk is a failure to work to strengthen compliance with the consumer standards, which could lead to negative outcomes for tenants and residents,

a poor inspection outcome and potentially a negative judgement. The measures set out in this report are the mitigation against this risk.

14. Accountable Officers

14.1 John Holman, Interim Assistant Director, Housing

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/2025
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	12/06/2025
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	12/06/2025

Report Author: *Louise Robson*
Head of Housing Improvement and Governance
louise.robson@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

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Appendix 1

Tenant Satisfaction Landlord and Perception Measures 2023-24 and 2024-25

Tenant Satisfaction Measure - Landlord Measure		Rotherham 2023/24	National Results 2023/24		Rotherham 2024/25 Results	Previous Year Comparison
RP01	Homes that do not meet the decent homes standard	12.0%	0.5%		7.2%	+4.8%
RP02	(1) Non-Emergency Repairs completed within target timescale	97.0%	81.3%		96.7%	-0.3%
	2) Emergency Repairs completed within target timescale	99.0%	95.3%		98.6%	-0.4%
BS01	Gas safety checks	99.9%	100%		100%	+0.01%
BS02	Fire safety checks	100%	100%		100%	=
BS03	Asbestos safety checks	100%	100%		100%	=
BS04	Water safety checks	100%	100%		100%	=
BS05	Lift Safety Checks	91.3%	100%		100%	+8.7%
NM01	Anti-social behaviour cases relative to the size of the landlord	69.6	35.2		70.4	-0.8
	Number of anti-social behaviour cases that involve hate incidents opened (per	0.3	0.6		0.4	-0.1

	1,000 homes)					
CH01	Stage One complaints relative to the size of the landlord (per 1,000 homes	26.9	42.5		17.7	-9.2
	Stage Two complaints relative to the size of the landlord (per 1,000 homes)	0.9	5.7		0.8	-0.1
CH02	% Stage One complaints responded to within Complaint Handling Code timescale	82.3	82.3		78.1	-4.2
	% Stage Two complaints responded to within Complaint Handling Code timescales	55.5	83.6		37.5	-18.0

Tenant Satisfaction Perception Measures

TP01. Proportion of respondents who report they are satisfied with the overall service of their landlord.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +1.3% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	76.9%	10.5%	12.6%		71.3%	61.7%	78.4%
2024/25	78.2%	10.1%	11.7%				

TP02. Proportion of respondents who have received a repair in the last 12 months who report that they are satisfied with the overall repairs service.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +4.5% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	74.1%	7.9%	18.0%		72.3%	65.7%	78.7%
2024/25	78.6%	6.7%	14.7%				

TP03. Proportion of respondents who have received a repair in the last 12 months who report that they are satisfied with the time taken to complete their most recent repair.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +5.5% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	72.1%	4.4%	23.5%		67.4%	61.1%	75.3%
2024/25	77.6%	4.6%	17.8%				

TP04. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied that their home is well maintained.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +0.1% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	77.6%	7.0%	15.4%		70.8%	64.4%	77.6%
2024/25	77.7%	7.6%	14.7%				

TP05. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied that their home is safe.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -0.1% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	81.1%	5.8%	13.1%		76.5%	70.5%	82.5%
2024/25	81.0%	6.6%	12.4%				

TP06. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied that their landlord listens to tenant views and acts upon them.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +1% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	70.5%	10.5%	19.0%		60.4%	52.3%	67.9%
2024/25	71.5%	10.1%	18.4%				

TP07. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied that their landlord keeps them informed about things that matter to them.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied +2.8% ↑	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	74.0%	10.5%	15.4%		70.3%	63.8%	75.9%
2024/25	76.8%	9.2%	14.0%				

TP08. Proportion of respondents who report that they agree their landlord treats them fairly and with respect.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -0.6% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	83.6%	8.2%	8.2%		76.8%	70.8%	82.8%
2024/25	83.0%	9.9%	7.1%				

TP09. Proportion of respondents who report making a complaint in the last 12 months who are satisfied with their landlord's approach to complaints handling.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -1.6% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	36.2%	7.6%	56.2%		34%	27.5%	41.1%
2024/25	34.5%	7.0%	58.4%				

TP10. Proportion of respondents with communal areas who report that they are satisfied that their landlord keeps communal areas clean and well maintained.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -3.5% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	71.6%	7.4%	20.9%		65.1%	58.2%	71.7%
2024/25	68.1%	6.6%	25.3%				

TP11. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied that their landlord makes a positive contribution to the neighbourhood

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -1.2% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	72.4%	9.9%	17.7%		63.1%	55.1%	70.4%
2024/25	71.2%	10.9%	17.9%				

TP12. Proportion of respondents who report that they are satisfied with their landlord's approach to handling anti-social behaviour.

Rotherham Council					National Results		
	Satisfied -1.6% ↓	Neither	Dissatisfied		Median	Lower Quartile	Upper Quartile
2023/24	64.9%	11.8%	23.3%		57.8%	51.3%	64.8%
2024/25	63.3%	11.7%	25.0%				

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Appendix 2

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Tenant Satisfaction Measures and Regulatory Compliance - End of year update 2024/25	
Directorate: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	**Service area:** **Housing Improvement and Governance**
Lead person: Louise Robson	**Contact:** louise.robson@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a: [ ] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [x] **Other** **If other, please specify** Update to Cabinet on Tenant Satisfaction Measures and Regulatory Compliance	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Social Housing (Regulation) Act regulations came into force on April 1st 2024. The new regulations and inspection regime require social housing landlords to deliver in line with the four consumer standards relating to Quality and Safety, Transparency Influence and Accountability, Neighbourhood and Community and Tenancy. Social housing is governed by a range of legislation and these new consumer standards build upon the existing legislative requirements. This report is

an update on the work taking place across Housing to make sure we meet the regulations. The new regulations require social housing providers to report a range of performance measures on an annual basis. The first of these is the Tenant Satisfaction Measures which will be reported to the Regulator in June 2025 for the second time covering the year April 1st, 2024, to March 31st 2025. This report gives Cabinet an update on the work being done to make sure Housing meets the new regulatory standards, including the new revised consumer standards.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

The consumer standards are focussed on the quality of delivery for tenants and there is an expectation that landlords will know their tenants and will adapt delivery to meet particular needs, including in response to those with protected characteristics. In effect, being inclusive and respecting and responding to diversity and aiming for equality of access are core tenets of the new regulations. The new regulatory framework for social housing will include inspections so landlords will be judged on how well they are meeting these requirements.

The consumer standards that came into force from April 1st 2024 had a period of public consultation before being finalised. The final Equality Impact Assessment was published alongside the finalised consumer standards on February 29th 2024, and can be found at:

Annex 6: Consumer standards – Equality impact assessment - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?		√
Could the proposal affect service users?		√
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?		√
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		√
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		√
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		√

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

Given that this is a six-monthly update to Cabinet, it has been determined that there is no equality implications from this report.

The Government's Equality Impact Assessment has been considered when reviewing the Tenant Satisfaction Measures to make sure we are compliant with the new regulations.

Appendix 2

As the government's assessment states, equality considerations were taken into account throughout the development of the new consumer standards. The work being done by the Housing service puts all groups of tenants at the heart of what we do but understanding that we need to evidence that services are accessible to and offered in ways that meet the needs of those with protected characteristics.

Overall, the new regulations require housing providers to evidence that they know the make-up of their tenant base and are adjusting the delivery of services to meet the needs of particular groups and those with protected characteristics.

The Housing Service collect all protected characteristic information at the point of joining the housing register for prospective tenants and as part of the tenancy health check for existing tenants. The collection of this information has been mandatory within the Housing Management System.

To ensure compliance with the new regulations Housing will be looking to report on the makeup of the tenant base in relation to protected characteristics and acting upon any issues identified. This will be part of the future updates to Cabinet on the social housing reforms.

Implementing the provisions of the regulations build on existing Council policies and practices that have themselves have already been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**
If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

- **Key findings**

- **Actions**

Appendix 2

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Louise Robson	Assistant Director of Housing	15/05/2025

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	15/05/2025
Report title and date	Tenant Satisfaction Measures 2023-24 and Social Housing Consumer Standards
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	N/A
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	12.05.25

APPENDIX 3 – CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across Rotherham as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	n/a				
Emissions from transport?	n/a				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	n/a				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Unknown impact on emissions		A revised *Safety and Quality Standard* emphasises that landlords should hold good quality information about their properties' condition, based on recent stock condition surveys. Strengthening assurance around stock condition and decency are key priorities for the Council, due to the age of its existing stock condition data. In the longer term, better intelligence will increase the Council's capacity to improve the condition of its housing stock e.g., by insulating homes		Greenhouse gas emissions from housing, including those from Council-owned homes, are outside the scope of the Council's 'Net Zero by 2030' (NZ30) target and are outside the scope of NZ30 emissions monitoring. Local area emissions from domestic energy use are estimated in local authority greenhouse gas emissions statistics, published by the

			to higher energy efficiency standards. In this way, work to comply with consumer standards for social housing landlords may increase the Council's capacity to cut greenhouse gas emissions from domestic energy use in the Borough of Rotherham, as per its 'Net Zero by 2040' target.		Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. A specific expectation that the Council should hold good quality data about properties it owns may increase organisational capacity for monitoring local area emissions.
Emissions from construction and/or development?	n/a				
Carbon capture (e.g., through trees)?	n/a				

Identify any emission impacts associated with this decision that have not been covered by the above fields:

Under a further *Neighbourhood and Community Standard*, the Council must "co-operate with relevant partners to promote social, **environmental** [*emphasis added*] and economic wellbeing in the areas where they provide social housing." Meeting this standard may have wider environmental benefits for biodiversity and nature recovery, sequestering carbon and adapting to climate change e.g., if it leads to more green space in areas where the Council provides social housing.

Please provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

Much of the content of the new consumer standards is already part of the regulatory framework for social housing: for these areas, the key difference is the requirement for the Council to evidence compliance to a proactive Regulator. This may have a real-world, positive consequences for Council-owned homes. For example, the Council needs to improve its stock condition data, to comply with a revised *Safety and Quality Standard*. Better quality stock condition data may increase the Council's capacity to retrofit homes with better insulation and low carbon heating systems and hence cut greenhouse gas emissions, to meet its 'Net Zero by 2040' climate change target.

Supporting information:	
Completed by:	Robeen Abou El Ola

(Name, title, and service area/directorate).	Business Development Manager Housing Services Adult Care, Housing and Public Health
Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this [form].	*Required Outcomes and Specific Expectations, Consumer Standards*. Regulator of Social Housing (2 April 2024). Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/regulatory-standards-for-landlords>
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	
Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]	Tracking Reference: CIA372 Katie Rockett, Climate Change Officer

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Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update – Final Report for 2024/25.

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)
Simon Dennis, Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager
Simon.dennis@rotherham.gov.uk

Oscar Holden, Corporate Improvement Officer
Oscar.holden@rotherham.gov.uk

Chloe Harrop, Corporate Improvement Officer
Chloe.harrop@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

In January 2022, the Council adopted a Council Plan for 2022-25, including a suite of performance measures. The Plan was informed by public consultation and set out the Council's vision for the Borough and priorities for serving residents and communities.

To enable the Council to work towards the Council Plan outcomes and achieve its commitments, a Year Ahead Delivery Plan was also developed, setting out the key activities to be delivered over the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2023.

The Year Ahead Delivery Plan is updated annually, alongside a review of the Council Plan performance measure targets.

The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2024-25 and the review of the Council Plan performance measure targets was approved by Cabinet on 29 July 2024. In line with previous years, it was agreed that there would be two monitoring reports published over the year.

The second and final progress report for 2024-25 is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. It includes performance measures for Quarter 4 (January to March 2025) and progress updates Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions up to 31 May 2025.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the overall position in relation to the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities.

2. Note the Quarter 4 data for the Council Plan performance measures.

3. Note that the Council has been using a new Council Plan from June 2025 with this being the final report for the 2022-25 Council Plan.

List of Appendices Included

- Appendix 1 – Council Plan Progress Report – Final Report for 2024/25 (Quarter 4 performance data and progress on Year Ahead Delivery Plan 2024/25).
- Appendix 2 – Equality Analysis.
- Appendix 3 – Carbon Impact Assessment.

Background Papers

Council Plan 2022-25 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan approved by Council in January 2022.

Council Plan 2022-25 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan annual report considered on 29 July 2024.

Mid-Year Report on Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress for 2024-2025 considered on 10 January 2025.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update.

1. Background

1.1 The Council Plan 2022-25 is a key document, which sets out the Council's vision for the Borough and priorities for serving residents and communities and is informed by public consultation. The Plan provides the medium-term basis for targeting resources, informing the budget-setting process, and planning cycles, and ensuring that residents can hold the Council to account for delivery.

1.2 To enable the Council to work towards the Council Plan outcomes and achieve the commitments, the Plan includes a suite of performance measures and targets as well as a Year Ahead Delivery Plan, which sets out the key activities to be delivered over the financial year ending 31 March 2025.

1.3 The Council Plan 2022-25 was adopted by Council in January 2022. The Year Ahead Delivery Plan is updated every year and the Plan for 2024-25 was approved by Cabinet on 29 July 2024.

1.4 The process for monitoring performance is set out in the Council's Performance Management Framework, which explains how robust performance monitoring should be carried out.

1.5 To ensure that the delivery of actions and their impact is assessed, formal performance reports have been presented in public at Cabinet meetings twice a year, as previously agreed. Scrutiny has the opportunity to consider the reports in line with the Council's normal processes, as has been undertaken on previous update reports.

1.6 Service plans have been produced for every Council service and these are reviewed annually to ensure a 'golden thread' runs from the Council Plan through to each service as well as the 'My Year Ahead Delivery Plan' Personal Development Review (PDR) process at individual officer level.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Informed by a programme of public and stakeholder engagement, the Council Plan set out medium-term priorities and actions, building on and taking forward commitments made by Councillors to the Rotherham community. The Plan was framed around five themes:

- Every neighbourhood thriving
- People are safe, healthy, and live well
- Every child able to fulfil their potential
- Expanding economic opportunity
- A cleaner, greener local environment.

2.2 These five themes were underpinned by a cross-cutting strand - 'One Council' - which set out how the Council would operate to achieve the vision.

2.3 The Council Plan set out the outcomes that the Council will work towards over the period from 2022 to 2025. There were 26 outcomes and 47 commitments in total.

2.4 To ensure delivery against these, the Year Ahead Delivery Plan included 100 priority actions/milestones, which were to be delivered by March 2025.

2.5 The Council Plan was monitored through both the delivery of the milestones and activities within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and the 68 performance measures outlined in the Council Plan. The performance measures included a mixture of output measures and longer-term outcome measures.

2.6 The Quarter 4 progress report for 2024-25 (Appendix 1) focuses on the progress made across all the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities to deliver the Council Plan's five headline priorities for Rotherham. The report has been designed to ensure that progress on the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities is as up to date as possible at the time of publication.

2.7 The targets for Council Plan performance measures relate to the financial year 2024-25 and are reported here for Quarter 4 (January to March 2024). Appendix 1 includes full details of performance against these measures.

2.8 The Quarter 4 progress report (Appendix 1) includes a high-level overview overall and is then presented by Council Plan theme, with each thematic section including achievements and challenges, Year Ahead Delivery Plan trackers and performance scorecards. The report also includes wider information, key facts and intelligence, specific case studies and a timeline of key achievements/activities to demonstrate activity during the first half of the year.

2.9 The Year Ahead Delivery Plan milestone trackers (included in Appendix 1) outline progress against the 100 actions within the Year Ahead Plan. Each action has been rated as follows:

Status	Definition
Not yet due to start	Action not yet scheduled to start.
On track	Action started and on track to be delivered by the original deadline.
Known delays	Action has some risk/delay to delivery or is behind the original schedule by less than three months.
Will not be met	Action will not be/has not been met within three months of the original target date.
Complete	The action is fully complete and/or operational.

2.10 As of 31 May 2025, the activities within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan are rated as follows:

- 77% (77) complete
- 4% (4) are delayed by less than 3 months
- 19% (19) will not be met within 3 months of original target date.

2.11 The performance scorecards included in Appendix 1 provide an analysis of the Council's performance against each of the 68 performance measures and each are given equal priority.

2.12 Each of the measures are rated as follows:

Status	Definition
✔	Performance is on or above target.
●	Currently performance is not at expected levels. Confidence that the target will still be achieved by year-end.
✖	Performance is not currently on target. High risk that year-end target will not be achieved.
△	Target cannot be assessed this quarter (ie annual measure or awaiting publication of data)
ⓘ	Information measure targets not applicable (ie volume/demand measures where 'good' is neither high or low)

Direction of travel	Definition
🡅	Performance or numbers have improved.
🡆	Performance maintained or numbers are the same.
🡇	Performance or numbers have declined.
♦	Quarterly direction of travel not applicable.

2.13 For the report covering Quarter 4, the status of the performance measures and direction of travel for each is set out below:

Progress against targets

- Performance is on or above target – 36 measures (53%)
- Currently performance is not at expected levels. Confidence that the target will be achieved by year-end – 0 measures (0%)
- Performance is not currently on target. High risk that year-end target will not be achieved – 24 measures (35%)
- Target cannot be assessed this quarter. (i.e. Annual measure or awaiting publication of data) – 3 measures (4%)
- Information measure targets not applicable. (i.e. Volume / Demand measures where 'good' is neither high or low) – 5 measures (8%)

Direction of travel

- Performance or numbers have improved – 31 measures (46%)
- Performance maintained or numbers are the same – 3 measures (4%)
- Performance or numbers have declined – 26 measures (38%)
- Direction of travel not applicable – 8 measures (12%)

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 The Council Plan 2022-25 was developed in consultation with Cabinet Members and officers across all directorates, as well as being informed by public consultation. This report forms part of the Council's commitment to public reporting on its progress.

3.2 It is recommended that Cabinet note the overall position in relation to the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities for 2024-25 and performance to 31 March 2025 for the Council Plan performance measures.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 A programme of public consultation and engagement to support the development of the Council Plan took place throughout August and September 2021. This included online and postal surveys, focus groups, a series of short interactions and engagement at the Rotherham Show. There were 350 online and postal surveys returned and over 1,000 other interactions in total across all methods of engagement.

4.2 In addition to the public consultation, engagement took place with key stakeholders, including work with Cabinet members and officers across all directorates, a session with the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) and a session that was open to all elected members.

4.3 The consultation is part of an ongoing dialogue between the Council and members of the public. Feedback continues to be sought on core documents such as the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities, Rotherham Together Partnership Plan and the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

4.4 It should also be noted that a further consultation has recently taken place between September and November 2024, to inform the development of the next Council Plan, which was agreed by Council on the 21st May 2025.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 This progress report follows the previous report brought to Cabinet in January 2025, together they cover the performance over the whole of the 2024-25 financial year.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The Council Plan and the Year Ahead Delivery Plan are designed to help steer the use of Council finances, balanced against the wider funding backdrop for

the Council and the broader context of national local government finance and policy. There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report and the delivery of the Council Plan will be managed within the Council's available budgets.

6.2 The Council operates in a constantly changing environment. It will be important to ensure that ambitions and performance targets remain realistic in the context of central government policy, forthcoming legislation and the financial position of the Authority.

6.3 Whilst there are no direct procurement implications in this report, the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan include some activities which require the need to procure goods, services or works to achieve their outcomes. All projects will need be procured in line with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, the Procurement Act 2023, or the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023, whichever is applicable, as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules, giving clear consideration and application of social value, the Real Living Wage and other ethical factors.

6.4 Appendix 1 includes information regarding the Council's financial position, and this is aligned to the financial reporting timelines.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 Whilst there is no specific statutory requirement for the Council to have a Performance Management Framework and Council Plan, being clear about the Council's ambitions gives staff, partners, residents, and central Government a clear understanding of what it seeks to achieve and how it will prioritise its spending decisions.

7.2 An effective and embedded Council Plan is also a key part of the Council's ongoing improvement journey.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct Human Resources (HR) implications arising from this report. However, the contribution HR makes to an engaged, diverse, and skilled workforce—empowered to embrace new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers—has been a key element of the 'One Council' theme. The delivery of the Council Plan has been supported throughout by the Workforce Plan 2022–2025.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 The Council Plan has a core focus on the needs of children and young people and vulnerable adults and this is embedded throughout all themes of the plan, particularly in theme three (Every child able to fulfil their potential).

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Equalities is cross cutting throughout the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan.

10.2 Of the five guiding principles, two specifically aim to meet residents' and communities' differentiated needs:

- Expanding opportunities for all
- Working with our communities

10.3 'Expanding opportunities for all' encompasses the Council's essential priority to tackle inequality, striving to ensure that the health and life chances of the most disadvantaged communities are improving the fastest. To complement this approach, 'working with our communities' ensures that to achieve the best outcomes for local people, residents are involved in the things that matter to them and services are designed based on input from those who use them.

10.4 There is also an outcome focussed on addressing inequalities and leaving no one behind within the 'people are safe, healthy and live well' theme. This will involve providing support to our communities at a level that is proportionate to the degree of need – taking a universal approach where appropriate whilst also providing targeted support to those who most need it.

10.5 In addition, the underlying 'One Council' theme encompasses two specific areas which ensure different needs are met:

- Effective customer services
- Engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who feel empowered to adopt new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers

10.6 The Council's commitment to place all customers at the heart of service delivery includes a strengthened approach to equalities and being inclusive. The commitment to an engaged, diverse and skilled workforce is expected to improve the council's response to diverse customer needs, by bringing a more differentiated understanding of equality and diversity considerations and barriers.

10.7 A detailed Equality Analysis is attached (Appendix 2).

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 A cleaner, greener local environment is a theme within the Plan, focused around reducing harmful levels of carbon emissions to limit the impacts on communities and the environment. Actions within this theme encompass plans for the reduction of emissions in housing, through the Housing Strategy, and transport, such as through cycleway improvements, and public transports improvements, as well as improving data on waste and single-use plastic. A Carbon Impact Assessment has been produced based on the Year Ahead Delivery Plan (see Appendix 3).

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 Working with partners across the public, private and voluntary and community sectors will be integral to the delivery of the Council Plan, and partners have been consulted as part of its development. All the themes will require multi-agency approaches to some degree and the Council will continue to show effective leadership, operating through a range of strategic partnership bodies.

12.2 Following the refresh of the Rotherham Together Plan, which was formally launched in January 2023, showcase events have continued to celebrate the achievements of the Partnership. This year, events have taken place in September 2024 at the Arc Cinema in Forge Island, and in April 2025 at the Maltby Learning Trust Academy. The Rotherham Together Plan links to the Council Plan and is included in the milestones under theme 6, “One Council”.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The Corporate Strategic Risk Register is aligned to the Council Plan themes and the process of identifying and mitigating strategic risks is clearly linked to the Plan.

13.2 Progress reports will continue to note risks associated with actions at risk of not being delivered, or those that have missed the deadline, as well as performance measures which have not progressed in accordance with the target set.

13.3 Directorates are also responsible for ensuring that any significant risks are addressed via directorate and corporate risk registers.

14. Accountable Officers

Simon Dennis, Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager
Assistant Chief Executive’s Directorate
Simon.dennis@rotherham.gov.uk

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	22/06/25
Strategic Director, Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	19/06/25
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	20/06/25

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This report is published on the Council's website.

COUNCIL PLAN 2022/25 AND YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN

Year-end Progress Report

Period: Quarter 4 2024/25 performance data and progress on the Year Ahead Delivery Plan.



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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan is a key document which sets out the Council's vision for the borough and priorities for serving residents and communities. The Plan provides the medium-term basis for targeting resources, informing the budget-setting process and planning cycles, and ensuring that residents can hold the Council to account for delivery.

Four guiding principles run through the Plan, informing the Council's way of working and helping to achieve better outcomes.

Expanding opportunities for all

As we open up new opportunities we will target the most help at those who need it, so no one is left behind.

Recognising and building on our strengths to make positive change

This will involve making the best use of local assets, including buildings, parks and public spaces, as well as harnessing the knowledge and skills of community groups and local residents.

Working with our communities

To achieve the best outcomes for local people, we recognise the importance of putting them at the heart of everything we do. That means involving local residents in the things that matter to them and making sure we design our services based on input from those who use them.

Focussing on prevention

We know that prevention is better than cure in achieving positive outcomes for our residents. For this reason, we will focus on reducing the risk of problems arising in the first place, and when they do, we will intervene early to prevent them from worsening.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Informed by a programme of public and stakeholder engagement, the Council Plan is framed around five themes



These five themes are underpinned by a cross-cutting strand – 'One Council' - which sets out how the Council will operate to achieve the vision.

To ensure delivery of the Council Plan, annual Year Ahead Delivery Plans are produced. The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for the 2024/25 financial year covers the final year of the Council Plan.

This is the year-end progress report for 2024/25 to Cabinet.

The report focuses on progress made in delivering the 100 priority actions/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and the 68 headline performance measures that best demonstrate progress in achieving the 26 key outcomes. It also brings together wider information, key facts and intelligence to explain how the Council is working and performing, including timelines and case studies to demonstrate the impact on residents and communities.

Through directorate and service-level business plans the Council carries out wider work to measure performance and quality. This report provides an overview of the contribution that the Council makes across all of its activities to improve Rotherham as a place to live, work and spend time.

2. STATUS DEFINITIONS

Year Ahead Delivery Plan definitions

Not yet due to start	Action not yet scheduled to start.
On track	Action started and on track to be delivered by the original deadline.
Known delays	Action has some risk/delay to delivery or is behind the original schedule by less than three months.
Will not be met	Action will not be/has not been met within three months of the original target date.
Complete	The action is fully complete and/or operational.

Performance measure definitions

✔	Performance is on or above target
●	Currently performance is not at expected levels. Confidence that the target will be achieved by year-end.
✖	Performance is not currently on target. High risk that year-end target will not be achieved.
△	Target can not be assessed this quarter. (ie Annual measure or awaiting publication of data).
ⓘ	Information measure targets not applicable. (ie Volume / Demand measures where 'good' is neither high or low).

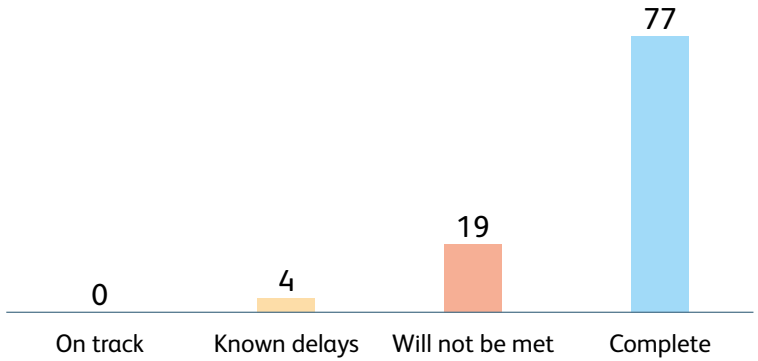
↑	Performance or numbers have improved.
→	Performance maintained or numbers are the same.
↓	Performance or numbers have declined.
◆	Quarterly direction of travel not applicable.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

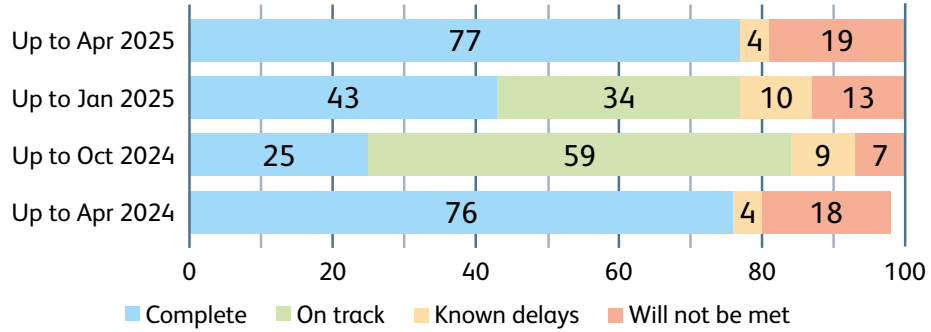
The diagrams below provide details of the overall status in relation to the Council Plan performance measures (where data is available or where targets have been set) and Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones.

YEAR AHEAD PLAN ACTIONS/MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

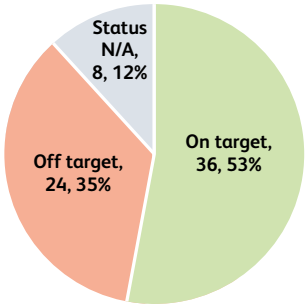


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Trend

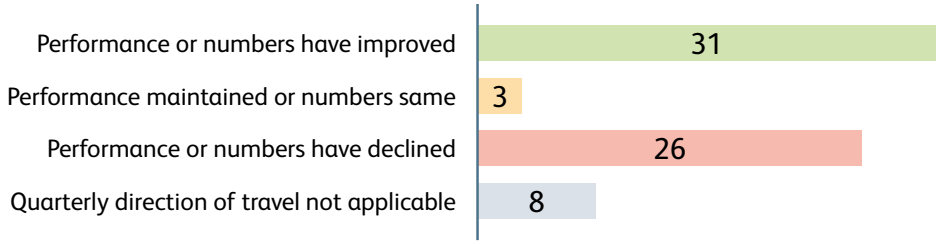


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



Of the 22 measures with a downward trajectory, 10 are still on or above the target set, none are not at expected levels and 12 are off target. Services are reviewing mitigations to improve performance. (The overall totals in the diagrams may differ because the direction of travel is not applicable for all measures).

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*

Developed and delivered an action plan that ensures the Council and its partners are maximising opportunities to join-up activities and initiatives in three locality areas across the borough.



Designed and implemented a new pedestrian crossing at Cortonwood in March 2025.



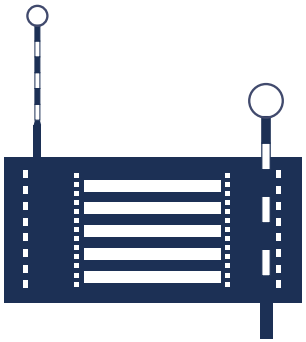


Successfully delivered a range of cultural events including: Signals Festival, Roots – Rotherham Street Carnival and Otherham (see case study below).



Developed the Community Safety Strategy 2025/28, approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board.

Designed and implemented a new pedestrian crossing at Swallownest in January 2025.





Approved improvement projects to principal towns and villages across the borough, delivered as part of Our Places.

Completed the Public Space Protection Order review, the two new three-year orders commenced in January 2025.



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Performance measures *(achieved and improving)*



Satisfaction with the borough as a place to live has improved as recorded in the Resident Satisfaction Survey for 2024. 66% of respondents said, overall, they were satisfied with the Rotherham borough as a place to live, which is above the Council Plan target of 62% and average across previous surveys *(higher is better)*.



109 new volunteering opportunities created for local people via the voluntary and community sector in 2024/25, against a Council Plan target of 80 *(higher is better)*.

During 2024/25, there were 4,183,373 visits to culture, sport and tourism facilities, against a target of 4,000,000 and 97% of customers were satisfied with culture, sport and tourism services *(higher is better)*.





80.8% of the local 'principal road' network is classed as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a year-end target of 79.4% *(higher is better)*.

78.5% of the local 'non-principal' road network is classes as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a year-end target of 77% *(higher is better)*.





66.2% of the local 'unclassified' road network classed as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a year-end target of 64.9% *(higher is better)*.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

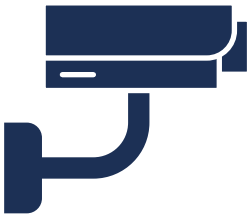
This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Challenges

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(not achieved/delayed)*

Phase 1 of the Local Neighbourhood Road Safety programme to implement new neighbourhood road safety measures is delayed to Quarter 3 2025/26. Schemes in seven wards are now been complete, however due to delays in design completion some schemes are still in the process of issuing construction.





The third phase of investment in the borough's CCTV equipment has been delayed. Further work to link systems together is now being developed with proposals due to be finalised in early 2025/26.

The investment of £3 million to deliver the repair of unclassified roads and £1.2 million to repair footways in the 2024/25 Highway Repair Programme will not be met with delays caused by wintery conditions and road space not being available due to utility works. These repairs will be delivered early in the Highway Repair Programme 2025/26.



While most of the remaining schemes are complete (see case study below), phase 1 of the Towns and Villages Fund programme at Maltby East has been delayed to Quarter 3 of 2025/26. This delay is due to the expansion of the scheme's scope and the allocation of additional budgets.



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Challenges

Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



Satisfaction with the local area as a place to live (Resident Satisfaction 2024) – 75% of respondents said, overall, they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live, which is below the Council Plan target of 80% *(higher is better)*.



Public perception of anti-social behaviour via the 'Your Voice Counts' survey decreased in 2024/25 to 44%, against a target of lower than 43% *(lower is better)*.

Perceptions of feeling safe outside during the day have declined (Resident Satisfaction 2024) – 85% of those surveyed feel safe during the day, against a target of 90% and national figure of 91% *(higher is better)*.



167 anti-social behaviour community protection notices were issued (anti-social behaviour, waste and noise) in 2024/25, against a year-end target of 200 *(higher is better)*.





6% of positive outcomes for hate crime investigations in Quarter 4 (11% year-end), against a year-end target of 20% *(higher is better)*.

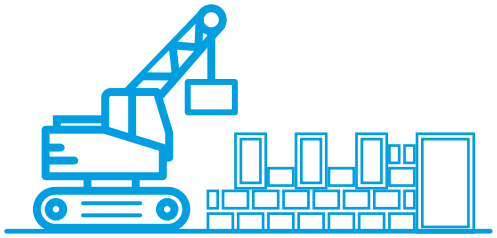
3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*



Started the building groundwork for Castle View Day Service in October 2024 with the current estimated completion date is March 2026 (see case study below).



Expanded the Council's temporary accommodation by 17 homes in 2024/25 through the Councils' Housing Delivery Programme.

150 new homes acquired or built through the Housing Growth Programme, the 150th home was delivered in February 2025 (see case study below).

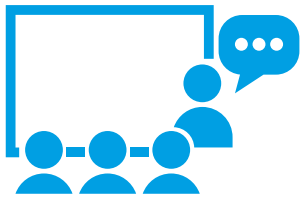


Groundwork for the new homes, through the Housing Growth Programme, began in January 2025 at West Melton and in February 2025 at Swinton.



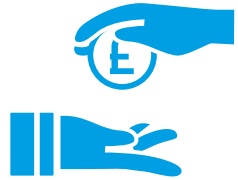


Delivered the Local Councils Tax Support Top Up scheme to all residents on Council Tax Support, providing up to £121.06 per working household.



Event focussed on securing a pipeline of future investment in new affordable homes through joint work with registered providers of social housing and Homes England took place in March 2025.

Successfully delivered the Energy Crisis Support scheme, providing up to £250 to households that are struggling to meet the cost of their energy bills.



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3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

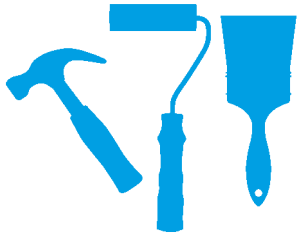
This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Performance measures *(achieved and improving)*



97% of adults involved in a safeguarding enquiry felt their personal outcomes were at least partially met during 2024/25, against a target of 97% *(higher is better)*.



94.5% of Council housing repairs were completed 'right first time' during 2024/25 *(higher is better)*, exceeding the target of 93% and improving on the 2023/24 figure (94.4%).



The proportion of households that were prevented or relieved from homelessness in 2024/25 increased to 85.2%, an increase on the 2023/24 figure (80.9%) and exceeding the Council Plan target (85%) *(higher is better)*.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Challenges

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(not achieved/delayed)*



The Domestic Abuse Delivery Model review is delayed to ensure alignment with the Domestic Abuse Strategy midpoint review. Now due to be completed in December 2025.

The groundwork for new homes under the Housing Growth Programme has been delayed. For Eastwood, the new target date is now Quarter 4 of 2025/26, and for Maltby, it is Quarter 2 of 2025/26. These delays are due to issues in the procurement process and obtaining planning permission.



Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



In 2024/25, there were 327 new older adult admissions to long term residential care (aged 65+) *(lower is better)*, against a year-end target of 317.

95.1% of Council housing stock meets the 'Decent Homes' standard, against a target of 100% *(higher is better)*. This is also a decrease from the 2023/24 figure (100%).





The engagement rate with domestic abuse support services was 58% in 2024/25, against a target of 60% *(higher is better)*. This is a decrease from the 2023/24 figure (67%).

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*



Delivery of the Baby Packs scheme commenced in April 2025 to support families across the borough with essential items (see case study below).



Submitted the registration of a fourth two-bedroom residential children's home to make sure Children in Care and young people can stay in the borough.

90% of families have registered for a Rotherham Family Hub with a child up to six months by the end of 2024/25 (see case study below).



Increased the amount of local education placements for young people with special educational needs in eight schools across the borough.





175 support sessions have been delivered in 2024/24 to enhance the under 5's offer within communities across the borough.



Building work has been commissioned to develop the Eric Manns building into a centre for children with special education needs and disabilities.

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3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

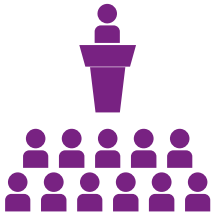
Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months) continued*



The Independent Travel Training scheme has successfully trained 31 young people in 2024/25. This scheme is enabling more children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities to travel independently and achieve their full potential.

Engaged with all 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges throughout 2024/25 through the Enterprise Adviser Network Project, enhancing the career provisions of young people across the borough.





Began the redevelopment of the new Water Splash facility at Clifton Park, with the project on track to be delivered by July 2025.

CHILDREN'S CAPITAL OF CULTURE.

Officially launched the programme for the Children's Capital of Culture in December 2024 at the Arc Cinema.

Delivered 208 support sessions throughout 2024/25 to support young people to engage with youth services across the borough.



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Performance measures *(achieved and improving)*



Proportion of two-year olds taking up an early education place has increased to 85.7% *(higher is better)*, which is above the year-end Council Plan target of 85% and above the latest national average of 74.8%.

The number of Children in Need (rate per 10k population) has reduced to 310.7 *(lower is better)*, which is below the year-end target of 375.5 and lower than the latest national (332.9) and statistical neighbour (398.8) averages.





The number of Looked After Children (rate per 10k population) has steadily reduced over the last few years reaching 83.0 at the end of the 2024/25 *(lower is better)*. This is below the Council Plan target (95.2) and latest statistical neighbour average (100.9) but does remain above the latest national average (70.0).

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(not achieved/delayed)*



Registration for a third two-bedroom home for children will not be met due to delays caused by the recruitment of a Registered Manager, the new target date is Quarter 1 of 2025/26.

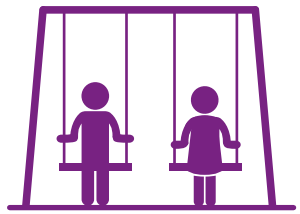


The registration for a sixth two-bedroom residential home is delayed, the planning application is now due to be submitted in May 2025.

The submission of registration for a third two-bedroom home, a fifth two-bedroom home and a sixth two-bedroom residential home is delayed due to challenges with the planning process, a Department for Education capital bid and recruitment. Registration is now expected to be submitted in Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 2025/26.



While a strategic programme is in place for the Children's Playground Programme and consultation has taken place, the delivery of the programme is delayed. Estimated completion date is now October 2025 for Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Parks.



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Challenges

Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



78.5% of year 1 pupils passed the phonics screening check in 2023/24 academic year, showing a 0.5% decrease when compared to the previous academic year 2022/23 (79.0%) *(higher is better)*. This is below the Council Plan target (80.8%) which is in line with the statistical neighbour average.

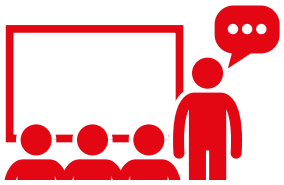
3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*



Successfully delivered 64 business workshops throughout 2024/25, providing start-up advice and support to 464 attendees.

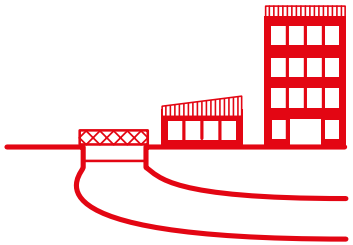


A plan to attract inward investment has been developed and in operational delivery from April 2025.

Provided 132 businesses with financial assistance to support investment throughout 2024/25.

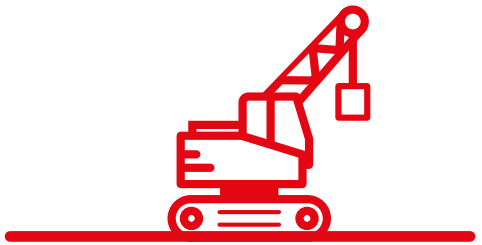


Vetro Lounge, the first restaurant at Forge Island, opened on April 30, 2025. The second eatery, Sygnature Dish, is scheduled to open in the Quarter 1 2025/26 (see case study below).





Launched the Destination Management Plan, advisory board meetings have identified key workstreams and allocated resources for effective delivery.



Construction began at Riverside Gardens on 28 April 2025, with expected completion by June 2026.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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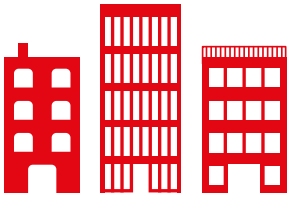
Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months) continued*

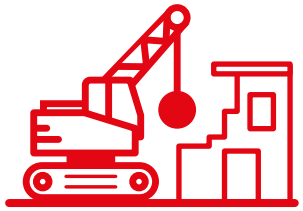


The renovation works at Wentworth Woodhouse were completed in December 2024 and Gulliver's Skills Academy reported completion in May 2025, following some delays.

Provided tailored advice and non-financial support throughout 2024/25 through Go4Growth to support ten Rotherham businesses through one-to-one organisational support and two Rotherham specific courses.



Demolition commenced on the Guardian Centre Building in Quarter 4 to facilitate further development works at the new market and library building.





Worked with Partners across 2024/25 to deliver actions from the Digital Inclusion Strategy, establishing access to support for those at risk of digital exclusion.



Agreed a Social Value Action Plan alongside Rotherham Together Partnership to drive the social value agenda forward.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Performance measures *(achieved and improving)*



The survival rate of new businesses supported by the Rotherham Investment & Development Office (RiDO) over the first three trading years is 86% *(higher is better)*, against a Council Plan target of 81%. In particular, the survival rates of businesses supported in the last 12 months has increased.



There have been 130,191 engagements with library services that help people gain skills and get a job during 2024/25, against a year end target of 100,000 *(higher is better)*.



Total of 239,392 online customer transactions were completed throughout 2024/25 *(higher is better)*, exceeding the annual target of 185,400.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

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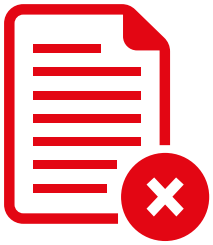
Challenges

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(not achieved/delayed)*



Construction work at the Templeborough Business Zone Project has been delayed due to the need to reconfigure contractual arrangements, with a resolution likely to be met by August 2025.

Proposed governance revision to the National Planning Policy Framework and the requirement for a new Local Plan, means that the consultation carried out a revised Local Plan Core Strategy Policy to consider social value in major planning decisions is no longer required.



Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



Proportion of residents optimistic about the future of Rotherham as a place to live (Resident Satisfaction 2024) – 53% of respondents reported feeling 'very optimistic' or 'fairly optimistic' about the future of Rotherham as a place to live, which is below the Council Plan target of 57% and lower than last year's performance of 56% *(higher is better)*.

Proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council as a percentage of the workforce is currently 0.9% against a target of 1.5% *(higher is better)*. Additional actions have been taken to target this, including better promotion of apprenticeships and careers within the Council.



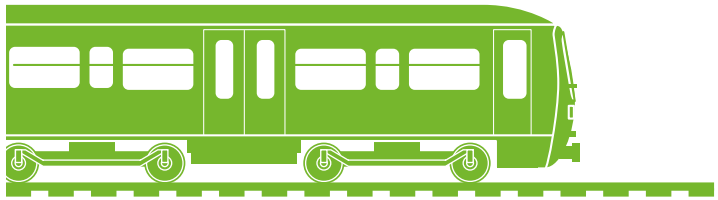
3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*



Completed and submitted the Outline Business Case for Rotherham Mainline Station to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Transport in February 2025 (see case study below).



Progress towards reaching 'shovel ready' status in the has been completed in a number of flood defence/mitigation schemes. This includes Rotherham Renaissance, Parkgate and Rawmarsh and the Culvert Renewal programme.

Concluded a trial of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil across ten vehicles in the Council's fleet with results showing a carbon reduction estimated to be around 90% compared to diesel emissions.





Delivered 23 community engagement events across the borough, led by the Community Energy Officer.

The Council's Transforming Cities Fund programme for public transport improvements with regional partners is progressing well. Works at the Tram-Train stop at Magna have commenced, with completion forecast for Winter 2025/26. The Parkgate Link Road opened in December, and the Park and Ride became operational on 16 May 2025. The Outline Business Case submission for Waverley Station is forecast for August 2025 (see case study below).



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

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Achievements

Performance Measures *(achieved and improving)*



In 2024/25, 58% of Council housing has an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated C and above, against a year-end target of 50% *(higher is better)*. In summary at the end of March 2025, 11,570 of 19,941 council housing properties were rated C and above.



During 2024/25, there were 69 effective enforcement actions against fly tipping and 4,537 effective enforcement actions for other environmental crime *(higher is better)*. This is significantly higher than the 2023/24 year-end position (1,463).

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

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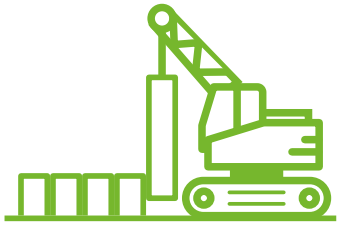
Challenges

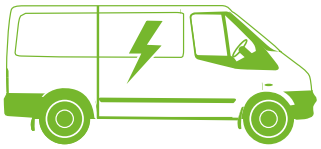
Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(not achieved/delayed)*

Redevelopment works at Thrybergh and Rother Valley Country Park are delayed due to the availability of materials. The programme is now scheduled to be completed by November 2025.



There are delays across some of the flood defence/mitigation schemes including the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme, Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme and Catcliffe Pumping Station.





Whilst there has been positive progress on the delivery of the Fleet Replacement Plan overall, the review and purchasing of vehicles has been delayed. The final vehicles have been delayed due to slower than anticipated progress in agreeing vehicle specifications. The revised target date for completion is now Quarter 2 of 2025/26.



Heat Decarbonisation Plan – the remaining energy conservation measures and building energy management system upgrades are not completed due to delays in investigations works and detailed designs. The estimated completion date for the Riverside House solar canopy works is now Quarter 3 2025/26.



No suitable Council site has yet been identified for low carbon energy generation. Currently undertaking a wider assessment of suitable land across the borough, but completion of timelines remains uncertain.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

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Challenges

Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



The proportion of waste sent for reuse decreased in 2024/25, at 37.1% (provisional data) against a target 45% *(higher is better)*.

61 complaints were received relating to street cleaning, grounds maintenance and waste management in Quarter 4 – this is a slight increase on Quarter 3 in which 56 complaints were received. The cumulative complaints total for 2024/25 is 257, against a year-end target of 190 *(lower is better)*.





Overall carbon dioxide emission levels for the Council (operational property portfolio decarbonisation, solar PV and other energy generation, street lighting) for 2023/24 increased by 4.77% against a Council Plan target of 10% reduction by 2024. This is linked to the use of carbon-based fuel to generate electricity, delays in the decarbonisation of the grid, as well as slightly increased electricity demand.

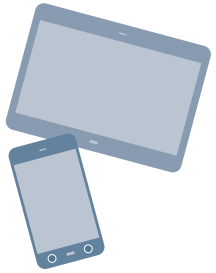
3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

ONE COUNCIL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities *(completed in the last six months)*



Enhanced and improved the Council website to ensure information is accessible, accurate and customer focused throughout Quarter 4 – 75,069 online 'transactions' were completed between January and March (see case study below).



Reviewed the face-to-face customer experience at Riverside House in Quarter 4 by updating signage, materials and completing a meeting room review.

Early Careers' Hub launched in December 2024 to showcase the entry routes into careers at Rotherham Council (see case study below).



Delivered the first cohort of a learning and development programme to embed a strengths-based working approach across the Council. To date 1,482 staff have completing E-learning training.



Developed and approved the new Council Plan 2025/30 in May 2025.





Rotherham Together Partnership hosted its biannual showcase in April 2025 at Maltby Grammar Business Hub, part of the Maltby Learning Trust.



Improved the employee experience by focusing on wellbeing, learning and development, and implementing strategies to improve apprenticeships and early career opportunities.

3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

ONE COUNCIL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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Achievements

Performance measures *(achieved and improving)*



The average customer wait time to Corporate Contact Centre was two minutes 47 seconds through 2024/25 *(lower is better)*. This exceeds the Council Plan target of four minutes.



99.2% of annual staff performance development plans were completed by the year end compared to the year-end target of 95% *(higher is better)*.

The overall proportion of staff who are disabled rose to 10.6% in Quarter 4, against a target of 9% *(higher is better)*.



The proportion of Council Tax collected in the current financial year remains strong at 96.98% and in the top quartile for metropolitan councils (higher is better).



3. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

ONE COUNCIL – ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES CONTINUED

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to both the performance measures and the actions/ milestones within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Challenges

Performance measures *(not met and worsening)*



Satisfaction with keeping residents informed (Resident Satisfaction 2024) – 45% of respondents said that the Council keeps residents 'very well' or 'fairly well' informed about the services and benefits it provides *(higher is better)*. This is below the Council Plan target of 50%, lower than the most recent national result (52%) and below the average percentage across all Rotherham surveys (50%).



Proportion of business rates collected in the current financial year compared with other metropolitan councils has fallen to 93.96% *(higher is better)*.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

The table below provides details on some of the key areas of the Council's budget 2024/25, indicating how the Council intends to spend its budget against its six core themes.

Themes	Commentary on financial performance of key areas of the budget
EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING	At a local level, villages and town sites are being improved with investment that has started and some now complete in local communities from the Towns and Villages fund.
	Investment continues to enhance library sites. Works have now been completed at Thurcroft library. The new Swinton Library opened on the 1 July. There has been a significant increase in visitor numbers at the new facility.
	A process has been established to understand and capture in more detail localised transport issues. In relation to parking, the Transportation Infrastructure Service is using casework, requests for services and general feedback to manage and collate a database of local hotspot areas for nuisance pavement parking. Alongside other public concerns, these were considered for prioritisation in the 2025/26 minor traffic schemes programme.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY & LIVE WELL	Continuing pressure on acute care is putting additional pressure on all the health economy. The Council will invest £3.4m to speed up hospital discharges to free up beds and help the system work effectively.
	Housing Growth – The Council is continuing to develop new homes and acquire properties to increase the supply of affordable homes. This is supported by the HRA business plan. Work is ongoing to update the investment needed based on price increases and refreshed timescales. To date over 600 homes have been added to the Council home portfolio.
	Temporary accommodation is a cost pressure for the Housing Service (est. £0.850m 2023/24). A new homelessness strategy is being drawn up that will ensure the right mix of homes and that optimises processes.
	The Energy Crisis Support scheme has been extended using the Covid Recovery Fund and Household Support Fund. This provided a cash grant of £250 to households that were struggling to cope with the cost of living in 2024/25.
	CCTV investment has provided operational resources to improve the CCTV service with increased capacity for capturing offences and offenders.
	Additional operational resources have been applied in the Planning Service to achieve better enforcement outcomes.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL	In House Children's residential homes: • Home 1 – Work on site completed. • Home 2 – Planning application submitted 1 April 2025, currently waiting validation. • Home 3 – Capital works out to tender, the deadline for tender returns is 23 April 2025. • Home 4 – Ofsted registration completed. Service to consider placements. • Home 5 – Building works to the property completed. Registered Manager to start in April 2025. Ofsted registration submitted.
	Looked After Children population at year end was 481, which is lower than the target of 500. An overspend (£5.7m) is reported for the year against the Children in Care placement budget, mainly due to the high numbers and cost of external residential placements. It is envisaged that accelerating the in-house residential programme, improving performance on step downs and exits from care and increasing the accommodation options for 16+ placements would alleviate the placement cost pressures over the medium term.
	In 2024/25, the Council continue to support early intervention through additional corporate investment (£370k) in the Early Help and Family Group Conference services. This investment complements existing Supporting Families, Start for Life & Family Hub and Wraparound childcare provision funding received in the year.
	The Safety Valve Agreement sets out a number of actions to achieve a sustainable special educational needs (SEND) system by 2025/26. The actions for 2024/25 continue to support service transformation through the creation of additional local SEND places, enhancing SEND provision and increasing inclusiveness in mainstream schools. A financial deficit of £3.7m is reported for the year to 31 March 2025, compared to the planned deficit of £1.2m. This is due to increased numbers of SEND pupils, inflationary costs, and increased placements in special schools.
	Home to School transport has demand pressures linked to growth in Education Health Care plans (EHCPs). Joint work between Regeneration and Environment and Children and Young People's Services is ongoing to maximise transport efficiencies and dampen cost pressures. There are several strands to this work, reviewing all the single person journeys, assessment of eligibility to transport, governance process and reviewing policies.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY	Capital investment in the borough progresses, supported by the Future High Streets Fund, Levelling Up Fund and Towns Deal with matched Council capital resources. This investment will result in a reshaped town centre and changes in our local towns, villages and country parks. A number of strategic acquisitions have been made in the town centre as part of this programme. Forge Island is now complete and the ARC Cinema, Travelodge and Vetro Lounge have opened to the public. Works have commenced on the new cafe at Rother Valley Country Park and the new Market/Library in the Town Centre.
	Transport infrastructure investment continues, including the Parkway Widening scheme, which has been completed and highways maintenance through the £24m to 2024 Roads Programme.
	Jobs and skills investment is progressing with the building of the Century 2 Business Centre. The new facility opened in November 2023.
A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	Additional revenue investment to improve the environment has benefitted grounds maintenance, street cleansing, wildflower seeding and tree planting.
	Further recognition of the climate emergency is evidenced through an enhanced team dedicated to this area and investment in carbon reduction programmes.
ONE COUNCIL	The Council receives in excess of 300,000 calls a year into its main contact centre. Additional revenue investment to reduce call waiting times and to improve and modernise the way that members of the public can contact the Council is providing better value for money and enhancing the customer experience. Ongoing investment in digital technologies ensures that the Council functions efficiently, effectively, and sustainably.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET INVESTMENTS TRACKING

The table below provides a progress update on the 2024/25 revenue budget investments approved via Council in March 2024, as part of the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2024/25. Whilst these are in the main permanent investments, it is vital that the Council can demonstrate progress on these member priorities.

Investment Reference	Revenue Budget Investment	2024/25 Investment	Expenditure to date	% Spent To Date	Current Forecast Outturn	Variance	Update Commentary
People are safe healthy and live well							
24/25 INV3	Homelessness Prevention	205	85.0	41%	85	-120	Probation accommodation established and working. Slippage in signing HRS contract.
24/25 INV4	Empty Homes Officer	45	45	100%	45	0	Person in post.
24/25 INV5	CQC Lead	70	70.00	100%	70	0	New lead started in post 1 June.
24/25 INV6	Restorative Hate Crime Service	30	28	93%	28	-2	Investment to continue project through a funding agreement with Remedi, a specialist restorative justice charity. Invoices to be paid quarterly. £2k cost met by South Yorkshire Police.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

Investment Reference	Revenue Budget Investment	2024/25 Investment	Expenditure to date	% Spent To Date	Current Forecast Outturn	Variance	Update Commentary
Every Child able to Fulfil their Potential							
24/25 INV1	Early Help	370	186	50%	186	-184	The underspend is due to slippage in recruitment to the Early Help outreach and the 2x contextual safeguarding conference chairs posts. The underspend forms part of the forecast position reported for children social care.
24/25 INV2	Baby Packs	360	6	2%	6	-354	January start – main launch March.
Expanding Economic Opportunity							
24/25 INV7	Community Wealth Building	120	0	0%	0	-120	A £120k investment to provide for a permanent Band J member of staff to act as the project manager, with the remaining funding used to promote the take up of employee ownership in the borough. Post not yet recruited to. Offered up as an in-year budget saving. The service are looking into a third party solution, via an arrangement with an organisation doing similar work in Sheffield. Believed to be a more effective way of getting something off the ground than recruiting a member of staff.

4. FINANCE UPDATE

Investment Reference	Revenue Budget Investment	2024/25 Investment	Expenditure to date	% Spent To Date	Current Forecast Outturn	Variance	Update Commentary
A Cleaner, Greener Local Environment							
24/25 INV8	Biodiversity Net Gain	50	15	30%	15	-35	Biodiversity Officer started in December 2024.
24/25 INV9	Principal Towns Cleansing	366	318	87%	318	-48	Funding for 13 new posts, remaining vacant post recruited to February 2025.
24/25 INV10	Tree Service Improvements	79	79	100%	79	0	Existing staff and regrades currently in place – Investment spent in full.
24/25 INV11	Bulky Waste Service	211	211	100%	211	0	New boroughwide bulky waste team operational from April 2024 and price reduction implemented.
One Council							
24/25 INV12	Additional Call Handling	133	133.0	100%	133	0	Staff in post, investment bid was fully utilised.
24/25 INV13	Customer and Digital	157	116.9	74%	131	-26	Staff all in post. Small underspend due to recruitment slippage at the start of the year.
Total Investment Proposals		**2,196**	**1,293**	**59%**	**1,307**	**-889**	

5. TIMELINE OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

October 2024 to April 2025

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Every neighbourhood thriving	People are safe, healthy and live well	Every child able to fulfil their potential	Expanding economic opportunity	A cleaner, greener local environment	One Council

2024 OCT

- 25 ward plans produced and published, informed by local communities.
- Waterloo Kiln restoration completed. Family funday held in November, which included an exhibition of work from the local community and schools.
- Work started at Cortonwood to implement a new light-controlled puffin crossings, completed in
- Our Places consultation ran from October – November to help identify potential schemes.
- Provided £1.586 million worth of food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals during the school holidays through to October half term 2024.
- Launched the Strength-based working learning and development programme for the Council and partners.
- Castle View Day Service groundwork started with a 'spade in the ground' event. The current estimated completion date is March 2026.
- Review the impact of the mental health services redesign for residents.
- Plug in and Play - a games festival took place during October half-term –brought together physical activity trails and digital gaming in partnership with National Video Game Museum and Children's Capital of Culture.
- Demolition commenced on the Guardian Centre Building to facilitate further development works at the new market and library building.
- Changing Places facility opened at Gulliver's Valley Resort, supporting the needs of disabled visitors and providing accessible facilities to public places.

NOV

- Rotherham's annual Remembrance Sunday commemorations took place, including the Rotherham's Remembrance Parade.
- Rotherham Christmas Lights' Switch-on took place with an evening of free entertainment.
- The 10th Annual Reclaim the Night the night took place.
- Hosted the annual Tenants' Open day at the New York Stadium, a chance for tenants to celebrate key achievements of the Council and tenants.
- The Member Survey went live from November until December.
- Approved the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy, providing further support for young people leaving care.
- Changing Places facilities opened at Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Park, supporting the needs of disabled visitors and providing accessible facilities to public places.
- Centenary Way Viaduct achieved practical completed on 9 November 2024.
- The Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy approved by Cabinet on 18 November 2024.

DEC

- The Public Space Protection Order review agreed by Cabinet to commence in January 2025.
- The programme for the Children's Capital of Culture officially launched at Arc Cinema on 5 December.
- Completion of Wentworth Woodhouse project.
- The designs for the Culvert Replacement Programme are complete and funding is currently being sought for construction.
- The Parkgate Link Road opened.
- Early careers hub launched in December 2024, showcasing entry routes into the Council.

2025 JAN

- Otherham – Winter Light Festival took place featuring a free trail of projection installations across the town centre as part of the Children's Capital of Culture programme.
- Holocaust Memorial Day took place.
- The new pedestrian crossing at Swallownest opened for public use on the 22 January.
- Work started on site for the new Council homes at West Melton.
- Registration commenced for the Baby Packs scheme for expectant mothers with due dates on or after 7 April.
- By the end of the month, 175 support sessions had been delivered to children under the age of 5 through the delivery of Rotherham's Statutory Children's Centres.
- Create seven resource bases to provide additional school places for children with special educational needs.

FEB

- Signals Festival took place, a music festival celebrating young talent from Rotherham.
- Approved the new Community Safety Strategy for 2025-2028.
- Work started on the development of 14 new homes at the former Ship Inn public house in Swinton as part of the Housing Growth Programme.
- The 150th home was delivered as part of the Housing Growth Programme.
- Delivered the 650th home under the current development programme.
- The Outline Business Case for Rotherham Mainline Station submitted to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Transport.

MAR

- Roots – Rotherham Street Carnival took place featuring a day of live music and activities for all the family to enjoy
- Towns and Villages Fund scheme completed at Aston and Todwick.
- Completed the new pedestrian crossing at Cortonwood.
- Launched the WalkSafe App alongside South Yorkshire Police.
- Held Round Table Event on 20 March focused on securing future investment in new affordable homes.
- Began the redevelopment of the new Water Splash facility at Clifton Park.
- The first Baby Packs were delivered to new mothers in the borough with a due date on or after 6 April.
- Submitted registration for a fourth two-bedroom home.
- Hosted Employment Solutions' recruitment and networking event, with a wide range of employers from across the borough.
- Work completed on the car park at Rother Valley Country Park.
- Work commenced on the Magna Tram Train project in March 2025.

APR

- 96.1 % of children attending primary school in September offered their first choice, with 99.1 % of pupils offered on of their three preferred schools. For applications for children to attend Year 3 in Junior School, 100 % have been offered a place at a preferred Junior School.
- Work at Riverside Gardens commenced on 28 April.
- Vetro Lounge at Forge Island opened to the public.
- The Rotherham Together Partnership hosted its biannual showcase event at Maltby Grammar Business Hub, part of Maltby Learning Trust.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

Our vision for Rotherham is for every neighbourhood to be a thriving neighbourhood, where people are able to work together to achieve a good quality of life.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• Work with communities on the things that matter to them • Residents, organisations and businesses use their skills and resources to help others • Neighbourhoods are welcoming and safe • Local people have access to libraries, cultural activities, parks and green spaces • Local towns and villages are improved.	• Continue to drive local priority setting and activity through ward plans and devolved budgets, with councillors, residents and partner organisations working together • Work with Rotherham's voluntary and community sector to support and facilitate local networks and groups • Further expand and promote a range of volunteering opportunities • Invest in and develop our library services as neighbourhood hubs, promoting access to books, computers and community events • Work alongside our partners to ensure Rotherham is a safe, inclusive and welcoming place for local people, including responding effectively to community safety issues such as anti-social behaviour and hate crime • Deliver improvements to local towns and villages • Bring our communities together through a range of enjoyable activities, cultural and social events, which inspire hope and pride in Rotherham.

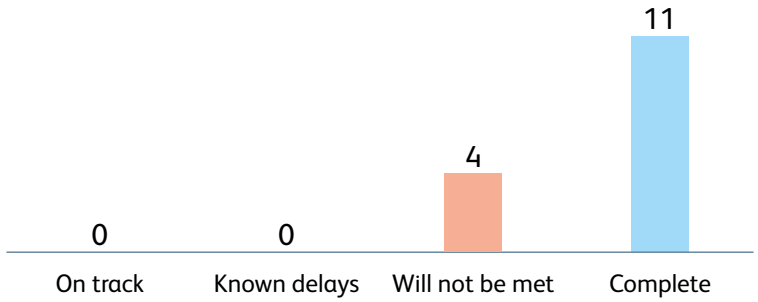
6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

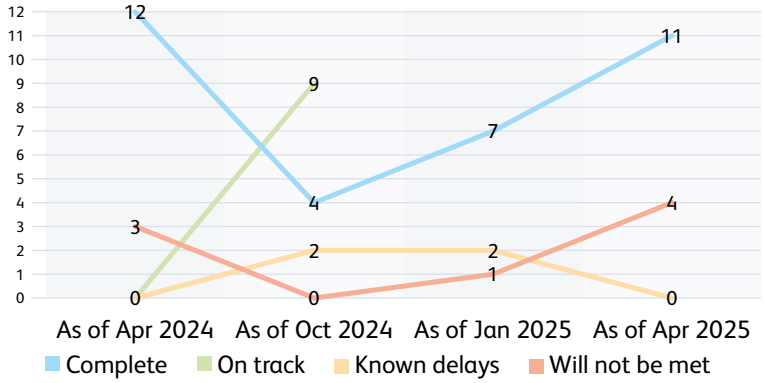
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 16 headline performance measures in the Council Plan and 15 priority actions/milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

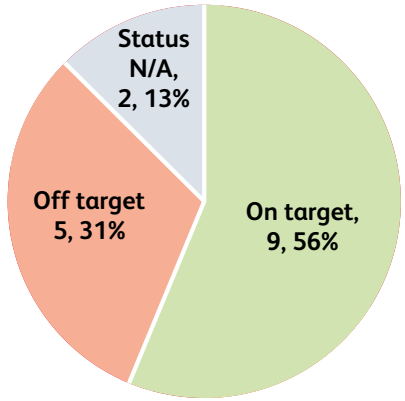


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

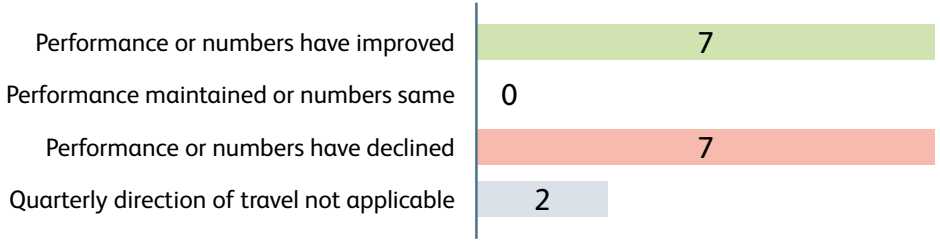


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

The "Every Neighbourhood Thriving" theme is focused on working with local people to achieve a good quality of life. This includes working with communities to find solutions to local issues, using the assets, knowledge and skills available. The theme also aims to create vibrant communities in which people feel happy, safe and proud. This will be achieved by making it easier for people to get involved in the local community, working closely with partners and local voluntary and community groups, enhancing town and village centres, green spaces and libraries, and tackling community issues.

The Council has continued to improve road safety and support walking by delivering new pedestrian crossings in key locations across the borough. The first of these, on Upper Wortley Road, was completed earlier in the programme and laid the groundwork for further improvements. A new crossing in Cortonwood was constructed between October 2024 and March 2025, offering safer and more accessible walking routes for residents and visitors. In Swallownest, a new crossing on the A57 was officially opened for public use in January 2025, helping people cross this busy road with greater confidence and safety. These new crossings are part of our wider efforts to create safer, more accessible streets for everyone in Rotherham.

Alongside this, strong progress is being made on Phase 1 of our Local Neighbourhood Road Safety Programme, which is delivering safety measures in 13 neighbourhoods across the borough. This includes the introduction of 20mph speed limits to make our roads safer for all.

So far, safety improvements have been completed in seven neighbourhoods, with an eighth due to be completed soon. Work is also moving forward in four more areas, where schemes are being prepared for construction. However, some delays in finalising designs mean that the remaining work is now expected to be completed by the end of Autumn 2025. As part of the 2024/25 Highway Repair Programme, the Council has invested £3 million to repair unclassified (estate) roads and a further £1.2 million to improve footways across the borough. This investment is helping to make every-day journeys safer, smoother, and more reliable for residents.

A total of 132 unclassified roads were included in the programme, with 121 schemes successfully completed by the end of the 2024/25 financial year. The remaining 11 schemes have been delayed due to severe winter weather in January 2025. These final repairs will be delivered as soon as practically possible, ensuring that all planned improvements are completed.

Due to these improvements, the road condition indicators have improved, with a greater proportion of the network now rated as 'green – not requiring repair" compared to the previous year.

The restoration of the historic Waterloo Kiln was completed on 31 October 2024, marking a significant achievement in protecting Rotherham's industrial heritage. The site was officially reopened to the public with a Family Funday on 9 November, which featured an exhibition of creative work from local schools and community members, celebrating the kiln's renewed role as a cultural and educational space.

The project involved dismantling and rebuilding the kiln's upper section in line with Historic England guidelines, ensuring the structure's authenticity was preserved. The base was levelled, the high step access removed, and step-free access introduced, making the site safer and more accessible for all visitors.

The £4 million Phase 1 programme of the Towns and Villages Fund is well under way, with schemes either complete or progressing four key areas. In Rotherham East, the project was successfully completed in Quarter 3, and in

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

Aston & Todwick, it was completed in March 2025 – delivering improvements that directly respond to local priorities. In Brinsworth, work began on site at the start of 2025/26. The scheme in Maltby East has been expanded to include additional highways works, as a result, work is expected to begin on site in Quarter 3 of 2025/26.

The cultural and community programme continues to thrive. The 2024/25 events programme brought people together across the borough, with highlights including Rotherham Show, Signals Festival, UPLIFT, and WOW Rotherham. These events attracted over 134,000 attendees – a 13.3% increase on the previous year – and helped boost customer satisfaction with culture, sport and tourism services to 97%. Visits to cultural, sport and tourism facilities also rose to over 4.18 million.

There have also been positive trends in civic engagement and volunteering, with new volunteering opportunities increasing from 80 to 109 over the year. Resident satisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live rose to 66%, exceeding the Council Plan target of 62%.

However, some performance indicators show areas for concern. Satisfaction with local areas as a place to live fell to 75%, below the 80% target. Perceptions of safety during the day declined to 85%, down from 92% in 2023 and below the national average. Public perception of anti-social behaviour rose slightly, and the number of Community Protection Notices issued fell below target. Positive outcomes from hate crime investigations also declined, from 17% to 11%, remaining well below the 20% target.

The Council remains committed to working with residents, partners, and the voluntary sector to ensure every neighbourhood in Rotherham continues to thrive.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

Every Neighbourhood Thriving					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
1.1	**Work with communities on the things that matter to them**	Produce ward plans with ward priorities informed by local communities.	Quarter 3	Complete	Ward briefings were presented to Elected Members to assist them in identifying their priorities. Discussions with members and ward level consultations also took place throughout the summer and autumn. Ward plans were published in October 2024.

1.2		Progress Phase 1 of the Local Neighbourhood Road Safety programme to design and implement new neighbourhood road safety measures in 13 Wards: • Anston & Woodsetts • Swinton Rockingham • Bramley & Ravenfield • Hellaby & Maltby West • Hoober • Maltby East • Thurcroft & Wickersley South • Rotherham West • Wales • Rawmarsh East • Boston Castle • Greasbrough • Kilnhurst & Swinton East. *(Also links to Neighbourhoods are welcoming and safe outcome).*	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Schemes in seven wards are complete and a scheme in one further ward is largely complete pending final road marking and street lighting works. Schemes in four further wards are in process of issuing for construction, with one undergoing the final design checks. Construction is forecast to commence in Quarter 2 of 2025/26 for these projects. One is being picked up with a City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) Neighbourhoods Streets scheme, which enables more money to be put into support measures for that project.

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6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

1.3		Create a database of pavement parking hotspots, informed by requests from the public and Members, along with locations identified by the Council's highways and parking teams.	Quarter 3	Complete	A database has been established and requests submitted through the service's public facing website are being logged. Member requests are also being included. The website has been updated to reflect the position outlined in the paper to Cabinet in February 2024. The service is still awaiting Department for Transport guidance regarding pavement parking.
1.4a		Design and implement new pedestrian crossings at: a) Upper Wortley Road	Quarter 2	Complete	The new crossing is complete. Post completion auditing, monitoring, and evaluation remains ongoing.
1.4b		b) Cortonwood	Quarter 3	Complete	Work started on site in October 2024 and was completed in March 2025.
1.4c		c) Swallownest A57.	Quarter 4	Complete	Crossing was commissioned and opened for public use 22 January 2025.
1.5	**Residents, organisations and businesses use their skills and resources to help others**	Develop and deliver a phase 1 action plan that ensures the Council and its partners are maximising opportunities to join-up activities and initiatives in the three locality areas of the borough. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 6).*	Quarter 4	Complete	The first Locality Working Board met in June 2024. A mapping exercise with managers took place in September 2024, to identify examples of place-based working in Rotherham and identify gaps. A draft action plan was presented to the board at the end of September 2024 and actions are now being progressed.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

1.6	**Neighbourhoods are welcoming and safe**	Deliver a full review of Public Space Protection Orders, ensuring that robust plans are in place to drive enforcement of any proposed conditions.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Public Space Protection Order review has now been completed and reported to Cabinet in December 2024. Cabinet agreed to two new three-year Public Space Protection Orders which commenced in January 2025 for Boroughwide Dog Fouling and Town Centre and Clifton Park. The Cabinet report also detailed the additional oversight of enforcement activity measures.
1.7		Invest £3m to deliver the repair of unclassified roads and £1.2m to repair footways in the 2024/25 Highway Repair Programme.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	121 of 132 roads resurfaced which is 92% complete. The 11 roads that were included in the programme but not delivered were delayed due to wintery conditions in Quarter 4 or road space not being available due to utility works. These roads will be delivered early in the Highway Repair Programme 2025/26.
1.8		Develop a new Community Safety Strategy for 2025/28.	Quarter 3	Complete	The consultation is now complete, key stakeholders have been engaged in agreeing the priorities. A draft proposal of these priorities was shared at the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board in December 2024 and received the support of the Board. The Strategy was approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board in February 2025.

1.9		Complete the third phase of investment into the Borough's CCTV equipment. Specifically, procure the additional software which will allow for viewing of all units via one system. *(Action also links to people are safe, healthy and live well).*	Quarter 4	Will not be met	During 2024 the team undertook a pilot of Al technology to test the software and infrastructure; with the aim to test if this improves functionality and effectiveness of CCTV systems installed within Rotherham; to improve CCTV management and the Artificial Intelligence system, improving the connectivity across the borough. Through the trial the team have developed a deeper understanding of the Video Management Systems; learning about the capabilities of AI the team developed an understanding of the current CCTV unit cameras we have across Rotherham; harnessing and maximising their full potential. Further work to link the systems together is now being developed with proposals to be finalised in early 2025/26.

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6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

1.10	**Local people have access to libraries, cultural activities, parks and green spaces**	Deliver cultural events in varied locations throughout the borough, including events such as: • Rotherham Show • Signals Festival • Uplift • WOW Rotherham.	Quarter 4	Complete	This year's events programme is underway with the following events delivered to date: • Roots: Rotherham Street Carnival • WOW Rotherham • Civic Events inc. Mayor's Parade, Armed Forces Day • The Reytons homecoming gig (see case study below) • UPLIFT • Rotherham Show • Plug In & Play • Christmas Lights' Switch On • Otherham – Winter Lights Festival • Signals Festival. Events across the year attracted a total audience of 134,546, an uplift of 13.3% on the previous year. Accessibility statements are prepared for all events to ensure inclusivity.
1.11		Complete the restoration of Waterloo Kiln.	Quarter 2	Complete	The kiln base has been levelled and the high step access removed. Step free access has been added as part of the restoration.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

1.12	**Local towns and villages are improved**	Completion of the phase 1 £4 million Towns and Villages Fund programme remaining schemes: • Aston and Todwick • Brinsworth • Rotherham East • Maltby East.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The Towns and Villages Fund Programme is making good progress. Two out of the four areas have already been completed, and work is currently underway in Brinsworth, with completion by June 2025. In Maltby East, the plans have been expanded to include additional highways work. Because of this, the scheme is being considered for inclusion in the Our Places Fund. With the wider scope and extra budget agreed, work is now expected to start on site in Quarter 3 of 2025/26.
1.13		Develop and approve the schemes to be delivered as part of Our Places, focusing on improvement projects to key gateways into principal towns and villages, as well as the borough.	Quarter 3	Complete	Public consultation took place between October – November 2024. The report was presented to Cabinet in December 2024 with approval to develop interventions into detailed deliverable projects. These include civic centre improvements; cenotaphs, memorials and monuments; pedestrian improvements; supporting the borough's principal towns. Implementation of Phase 1 included in new Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2025/26.

Every Neighbourhood Thriving

Outcomes

- Work with communities on the things that matter to them
- Residents, organisations and businesses use their skills and resources to help others
- Neighbourhoods are welcoming and safe
- Local people have access to libraries, cultural activities, parks and green spaces
- Improved local towns and villages are improved

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Yr end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
NE01a	Satisfaction with the borough and local area: a) Proportion of public satisfied with Rotherham Borough as a place to live	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Alexandra Hanna	High	A	62.0%	57.0%	65.0%	Not Available	66%	Not Available	Not Available	66%	>62%	↑	✔	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 66% of respondents said, overall, they were satisfied with Rotherham Borough as a place to live. This was above the average across previous surveys (61.5%) and above the Council Plan target of 62%. There are variations in satisfaction with the borough as a place to live compared to satisfaction with local area as a place to live. Respondents aged 35-44 were most likely to feel satisfied with Rotherham as a place to live, with 74% satisfied. Respondents aged 25-34 had the lowest level of satisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live, with only 52% satisfied. Dissatisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live was highest amongst people aged 45-54.
NE01b	Satisfaction with the borough and local area: b) Proportion of the public satisfied with their local area as a place to live	ACEX - Comms. & Marketing	Alexandra Hanna	High	A	80.0%	76.0%	82.0%	Not Available	75%	Not Available	Not Available	75%	Equal to or >80%	↓	✕	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 75% of respondents reported feeling 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' which is below the average recorded level across all waves. This is also below the 80% Council Plan target. People aged 18-24 years were the least likely to report being 'satisfied' (54%). People aged 65+ years are the most likely to be satisfied with their local area (83%).
NE02a	Volunteering: a) Number of staff involved in the council employee volunteer scheme to support local communities	ACEX - Organisational Development	Vacant - Head of OD and Change	High	Q	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	No target	♦	△	Data currently not available.
NE02b	Volunteering: b) Number of new volunteering opportunities for local people via the voluntary and community sector	ACEX - Policy, Perf & Intell.	Fiona Boden	High	Q	101	74	80	38	33	17	21	109	80	↑	✔	21 new volunteering opportunities were created by VAR in Quarter 4 2024-25, taking the year-to-date total to 109. This is an increase on 2023-24 when 80 new volunteering opportunities were created throughout the year. DoT based on comparison to same period last year.
NE03a	Anti-social behaviour a) Number of all community protection notices (new and warnings) issued (anti-social behaviour, waste and noise). Community Protection notices also measured separately, see NE03b below.	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	Not available	1504	1193	275	256	132	461	1124	1000	↓	✔	Measure definition and target changed for 2024-25 to include all community protected warnings, as well as notices. This measure is relatively new and started being reported on from Q1 2023/24. There has been a significant increase in the number of Community Protection Warnings (CPW) and Community Protection Notices (CPN) issued during Quarter 4. The project work that commenced in January has had a positive impact on figures and it is worth noting that all CPW's served during 2024/25 have been followed up with only a small number rolling over into 2025/26. Overall compliance rate with CPWs of 85% which is positive.
NE03b	Anti-social behaviour Number of community protection notices issued (anti-social behaviour, waste and noise)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	205	413	206	43	38	25	61	167	200	↓	✕	This measures Community Protection Notices (waste, noise and ASB) ASB & Policing Act 2014 issued by the Community Protection Unit, (CPU). The issuance of Community Protection Notices relies upon non-compliance with Community Protection Warnings: Notices can only be issued if a Warning has first been given and then not complied with. Consequently, there is a risk where the more compliance with Warnings the more difficult it is to achieve this element of the performance target. Obviously, it is the Council's aim to achieve increased compliance without recourse to formal action. Achieved an annual total of 167 CPN's issued against a Council Plan target of 200, falling short by 33. There has been additional patrols since January to increase figures. The service are being more pro-active in following up on all CPW's issued to ensure they are being complied with.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Yr end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
NE03c	Anti-Social behaviour b) Public perception of anti-social behaviour (via the 'Your Voice Counts' quality survey)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	Low	Q	42.0%	44.0%	43.8%	52.0%	42.0%	44.0%	36.0%	44.0%	<43%	↓	✗	The Your Voice Counts Survey is conducted quarterly by South Yorkshire Police. Quarterly average for South Yorkshire Neighbouring authorities are, Barnsley 42%, Doncaster 50%, Sheffield 33%. South Yorkshire Police report that in terms of statistical significance there is no significant difference to the previous quarter. There has been a reduction since the previous quarter, and the measure is now under the Council Plan target.
NE04a	Hate crime: a) Number of hate crime incidents	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	Neither High/Low	Q	837	862	791	231	299	175	169	874	No target	♦	ⓘ	Quarter 4 breakdown is 160 Crimes and 9 Non-crimes. Hate Crime Incidents have seen a decrease in Quarter 4 when compared to Quarter 3, however does seem consistent with Quarter 4 2023/24.
NE04b	Proportion of positive outcomes to hate crime investigations	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	25.0%	20.0%	17.0%	12.0%	15.0%	11.0%	6.0%	11.0%	20%	↓	✗	Relates to All Investigations only. Reporting is subject to the caveat that figures are subject to change due to ongoing investigations. South Yorkshire Police state that the report is based on "Incident Created Date" in each quarter and the outcomes for each incident tend to be recorded at a later date. Quarter 4 has seen a 5% decrease when compared to Quarter 3, the year-end figure for 2024-25 is 11% against a Council Plan target of 20%. There are currently 45 investigations still ongoing during Quarter 4 so the figure is subject to change.
NE05a	Proportion of the local "principal" road network classed as 'green status' (do not require repair)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	A	80.4%	79.4%	79.4%	80.1%	81.1%	81.1%	81.1%	80.8%	79.4%	↑	✔	Measure definition changed from 'classified road network' to 'principal' and target amended for 2024-25. The Quarter 4 position on this measure is 81.1% which has remained the same since Quarter 2. The Council Plan target is 79.4% so this measure is currently exceeding this target. DoT based on comparison to position last year.
NE05b	Proportion of the local "non-principal" road network classed as 'green status' (do not require repair)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	A	75.3%	77.0%	77.0%	78.6%	78.5%	78.5%	78.5%	78.5%	77.0%	↑	✔	Target amended for 2024-25. The Quarter 4 position on this measure is 78.5% so consistent with Quarter 2 and 3. The Council Plan target is 77.0% so this measure is currently exceeding the target. DoT based on comparison to position last year.
NE05c	Proportion of the local "unclassified" road network classed as 'green status' (do not require repair)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	61.6%	64.2%	64.9%	65.4%	65.7%	66.9%	67.0%	66.2%	64.9%	↑	✔	Target amended for 2024-25. The Quarter 4 position on this measure is 67% compared to 66.91% in Quarter 3. The Council Plan target is 64.9% so this measure is currently exceeding this target. DoT based on comparison to position last year.
NE06a	Perceptions of feeling safe: a) Proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area during the day	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	A	90.0%	87.0%	92.0%	Not Available	85%	Not Available	Not Available	85%	>90%	↓	✗	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 85% of respondents in Rotherham said they felt 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' during the day when outside in their local area (lower than the figures observed nationally at 91%). In Rotherham, a slightly higher percentage of women (88%) than men (84%) felt very or fairly safe during the day.
NE06b	Perceptions of feeling safe: b) Proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area after dark	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	A	56.0%	56.0%	62.0%	Not Available	57%	Not Available	Not Available	57%	>56%	↓	✔	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 57% of respondents reported feeling safe after dark, (much lower than the figures observed nationally at 71%). In Rotherham, there was a significant difference between men and women's feelings of safety after dark, with 62% of men reporting feeling 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' compared to only 54% of women. Young people aged 18-24 are least likely to feel safe after dark and those aged 45-54 most likely to feel safe.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Yr end	TARGET			
NE07a	Number of visits to culture, sport and tourism facilities (all population - cumulative)	RE - Culture, Sport & Tourism	Polly Hamilton	High	Q	3,023,352	4,005,789	4,029,832	1,161,683	1,218,639	897,390	905,661	4,183,373	4,000,000	↑	✔	Target increased for 2024-25. The cumulative visitor numbers for year-end 2024/25 is 4,183,373. This is 183,373 visitors ahead of the Council Plan target and 152,541 ahead of the year-end total for 2023/24. DoT reflects a seasonal comparison (against the same point in the previous year).
NE07b	Customer satisfaction with culture, sport and tourism services	RE - Culture, Sport & Tourism	Polly Hamilton	High	Q	91.6%	92.2%	95.4%	98.8%	96.6%	94.0%	98.0%	97.0%	>90% across all services	↑	✔	This measure continues to deliver consistently above the target of 90%. Quarter 4 saw a 98% positive satisfaction average over the quarter. Individual Service scores for Customer Satisfaction for Quarter 4 are: Libraries= 97.68% Heritage= 98% DoT is measured against Quarter 3 2024/25.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

CASE STUDY

Rotherham East Towns and Villages

The Towns and Villages Fund is a £4 million capital programme, aiming to improve the borough's local town and village centres. Colleagues from across the Council including Neighbourhoods, Landscape Design, Transportation, Highways, and Community Safety, have been working together to develop 23 schemes. The programme has played a key role in fostering pride within our neighbourhoods, with community consultation and engagement ensuring that residents – supported by their Ward councillors – have been involved in local improvement projects.

The delivery of the schemes is nearing completion, with Brinsworth being the final site to finish. The penultimate scheme was Doncaster Road in the Rotherham East Ward, which was identified as in need of investment.

The scheme was designed by the Council's Internal Landscape Design Team and the goal was to discourage improper parking and ensure a safe pedestrian walkway. This was achieved by installing a resin footpath to define a clear route and uplift the area.

Additionally, the footway was also resurfaced on both sides of the road to address cracks and patchwork repairs, along with upgraded street furniture such as bollards. Another element of the scheme included block paving at junctions to uplift the area further. Bespoke planters, designed by the Landscape Team, are currently being manufactured and will soon be installed to introduce new planting and add greenery to the area.

The Brinsworth scheme is almost complete and will conclude the successful delivery of the Towns and Villages Fund project.

Plans are underway to complete a larger Towns and Villages Scheme along Maltby High Street in 2026, which will be an exciting addition to our thriving neighbourhoods initiative.





CASE STUDY

Otherham

From Friday 24 to Sunday 26 January 2025, the inaugural Otherham Winter Light Festival took over five of Rotherham town centre's buildings for a dazzling cultural spectacle, brought to life by Flux Rotherham, Children's Capital of Culture, theatre company imitating the dog, Rotherham Council Events Team and children's literacy charity, Grimm & Co.

This was a first for Rotherham, which featured a mesmerising trail of illuminated art and sound projections which transformed the town centre for one weekend only and brought to life a spectacular vision of the borough as it celebrates becoming the world's first Children's Capital of Culture in 2025.



Flux Rotherham and James Mulkeen


Flux Rotherham and James Mulkeen

To create the ideas for Otherham, Grimm & Co, in partnership with imitating the dog, ran a 6-week writing programme for young people aged 12-16. Participants reimagined Rotherham as an otherworldly place, with their stories inspiring the projection designs. To celebrate Rotherham's young filmmaking talent, Flux partnered with Children's Capital of Culture, imitating the dog, and Studio Bokehgo to work with schools and young creators to produce original, imaginative short films, which were showcased in the 'Cinema of Future Films' (High Street) across all three nights. A new song written by young people at Grimm & Co and recorded by Rotherham Youth Choir was also featured as part of the event.

6.1 THEME 1 – EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING

Alongside the projections, there were walk-about performances (including Ghost Caribou by Thingumajig Theatre), art installations in Minster Gardens and family-friendly drop-in workshops, such as a light painting booth with artist Tim Simpson, LED circus workshops with Yorkshire Circus at Forge Island, and creative workshops at Grimm and Co. and Rotherham Minster.



Flux Rotherham and James Mulkeen


Flux Rotherham and James Mulkeen

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6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

Everyone deserves to feel happy, healthy, and secure. We want to empower everyone to lead fulfilling lives, whilst also keeping them safe from harm.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• People have good mental health and physical wellbeing • People feel empowered, safe, and live independently for as long as possible • People can access affordable, decent housing • Inequalities are addressed and nobody is left behind.	• Focus on minimising/tackling the leading risk factors for death and disability in Rotherham, such as tobacco, unhealthy weight, and alcohol • Promote the best possible mental health for all, building on existing campaigns such as the Five Ways to Wellbeing, the Great Big Rotherham To-do list and Be the One • Work with people to build on their strengths and resilience, reducing reliance on social care interventions • Deliver the 'My Front Door' programme, providing adults with learning disabilities and autism with increased choice and opportunities for greater independence • Tackle poverty and financial crisis, including development of a 'social supermarket' which will help people to move on from food banks, a new Rothercard that will provide discounts on Council services for those who most need them, and our Community Energy Scheme, which will enable households to reduce their energy bills • Work with partners to deliver our domestic abuse strategy, taking a coordinated approach to reduce the prevalence of domestic violence • Invest in affordable housing and support those at risk of or experiencing homelessness • CCTV improvements will be realised through the Capital investment currently agreed (£420,000) alongside improving corporate management of CCTV purchases and assets • Continuing to focus on promoting access to services, including out of hours alongside a robust performance management framework within enforcement services • Transformation within Domestic Abuse Services is being delivered through strong partnership working, increased investment and the re-design of both internal and commissioned services.

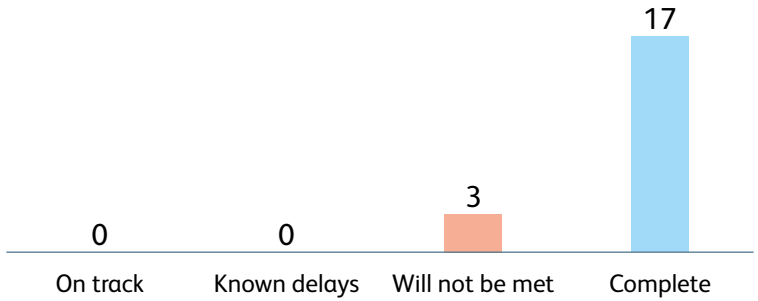
6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

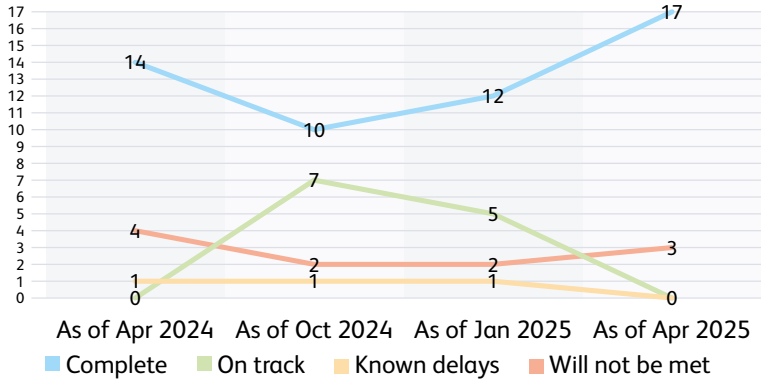
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 12 headline performance measures and 20 priority actions/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

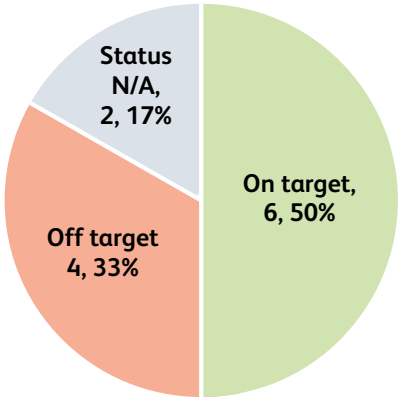


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

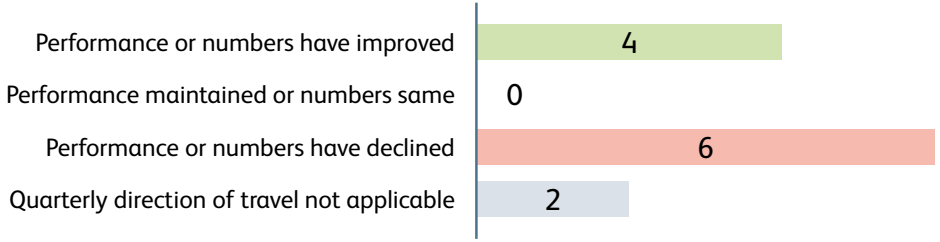


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

The people are safe, healthy and live well theme focuses on supporting everyone to feel happy, healthy, and secure, empowering people to lead fulfilling lives, and keeping them safe from harm. The encouragement of good mental health and physical wellbeing is continued through the delivery of access to affordable and quality housing and a range of other schemes. The progress that has been made in delivering these ambitions is detailed below.

There is continued delivery of programmes to ensure that people have good mental health and physical wellbeing. A network of Infection Prevention and Control Champions has been established alongside the commissioning of a programme of support to raise infection prevention and control standards in care homes to reduce the impact of infectious disease outbreaks. Additionally, the Council completed a six-month review in October 2024 of its resident mental health services redesign to better meet the needs of those in crisis. The review has highlighted a continued good working relationships with Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust. Among the resulting improvements, the Council's Adult Social Care service can now produce equality data on the Mental Health Equality Data assessments to identify trends and reasons for delay and the Mental Health Enablement Service is now operational.

To make sure the people of Rotherham feel empowered, safe and live independently for as long as possible, a new Learning Disabilities Strategy was launched in April 2024 which clearly sets out the Council's aspirations for people with a learning disability. The objectives of the strategy are being implemented through a co-production approach being taken to working with people with lived experience and their families. The All Ages Autism Strategy was agreed and published in February 2024 and sets out the vision for all autistic people living and working in Rotherham to have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives, whatever their age. A fully accessible range of documents have been publicly available from Quarter 1 of the 2024/25 municipal year.

The Council has also begun the building groundwork for the Castle View Day Service which will allow for new day opportunities to be provided for people with high support needs. The contract was awarded in October 2024 with the current estimated completion date being March 2026. The Council has also created an engagement forum to involve residents in co-designing adult social care services to ensure their experiences shape the future delivery of services. This resulted in an Adult Social Care Co-Production Board being established in April 2024 and named by participants as RASCAL (Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening).

A decision has been taken to delay until December 2025, a review into the domestic abuse delivery model. This review will set out the next steps for Cabinet and will now align with the mid point of the Domestic Abuse Strategy. The review includes consideration of the lived experiences of victims and survivors accessing services. A consultation has taken place via a workshop with Rotherham Rise survivors as well as some individual surveys to those who are working with the Council's outreach service and the Domestic Abuse housing officers.

Progress has been made to ensure that people can access affordable, decent housing. A new Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy was agreed in November 2024 which sets out aims to deliver high quality, value for money repairs. As well as committing to maintaining existing homes, the Council is offering new housing stock to residents. 20 new homes will be delivered

via the Market Acquisitions Workstream of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme with 17 houses being delivered to date.

The aim of continuing to deliver the Housing Growth Programme has seen largely positive progress. 156 homes have been acquired or built in 2024/25, six more homes than anticipated. Increasing the number and quality of housing in the borough enables a wider choice for tenants in meeting their needs with more variety in access, location and ability to reduce the burden of the cost-of-living crisis.

In September 2024 work commenced in Canklow to deliver 13 new Council homes with completion targeted for next municipal year. Work has also commenced on new homes in Swinton in January 2025 which will deliver four new bungalows and in West Melton development began in January 2025 that will build 10 new Council homes.

The groundwork for the development of 31 new council homes in Eastwood has been delayed due to unsuccessful procurement. The work on this site was due to begin in the second quarter of 2024/25 but is now targeting a start date during 2025/26. The beginning of groundwork of new homes in Maltby, which is projected to build four new wheelchair friendly homes, has also been delayed due to obtaining planning permission and the procurement process. This development is now aiming to begin in Quarter 2 of the 2025/26 municipal year.

The Council has made progress towards holding targeted events to strengthen partnership relationships and promote opportunities for local housing investment and delivery. A roundtable discussion on securing a pipeline of future investment in new affordable homes through joint work with registered providers of social housing and Homes England was held in March 2025. In September 2024 Rotherham hosted the South Yorkshire Development Partnership Forum, in partnership with The Housing Forum. This event focussed on how private sector partners can contribute to the delivery of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme and an opportunity to explore potential longer-term partnerships.

Finally, the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme, which provides up to £121.96 to working households in receipt of council tax support has been administered to all currently in receipt of the service as well as new applicants. The Council's Energy Crisis Support Scheme, providing up to £250 to households that are struggling to meet the cost of their energy bills was delivered in March 2025. Finally, the Council provided food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals for school holidays, this provided £1.586 million worth of vouchers through to October half term 2024 as part of the Household Support Fund. A further package of support has now been agreed for the period to Easter 2026.

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6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

People are safe, healthy and live well					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
2.1	**People have good mental health and physical wellbeing**	Develop a network of Infection Prevention and Control Champions and commission a programme of support to raise Infection prevention and control standards in Care Homes and reduce the impact of infectious disease outbreaks.	Quarter 3	Complete	75% of Care Homes signed up as Champions by June 2024. Work is ongoing through scheduled Infection Prevention and Control champion meetings.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.2		Review the impact of the mental health services redesign for residents.	Quarter 4	Complete	The impact assessment highlighted continued good working relationships between Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust and the Council. A six-month review was completed in October 2024, and this helped to understand impact and outcomes. Adult social care can now produce equality data, on the Mental Health Act assessments to help identify trends and reasons for delay. The Mental Health enablement service is now operational and is designed to work with a strengths-based approach to enable adults with mental ill health to maximise their independence and connect to their community to ensure longer term resilience. The service is a short-term service (up to 15 weeks) providing assistance to support people with social and community-based opportunities.
2.3	**People feel empowered, safe and live independently for as long as possible.**	Launch the new Learning Disabilities Strategy which sets out Rotherham's aspirations for people with a learning disability.	Quarter 1	Complete	The Learning Disability Strategy 2024/27 was formally launched in April 2024. The strategy will ensure that people with a learning disability have access to the right support, at the right time. The strategy objectives are now being implemented through co-produced approaches with people with lived experience and their families.
2.4		Start the building groundwork for Castle View Day Service which will provide new day opportunities for people with high support needs.	Quarter 2	Complete	The contract has been awarded and groundwork started with a spade in the ground event on 8 October 2024. The current estimated completion date is March 2026.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.5		Launch the new All Age Autism Strategy which sets out aspirations for autistic people living and working in Rotherham.	Quarter 1	Complete	Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy 2024/27 was agreed and published by Cabinet on 12 February 2024. The strategy sets out the vision for all autistic people living and working in Rotherham to have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives, whatever their age. This has been published alongside the easy word version to ensure it is fully accessible
2.6		Implement an engagement forum where residents can co-design adult social care services to ensure their experiences shape the future delivery of services.	Quarter 1	Complete	An Adult Social Care Co-Production Board was established in April 2024 and named by participants as RASCAL (Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening). The meetings are held monthly and include 10 to 15 regular attendees. To date, the board has been instrumental in co-producing the 2023 Local Account and ensuring public information is clear and easy to understand for residents. The board is diverse and includes representation from different protected characteristic groups.
2.7		Complete a review of the domestic abuse delivery model and set out next steps for Cabinet, following implementation in 2022. The review will include the lived experiences of victims and survivors accessing services.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The review is complete, but the presentation of findings and recommendations to Cabinet is delayed until Winter 2025/26. This delay is to ensure alignment with the midpoint review of the Domestic Abuse Strategy.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.8	**People can access affordable, decent housing**	Agree a new Repairs and Maintenance Policy.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy was approved by Cabinet on 18 November 2024. The Council is committed to delivering high quality, value for money repairs services and the draft Housing Repairs and Maintenance Policy sets out the Council's approach to meeting those aims.
2.9		Expand the Council's temporary accommodation by at least 16 homes.	Quarter 3	Complete	A minimum of 16 homes were delivered via the Market Acquisitions Workstream of the Councils' Housing Delivery Programme. Funding has been secured via the Government's Local Authority Housing Fund to contribute to a proportion of the acquisition costs of these properties. 20 homes will be delivered with Local Authority Housing Fund. 17 homes have already been completed and delivered via Market Acquisitions.
2.10 (a)		Continue to deliver the Housing Growth Programme by: a) Acquiring or building 150 new homes to increase council owned housing stock.	Quarter 4	Complete	57 homes were delivered in Quarter 1 and a further 25 homes were delivered in Quarter 2. A further 42 homes were delivered in Quarter 3. Quarter 3 homes were delivered via S106 Acquisitions (26) and Market Acquisitions (16). The 150th home was delivered ahead of schedule in February 2025. 156 homes have been acquired or built in 2024/25, six additional homes than anticipated.
2.10 (b)		b) Starting groundwork on new homes in Canklow as part of a joint development with a new day opportunities centre, "Castle View".	Quarter 3	Complete	Scheme started on site on 23 September 2024 (Quarter 2). The formal 'Spade in the Ground' event has taken place. The completion of homes at Canklow Warden Street is a Year Ahead Delivery Plan Target for 2025/26.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.10 (c)		c) Starting groundwork on new homes at Eastwood.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Previous procurement activity was unsuccessful. Therefore, the original start on site target was not met. A new programme has been produced to align with Rotherham Council's governance and procurement regulations for award of a two-stage design and build contract which is anticipated within the next two months. Planning permission for this project is already in place, which will facilitate a faster transition to the next phase once a new contractor is secured. Start on site is now forecast for Quarter 4 2025/26. Starting groundwork on new homes at Eastwood will carry over as a Year Ahead Delivery Plan Target for 2025/26.
2.10 (d)		d) Start groundwork on new homes at Maltby.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Initial procurement activity paired Maltby with Eastwood, which following early market engagement proved to be unattractive to potential contractors and added delays as a different procurement approach was required. Planning permission determination was delayed on Addison Road due to significant highways and tree challenges. Elm Tree Road was determined at Planning Board due to the number of public comments – all of which have added further delay. Planning delays were reported in the last update. A contractor for the design element is in place, construction to be determined. A realistic programme has been produced to align with Rotherham Council's governance and procurement regulations for award of the construction contract. This should mitigate further delays. Start on site is now forecast for Quarter 2 2025/26. Starting groundwork on new homes at Maltby will carry over as a Year Ahead Delivery Plan Target for 2025/26.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.10 (e)		e) Start groundwork on new homes at Swinton.	Quarter 4	Complete	Significant milestone reached – scheme started on site February 2025. The completion of homes at Swinton is a Year Ahead Delivery Plan Target for 2025/26.
2.10 (f)		f) Start groundwork on new homes at West Melton.	Quarter 4	Complete	Scheme started on site January 2025. The completion of homes at West Melton is a Year Ahead Delivery Plan Target for 2025/26.
2.11 (a)		Hold targeted events to strengthen partnerships and promote opportunities for local housing investment and delivery: a) An event focussed on securing a pipeline of future investment in new affordable homes through joint work with registered providers of social housing and Homes England. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 3).*	Quarter 2	Complete	Decision was taken to switch the order of the events when given the opportunity to host a Housing Forum event in Rotherham in September. This event aligned better with the activity we had planned in Quarter 4. It would not have made sense, nor could we have resourced two events in Quarter 2.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.11 (b)		b) An event focussed on how private sector partners can contribute to the delivery of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme and an opportunity to explore potential longer-term partnerships. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 3).*	Quarter 4	Complete	Rotherham hosted the South Yorkshire Development Partnership Forum, in partnership with The Housing Forum (a cross-sector membership network of 120+ organisations, from the public and private sectors, driving quality and supply in UK housing) on 24 September 2024. Event scheduled for Quarter 4 will now take place in Quarter 2 (see above).
2.12	**Inequalities are addressed and nobody is left behind**	Delivery of the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme, providing up to £121.96 to working households in receipt of council tax support. *(The scheme will start from 1 April 2024, but will pick up all new applicants through to 31 March 2025).*	Quarter 4	Complete	The scheme has been administered with all current residents on Council Tax Support who meet the criteria for Local Council Tax Support Top Up. The scheme was live to new applicants or change in circumstances so ran all year.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

2.13		Delivery of the Council's Energy Crisis Support Scheme, providing up to £250 to households that are struggling to meet the cost of their energy bills.	Quarter 3	Complete	The scheme has been delivered with applications closing in March 2025.
2.14		Provide food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals for school holidays through to October half term 2024, in line with the package of measures agreed through the Household Support Fund.	Quarter 3	Complete	Provided £1.586 million worth of food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals, during the school holidays through to October half term 2024. Wider package of measures also delivered. The Household Support Fund has provided support to the most vulnerable residents in the borough.

People are Safe, Healthy and Live Well

Outcomes

- People have good mental health and physical wellbeing
- People feel empowered, safe and live independently for as long as possible
- People can access affordable, decent housing
- Inequalities are addressed and nobody is left behind

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
PE01	Number of people attending the Make Every Contact Count (MECC) training relating to health and wellbeing issues	ACHPH - Public Health	Ben Anderson	High	Q	152	535	473	125	201	Awaiting data	Awaiting data	326	150	♦	△	In 2023/24, there were a total of 473 sessions exceeding the target of 150. The target has been exceeded again by Quarter 2 this year 2024/25. This is due to the revised cost of living session focusing on damp and mould contributing to increased uptake which will be running until March 2025.
PE02	The proportion of adults involved in a safeguarding enquiry who felt their personal outcomes were at least partially met	ACHPH - Adult Care	Kirsty Littlewood	High	Q	97.0%	97.0%	96.1%	97.5%	95.3%	96.8%	98.4%	97.0%	97%	↑	✔	The Council Plan target has been set to sustain performance at 97%. Quarter 4 performance has increased to 98.4% of adults involved in a safeguarding enquiry who felt their personal outcomes were at least partially met, giving a year end figure of 97%, meeting the annual Council Plan target. The level of performance remains high and is comparative to regional and national benchmarking average values. This places the service in line with the National target of 97% and above the regional benchmark of 95%.
PE03	Proportion of new clients who receive short term (reablement) service in year with an outcome of no further requests made for support	ACHPH - Adult Care	Kirsty Littlewood	High	Q	93.2%	92.5%	93.5%	94.8%	91.5%	85.9%	90.0%	90.6%	90%	↓	✔	The year-end performance of 90.6% continues to exceed the Council Plan target of 90% for those who have been receiving short term Enablement not requiring further support. The year-end position has achieved higher than the latest national average benchmarking 77.6%. The service recently concluded a PAMMS Assessment, with the service rated as Overall Good with areas of good practice. Recruitment to the service is continuing, with 7 FTE Enablers progressing through the final stages of recruitment and the recruitment of FTE Liaison Enablement Workers going well. This will enable us to further support the service to expand and diversify.
PE04	Manage the number of new older adult admissions to long term residential care (aged 65+)	ACHPH - Adult Care	Kirsty Littlewood	Low	Q	324	341	301	67	87	84	89	327	317	↓	✖	The 2024/25 Better Care Fund (BCF) official target for Rotherham is; "To reduce the number of older people, admitted to residential care, to a population rate of 563.62". This equates to 317 admissions over the year. Quarter 4 2024/25 saw a surge of admissions mid quarter to permanent care home placements, this has again reduced to usual levels for older adults but has increased the year-end total to 327, which is 10 above the BCF target of 317 and at a population rate of 581.40. The general increase of adults being admitted over the last 3 quarters, is in the context of increased demand across the system, acuity and also linked to the journey of people who have previously been in short stay residential placement.
PE05	Proportion of council housing repairs completed 'Right 1st time'	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	High	Q	90.9%	92.8%	94.4%	95.1%	94.4%	94.0%	94.6%	94.5%	93%	↑	✔	Quarter 4 performance of Council housing repairs completed 'right first time' by our partners is 94.6%, which is a slight increase of 0.6%., giving a year-end figure of 94.5% and achieving higher than the end year target of 93%.
PE06	Number of new homes delivered with Council support, including affordable homes	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	High	Q	180	373	217	68	42	55	48	213	200	↓	✔	Positive performance in Quarter 4 – with 48 homes delivered or enabled with Council support. Consisting of: • 32 new Council Homes as part of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme •10 private sector Empty Homes brought back in to use • 6 homes Enabled End of year target of 200 homes has been surpassed – 213 homes have been delivered with Council support.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Year end	TARGET			
PE07	Proportion of council housing stock that meets the "Decent Homes" standard	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	High	Q	99.90%	100.00%	100.00%	92.92%	93.80%	94.10%	95.10%	95.10%	100.00%	↓	✗	The definition for this measure has been changed in 2024-25 so that it aligns exactly with the Regulator of Social Housing technical requirements for Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs), which must now be submitted by the Council to the Regulator annually. In Quarter 4, a futher 203 properties were made decent due to updates in survey data, completed works by contractors which led to a performance figure of 95.1% of Council housing meeting the decent home standard against a target of 100%.
PE08	Proportion of households prevented or relieved from homelessness	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	High	Q	76.0%	78.0%	80.9%	84.0%	82.3%	82.3%	92.0%	85.2%	85%	↑	✔	Quarter 4 shows an improved performance of 92%, with a year-end figure of 85.2% against a Council Plan target of 85%. This has been a challenging target owing to increases in demand and continued housing market pressures that make move on to settled accommodation challenging. Still, progress has been made since last year. A new operating model was established which has helped to increase the homelessness prevention cases load. There has been more cases in the prevention stage in March 2025 190 compared to 117 at the same period last year. The service are monitoring the number of cases in the relief duty, the aim is to reduce the numbers. In March 2024, there was 172 relief cases and this has reduced to 139 in March 2025. A landlord incentive scheme has been finalised in January 2025 to help us work closer with landlords and secure accommodation in the private sector. A comprehensive homelessness improvement plan is in place, informed by specialist advisor, which focused on prevention and temporary accommodation. Resources have been aligned to deal with the increased demand. The functions of the Homelessness team's and the temporary accommodation team have now been separated, and agreement has been received for additional posts. These officers have been recruited and are currently been trained.
PE09	Number of households in temporary accommodation (both temporary accommodation and hotels)	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	Low	Q	Not available	Not Available	170	173	161	145	148	148	130	↑	✗	There has been positive results in respect of reducing hotel usage, reducing the number of hotel placements in April from 89 households to 17 households in March 2025. At the end of March 2025, there were no families placed into hotels and the number of families placed outside of the borough has reduced from 5 families in June 2024 to 0 in March 2025. A comprehensive homelessness improvement plan is in place, informed by specialist advisor, which focused on prevention and temporary accommodation. Resources are being aligned to deal with the increased demand. The functions of the Homelessness team and the temporary accommodation team have now been separated, and agreement has been received for additional posts.
PE10	Total number of referrals to domestic abuse support services	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	Neither High/Low	Q	5,395	3,300	3,137	813	880	849	886	3,428	No target	♦	ⓘ	This measure is included to provide context for PE11 - Engagement rate with Domestic Abuse Services. Please note the methodology for this measure has changed following the recommissioning of this provision. From Quarter 3 (2022-23) onwards, the data will be issued provisionally before being finalised the following quarter when all of the data is available. Quarter 4 has 27 more referrals than in Quarter 3, and 93 more referrals than Quarter 4 2023/24.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Year end	TARGET			
PE11	Engagement rate with Domestic Abuse support services	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	47%	46%	67%	53%	57%	63.0%	59.0%	58%	60%	↓	✗	This measure is the % of clients of Domestic Abuse services who accept support from that agency. The measure records the total number of referrals made to domestic abuse support services who go on to successfully engage with those services. Following the recommissioning of this service, significant work on how the referral process of people on to these services has been undertaken. As with PE10, the methodology for this measure has changed following the recommissioning of Domestic Abuse support. From Quarter 3 (2022-23) onwards, the data will be issued provisionally before being finalised the following quarter when all of the data is available. Engagement rate for Quarter 4 has had a 4% decrease from Quarter 3 and is 1% under the Council Plan target of 60%. Compared to Quarter 4 last year there has been a 9% decrease in engagement. Monitoring of trends will continue for future quarters, however engagement rates do vary due to individual client circumstances.
PE12	Proportion of new claims for Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support dealt with within 14 days of receipt of all necessary information.	FCS - Finance	Rob Mahon	High	Q	97.34%	97.30%	98.37%	98.56%	98.25%	98.36%	98.35%	98.35%	98.00%	↓	✔	Measure and target amended for 2023-24 and 2024-25 to reflect the performance of the Council in processing claims. The final performance for 2024/25 is 98.35%, which 0.02% down from 2023/24 (98.37%). DoT based on being down in comparison with Quarter 3 2023/24.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

CASE STUDY

650th Council Home

In February 2025, the Council delivered the 650th new home of our current development programme. This marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to addressing housing needs within the community. This achievement is a testament to our dedication to providing quality, affordable housing options for residents, helping to ensure that everyone has access to a safe and secure home.

The 650th home was a market acquisition. These acquisitions include properties where the Council has the Right of First Refusal on former council homes sold under Right to Buy, disposals from Housing Associations, empty properties, and purchases from the open market. Market Acquisitions are used to meet the diverse needs of our communities, as we can purchase a range of property types in areas that may not have much Council housing.



Acquisitions at Lake View Road, Wath.



New homes being built in West Melton.

The Council has pledged to continue to deliver hundreds of new high-quality homes across the borough, by either building new homes or through acquiring properties from a range of sources, including private developers and the open market. Having a new, safe, and affordable home can transform lives by providing stability, improving health, supporting education, fostering community connections, and enabling personal development.

One tenant said the move had *"Massively lifted our moods living here, everything is just immaculate and lovely including the garden where our grandchildren can play, the street is quiet, the bills have more than halved, we feel overwhelmed and privileged and really fortunate to have been offered this."*

The next step for the Housing Growth Programme will be to continue its progress towards achieving the aims set for 2025/26. These include the completion of ongoing works in Canklow, Swinton and West Melton and starting new works in Eastwood and Maltby.

6.2 THEME 2 – PEOPLE ARE SAFE, HEALTHY AND LIVE WELL

CASE STUDY

Castle View 'Spade in the Ground' Event

In October 2024, the Castle View Development project officially began with a special "Spade in the Ground" event in Canklow, Rotherham. This event celebrated the start of building a new adult day centre and housing for people with complex support needs.

The Leader of the Council joined partner O&P Construction Services to break ground on the site of this new housing and independent living development.

Following Cabinet approval in 2023, a total of £11m is being invested into the site, which includes a six-bedroom property and two two-bedroom apartments, both of which support people with complex needs.

Alongside the accommodation will be Castle View, a purpose-built day centre providing modern and accessible facilities for people with high support needs. Additionally, 13 accessible properties will be available for Council rent to people who meet the criteria.

Together, these plans will help meet the council's commitment to deliver modern, purpose-built facilities that more effectively meet people's needs, within environments that are more conducive to maximising independent living and are closer to home.

The properties will occupy land which has been unused since the clearance of unsuitable properties in 2009, with the development expected to complete in spring 2026. The partnership with O&P will build on the Council's award-winning work on social value to promote local employment through council spending. In addition to Council investment in the project, the delivery of Council homes on the site has been supported by the Brownfield Land Release Fund (BLRF2), part of the One Public Estate programme.



Community feedback has been very positive. A spokesperson for the Council highlighted the importance of the new facility in supporting people with complex needs and serving as a hub for community activities, learning, and skill development. Local councillors are committed to delivering modern, purpose-built facilities that meet residents' needs and improve their quality of life.

The Castle View Development is a testament to Rotherham Council's dedication to enhancing local infrastructure and providing essential services to residents. The "Spade in the Ground" event not only marked the beginning of construction but also symbolised a new chapter of growth and support for the Canklow community.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

We want Rotherham to be a great place to grow up, where all children and young people are safe, valued, able to enjoy their lives and achieve their aspirations.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• Children get the best start in life • Children and young people safe from harm • Young people feel empowered to succeed and achieve their aspirations • Children and young people have fun things to do and safe places to go.	• Further develop our partnership approach to ensuring that all children and young people get the best possible start in life and are ready to attend school and learn • Continue with the development of residential homes for our children in care and work with local providers in residential and foster care to access the best local placements • The Council will work to improve our Youth Justice inspection judgement through the delivery of our improvement plan • With our partners, we will address the variability of Education, Health and Care Plans and the quality of provision for children and young people • Collaborate with partners to embed a multi-agency Family Hub Approach for our children, families, and communities • Ensure that the Early Help workforce are equipped with the right, most up to date knowledge and tools to effect outstanding outcomes for children and families • Work with young people that are disengaged to reconnect them to training, further education and employment • Focus on raising the achievement of Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils in reading through the reading fluency project and will support pupils who are currently below the expected standard in reading and/or who may have difficulty accessing reading required in the wider curriculum • Work in collaboration with schools to narrow the persistent attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils and raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils • Deliver on our commitment to become the first Children's Capital of Culture holding a year-long festival in 2025.

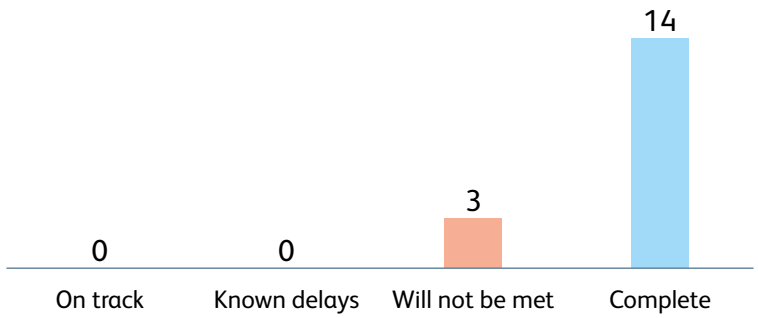
6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

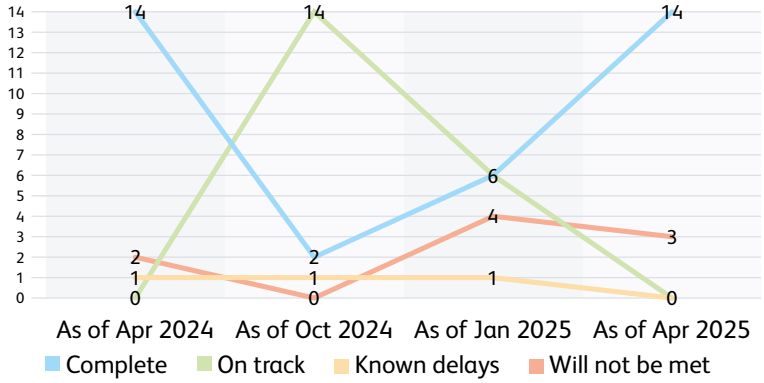
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 11 headline performance measures and 17 priority actions/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

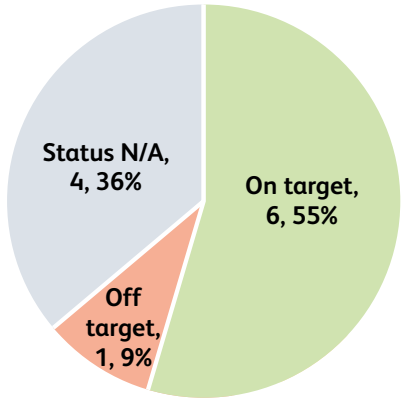


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

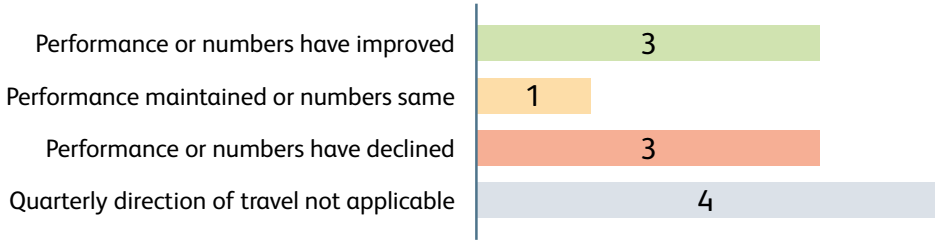


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

This theme encapsulates our ambition for Rotherham to be a great place to grow up, where all children and young people are safe, valued, and able to achieve their aspirations.

Services provided by the Council to young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities were given the highest possible rating by Ofsted last year, building on the 'Good' rating they gave the services the Council provides to children, young people and families in August 2022.

The support provided to our very youngest residents through the Baby Packs scheme has been expanded. This provides infants and their families with baby grows, books, blankets and more. The scheme is free of charge and packs are distributed in appointments with midwives. The Council is also supporting young families through our Family Hubs scheme, which has continued successfully following its launch last year. In the final quarter of the year, the percentage of families who registered with a Family Hub within six months of their child's birth rose to 90%, up from the previous figure of 77%.

Seven resources bases in schools have been created across the borough for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, ensuring that youngsters who need more support can receive it in their local school. This is a key priority, as this year the number of children in the borough with an Education, Health and Care Plan rose to over 3,000. Support for these children outside of school has also been expanded, and the first steps towards transforming the Eric Manns building into a new hub for children and their families to access services, play areas and a sensory room have been taken.

This quarter has also seen the continuation of our programme to expand residential care facilities so that children can stay in the borough. Registration has been submitted for two more two-bedroom homes, ensuring that young people are closer to having a more permanent home in the area which they come from. This process will continue into the next financial year for a further three two-bedroom properties, ensuring that we will have submitted registrations for six two-bedroom homes in total by the end of Quarter 3 next year.

As part of our new Home to School Transport Policy, Independent Travel Training has been delivered to 24 local children, so they can travel to and from school without difficulty. The Council has worked with all 27 secondary schools and colleges in Rotherham to improve their careers services and interactions with employers. This is with the aim of ensuring that their provision would reach at least six of the Gatsby benchmarks outlining best practice, with an average score in Rotherham institutions now reaching 6.6 which is a significant achievement.

Over 200 support sessions to help engage young people with universal youth provision have also been run, as well as over 1,000 additional universal sessions for them to attend when they are ready. Construction has begun on a new water splash facility in Clifton Park, providing children with a cool and fun place to play this summer. This year the Council has also worked with children and young people across the borough to produce the Children's Capital of Culture programme. Alongside the continuation of the traineeship programme, the Council has run a range of events, from workshops in schools to marquee occasions in the town centre such as Otherham and the music festival Signals.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

F

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

Every child able to fulfil their potential					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
3.1	**Children get the best start in life**	Commission, set-up and start roll out of Baby Packs Scheme to support families with essential items and child development.	Quarter 4	Complete	Registration for Baby Packs began in January for mothers with due dates on or after 6 April. The first Baby Packs were delivered in March 2025 for babies due the week commencing 7 April, as they are delivered four weeks ahead of the due date. In Quarter 4, 146 mothers registered for a Baby Pack, and 74 Baby Packs were delivered. See case study below.

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6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.2		Increase the number of families registered with a Family Hub (from the current figure of 77% to a target of 90% of families registered at a family hub within six months of their child's birth).	Quarter 4	Complete	The children's centre registration form (registration for 0-5) was relaunched in April 2024 to allow families with children 0-19 (age 25 with SEND) to register. The new form is available via the Rotherham Family Hubs website. This includes the collection of equality data to help inform delivery of the programme. Partners across the Rotherham Family Hub programme have been encouraging registration during engagement with families. Over the last summer, the Early Help service have attended a number of community engagement events attended by a wide range of organisations to promote registration. In August 2024, a newly designed Rotherham Family Hub registration page was included in the 'red book' which is issued to every baby at birth. New leaflets and posters have been designed and distributed across GP surgeries and key family meeting places, such as libraries, to encourage registration. As at year-end, 90%, of families have registered for a Rotherham Family Hub with a child up to six months old.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.3		Deliver 130 support sessions (5 sessions per week to be delivered during Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 following recruitment of additional officers) to enhance the under 5's offer through the delivery of Rotherham's Statutory Children's Centres.	Quarter 4	Complete	Following recruitment, delivery commenced in Quarter 2. As of 31 January 2025, 175 sessions have been delivered. Delivery to date has included Tots and Toddler group; baby group; Little walkers; Boogie Tots; Baby Sensory; Messy Play; and Baby Massage delivered across the borough in Children's Centres and Family Hubs.
3.4 (a)	**Children and young people safe from harm**	Provide new homes to make sure Children in Care and young people in Rotherham can stay in the borough: a) Submit registration for a second two-bedroom home.	Quarter 2	Complete	An Ofsted registration for the second two-bedroom home was submitted in May 2024.
3.4 (b)		b) Submit registration for a third two-bedroom home.	Quarter 3	Will not be met	There was a delay in appointing a Registered Manager, but one is now in post. Registration will be submitted in Quarter 1.
3.4 (c)		c) Submit registration for a fourth two-bedroom home.	Quarter 3	Complete	The building is now complete. Registration was submitted in March 2025.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.4 (d)		d) Submit registration for a fifth two-bedroom home.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Refurbishment pushed back due to feasibility being completed on a Department for Education capital bid which could support the refurbishment of the property. Previous delays incurred through planning. Registration is now expected to be submitted Quarter 3 2025/26 following completion of capital works.
3.4 (e)		e) Submit registration for a sixth two-bedroom home.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	A HRA property has now been identified following joint work with housing and planning will be submitted Quarter 1 2025/26. The timeline will be updated subject to successful progress through planning.
3.5	**Young people feel empowered to succeed and achieve their aspirations**	Create seven resource bases to provide additional school places for children with special educational needs.	Quarter 4	Complete	All Resource Provisions have now been registered or have had approved increases in places at the following schools: Thurcroft Junior Academy, Winterhill, Maltby Manor Academy, Thrybergh Academy, Foljambe Primary, Wales High, Brinsworth Whitehill.
3.6		Commission building work to develop the Eric Manns building into a new centre for children with special education needs and disabilities.	Quarter 3	Complete	Work has been commissioned and further work is continuing between Parent and Carer Forum and Children and Young People's Services to prepare the building for occupation. Project Managers have been assigned and scoping of work is ongoing.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.7		Deliver Independent Travel Training to 24 children and young people to increase independence, through the new Home to School Transport Policy.	Quarter 3	Complete	The service has now supported 31 young people through this process with a further five now undergoing the training meaning this target is now met.
3.8		Engage through the Enterprise Adviser Network Project with all 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges in the South Yorkshire Careers Hub to assist them enhance their careers provision, improve interactions with local employers and achieve at least six of the Gatsby benchmarks, used to monitor and grade careers provision.	Quarter 4	Complete	All 27 schools actively engaged. 24 out of 27 institutions are matched with an Enterprise Adviser. Rotherham's average benchmark score has been maintained 6.6 (Target set by CEC is 6). Project has been renamed as the South Yorkshire Careers Hub.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.9	**Children and young people have fun things to do and safe places to go**	Work with children and young people across the borough to co-produce and launch the Children's Capital of Culture 2025.	Quarter 3	Complete	The programme for Children's Capital of Culture was officially launched on 5 December at Arc Cinema to invited stakeholders and media. The Quarter 1 2025/26 programme is now live and features large scale Land Art Commissions, Pop Up Programme across wards, and events including: • Otherham Winter Light Festival featuring five new large-scale projections • Signals Music Festival with 10 days of workshops and performances culminating in a Town Centre Music Festival • Roots Rotherham Street Carnival officially welcoming the 2025 Festival Year. The call for proposals to add to the Children's Capital of Culture festival year programme was launched in July 2024. To date 36 proposals have been received and the programme will continue to develop throughout the year with Quarterly Programme Launch.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.10		Start the new three year Children's Playgrounds Programme and deliver the first scheme.	Quarter 4	Complete	All sites for improvement have been identified and discussed with the Leader/Cabinet Members. Consultation has been completed for Chestnut Grove, Dinnington alongside Thrybergh and Rother Valley Country Parks. The external works framework procurement is now complete, and the tender report was approved on 23 May 2025. The anticipated framework go-live date is the 10 June 2025. A Strategic Outline Programme for the playgrounds programme is now in place. The replacement of the play area at Chestnut Grove is now complete and the project timeline for the two Country Parks is: • Replacement of the play area at Rother Valley Country Park by October 2025. Initial feasibility checks and design works is currently underway. • Replacement of the play area at Thrybergh Country Park by October 2025. Initial feasibility checks and design works is currently underway. An Officer Decision Record for the whole improvement scheme has been prepared.
3.11 (a)		Progress a new Water Splash facility at Clifton Park: a) Conduct consultation with children, parents, and carers.	Quarter 2	Complete	Consultation has taken place with users over the 2024 summer period 1 July to 30 September 2024. 271 responses were received from children, parents, and carers. The results will inform the design brief for the new facility.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

3.11 (b)		b) Commission a supplier to undertake the work in readiness for launch in July 2025.	Quarter 4	Complete	The contract has now been awarded to the supplier, and work commenced on site. The project is on track to be completed by July 2025.
3.12		Deliver 208 support sessions (8 sessions per week to be delivered during Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 following recruitment of additional officers) to support young people to engage with universal youth provision.	Quarter 4	Complete	Following recruitment, delivery commenced earlier than expected in Quarter 2. As of the end of March 2025 the Council has delivered 254 sessions.

Every Child able to fulfil their potential

Outcomes

- Children get the best start in life
- Children and young people safe from harm
- Young people feel empowered to succeed and achieve their aspirations
- Children and young people have fun things to do and safe places to go

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
CH01	Percentage of eligible children accessing their 2-2.5yr health visitor checks	ACHPH - Public Health	Ben Anderson	High	Q	92.0%	91.0%	90.7%	Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Data not yet avaliable	Data not yet available	93%	♦	△	The Rotherham value for 2023/24 is 90.7%. Rotherham's performance remains above the national value at 78.4%, and above Yorkshire and the Humber at 89.3%. Status is based on the latest available data, annual data for 2023/24. DoT is based on Quarter 4 data, compared to Quarter 3. The target was set as an aspirational target, above the contracted target (84%), based on previous performance of the provider and the service consistently exceeds the 84% contractual expectation. All quarters for 2023/24 remain above the contracted target, albeit still below the aspirational target of 93%.
CH02	Number of Children in Need (rate per 10K population 0-17 as per DfE population)	CYP - Social Care	Monica Green	Low	Q	380.5	378.6	316.8	297.3	309.7	319	310.7	310.7	375.5	↑	✔	During 2024/25 the Children in Need (CiN) population decreased by 6.1 CiN per 10,000 when compared to 2023/24. This equates to a reduction of 72 children & young people. This measure follows the DfE definition which includes CiN, child protection (CP), children in care (CIC) and, leaving care cohorts. As such, if any of these cohorts rise then this measure will too. The year-end figure remains below the year-end target of 375.5 as well as being below the latest national (332.9) and statistical neighbour (398.8) averages.
CH03	The number of children with a Child Protection plan (rate per 10K population 0-17)	CYP - Social Care	Monica Green	Low	Q	82.7	70.4	45.6	45.1	51	51	54.2	54.2	85	↓	✔	The rate of children per 10,000 with a child protection plan (CPP) increased to 54.2 at the end of 2024/25 when compared to 2023/24 (45.6). This equates to an increase of 54 children. However, the 54.2 rate remains below the year-end target of 85.0 (lower is better) as well as being in line with the latest stat neighbour average (54.2) but remains above the latest national average (41.6).
CH04	The number of Looked After Children (rate per 10k population 0-17)	CYP - Social Care	Monica Green	Low	Q	97.8	96.7	87.7	88	87.3	86.4	83	83	95.2	↑	✔	The children in care (CIC) rate per 10,000 has steadily reduced over the last few years reaching 83.0 at the end of 2024/25 (lower is better). This equates to 482 children. 83.0 is below our local target of 95.2 and the latest stat neighbour average (100.9) but remains above the latest national average of 70.0. It's important to note the rate would be 78.7 without the inclusion of the unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) population (25 UASC). Focused work continues to ensure children are brought into care only at the point that it's essential for them to be safeguarded in this way. Supporting children and families in a strengths-based way for them to remain together, which may be using Child Protection and Child in Need Plans which would consequently increase these cohort numbers.
CH05	Open Early Help children at the end of the reporting period	CYP - Early Help	Kelly White	Neither High/Low	Q	2889	3286	2868	2828	2428	2422	2215	2215	No target	♦	ⓘ	There were 2215 children (1060 families) open to the service at the end of 2024/25 compared to 2868 children (1335 families) at the end of 2023/24. This shows a decrease of 653 children over the year and a decrease of 275 families.
CH06	Proportion of social care re-referrals in 12 months - in current month	CYP - Social Care	Monica Green	Low	Q	18.3%	17.2%	17.3%	15.9%	16.0%	16.0%	20.7%	17.3%	22%	→	✔	In 2024/25, 17.3% of social care referrals were reported as being a re-referral (within 12 months) which remains in line with 2023/24 (17.3%) and is also within the target set of 22.0%.
CH07	Number of children and young people who are currently assessed as having a medium to high risk of CSE (CSE cohort)	CYP - Social Care	Monica Green	Neither High/Low	Q	41	37	23	18	17	16	15	15	No target	♦	ⓘ	There were 15 children and young people assessed as having a medium to high risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) at the end of 2024/25, a decrease of 8 when compared to the end of 2023/24 (23).

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Year end	TARGET			
CH08	Proportion of two-year olds taking up an early education place	CYP - Education & Inclusion	Niall Devlin	High	Q	88.1%	85.6%	83.6%	-	83.6% (Term 3 - 23/24)	96.6% (Term 1 - 24/25)	85.7% (Term 2 - 24/25)	85.7% (Term 2 - 24/25)	85%	↑	✔	At the end of the 2023/24 academic year, it was reported that 83.6% of two-year-olds had taken up an early education place showing a 2% reduction when compared to the end of 2022/23 (85.6%) and missed the 85% local target. However, 83.6% remains positive when compared to the latest published benchmark data - 74.8% national and 77.9% stat neighbour averages. *This is an academic year measure and therefore 2024/25 academic year end performance will be reported in quarter 2 2025/26. However, at the end of the spring term (term 2) 2024/25 85.7% of two-year-olds had taken up an early education place showing a 10.9% reduction when compared to the end of the autumn term (96.6%). However, 85.7% remains above the 85% target and is positive when compared to the latest published benchmark data (see above).
CH09	Proportion of pupils passing the phonics screening check in year 1	CYP - Education & Inclusion	Niall Devlin	High	A	75% (2021/22 academic year)	79.0% (2022/23 academic year)	78.5% (2023-24 academic year)	-	-	-	-	78.5% (2023-24 academic year)	Above stat neighbour*	↓	✖	78.5% of year 1 pupils passed the phonics screening check in 2023/24 academic year which shows a 0.5% decrease when compared to the previous academic year (79.0% - 2022/23). The target for this measure is to be inline or above our statistical neighbour's average (80.8%), which has have therefore been missed by 2.3% and 1.5% below the national average. The Rotherham School Improvement Service (RoSIS) continue to focus on increasing the percentage of pupils achieving the national standard and accelerating the rate of progress in phonics. RoSIS offer phonic reviews and follow-up support training for teachers new to administering the phonics screen and bespoke support requested by schools. *This is an academic year measure and therefore 2024/25 academic year unvalidated data will be available in Quarter 2 2025/26.
CH10	Number of children with Education, Health and Care Plan	CYP - Education & Inclusion	Niall Devlin	Neither High/Low	Q	2711	3056	3360	3484	3519	3629	3721	3721	No target	♦	ⓘ	There were 3721 children with an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) at the end of 2024-25, showing an increase of 361 when compared to the end of last year (2023/24).
CH11	Number of additional universal youth work sessions delivered	CYP - Early Help	Kelly White	High	Q	339	1135	1411	392	287	282	159	1120	800	↓	✔	During 2024/25, 1120 universal youth work sessions were confirmed as being delivered which has met the target of 800 sessions.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

CASE STUDY

Family Hubs registrations



Mahasen is a Sudanese refugee, with three children. She has been attending Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance (REMA) activities for many years. Mahasen is part of the Rotherham Sudanese Community group and one of the leads of the Sudanese women's drummers' group. She is a well known community figure given her confidence, enthusiasm, and welcoming personality.

When REMA became part of the Family Hubs network, Mahasen registered with Family Hubs, and accepted an invitation to be part of the Parent Carer Panel focus groups. With the support of the REMA Family Hub Navigator, Mahasen attended the first Parent Carer Panel focus group, enabling under heard families to engage. During the groups, she shared her aspirations to study and volunteer with a view to gaining employment when her youngest child starts school.

Over the past year, Mahasen has become a key part of REMA's Family Hub. She became a Family Hubs volunteer, and this has included her attending a Family Hubs induction session and completing Safeguarding training. She is active as a translator peer support volunteer, a group volunteer at REMA Toddler group and a breastfeeding peer supporter. She supports other women from the community to join activities around Rotherham and advocates for them.



6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL



Mahasen has become a key member of the Parent Carer Panel, supporting the integration of new members and most notably contributing to the co-production of the publication of the Best Start in Life guidance. This piece of work was undertaken between Public Health Consultants and panel members. She recently attended a panel session in partnership with Flux to create arts and crafts for the Rotherham WOW festival. Mahasen attended the festival and also played the Sudanese drums on stage with two of her peers.

Mahasen has shared many times that being part of all the Family Hubs activities has been really good for her, and her children. The wider community have clearly benefited from her support. Mahasen feels part of the team, enjoys supporting other families and feels very confident about the future.

'I hope to succeed in the English and Maths skills exams, and I'm applying for the Access HE diploma course. After that, I'll study the fields of nutrition and health, because I love working in this field. I hope that I can achieve great success and get a job in the same field'.

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

CASE STUDY

Baby Packs

The Rotherham Baby Packs scheme is funded by Rotherham Council up to the value of £360,000 a year to support expectant mothers and their newborns across the borough. It aims to provide essential items to families ensuring that every child in Rotherham gets the best start in life.

Registrations for the Baby Packs started in January, with all expectant women who were due to give birth after 7 April 2025 eligible to receive one.

The Council is working with midwives at the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to register expectant mums onto the scheme at their 25-week appointment. The packs are delivered to women when they are around 36 weeks pregnant.



Cllr Baker-rogers, Ben Anderson, Cllr Reed, Claire Mullin (Community Nursery Nurse), Cllr Cusworth

The baby packs contain clothing, a toy, a book and other useful items for the first six months and comes in a sturdy storage box that can become a memory box once baby has outgrown the items. They are being delivered by FMI on behalf of Rotherham Council.

The initiative also ensures that new parents receive timely help and support. The pack includes a Start for Life booklet which includes information on various services for families with children up to two years old including midwifery, health visiting and infant feeding. There is continued support for children and families in Rotherham through the Council's Family Hubs network.

In the first 15 weeks of the scheme over 600 mothers have registered which equates to around a 70% uptake, with last reporting month (April 2025) achieving a 94% uptake rate.

The feedback from recipients has been very positive. New mothers have expressed their gratitude for the thoughtful and useful items in the pack.

Jaspreet Kaur said: *"I was confused about what to buy for my child. When I received baby pack, it contains almost all the items which I needed after my baby's delivery. Every item is useful, and I am very grateful."*

Another new mum said: *"I just wanted to say thank you for the lovely box and items inside that got delivered today as part of the baby pack.*

"It really is a lovely gift from Rotherham Council and I would like it to be recognised and thank the people that organise this and put it together. It really is appreciated and will definitely get plenty of use from!"

A third added: *"It's well thought out and equipped with many essentials. This must be a huge lifeline for many families. We really appreciate this support."*

6.3 THEME 3 – EVERY CHILD ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

Feedback from practitioners has also been received: *"The baby packs have quickly become a valuable tool in promoting early intervention, supporting family wellbeing, and embedding key health messages from the very start of the parenting journey."*

The Council will continue to rollout of the programme in 2025/26 with an aim to deliver 100% of baby packs to eligible Rotherham Families who have requested one.

In the second half of the financial year further feedback will be sought from recipients of the boxes to assess the short and medium-term outcomes.



Cllr Cusworth and Jaspreet Kaur

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Our vision is to create a fair and prosperous economy that provides chances for everyone to get a good job, or start and grow a business, and plan confidently for the future.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• A growing economy that provides decent jobs and chances to progress • Delivering regeneration schemes that bring investment and opportunity, both in Rotherham town centre and in our towns and villages • Working with partners and suppliers to create more local jobs, paid at the Real Living Wage or above, and apprenticeships • People having opportunities to learn, develop skills and fulfil their potential • Strengthening digital infrastructure and skills which enable access for all.	• Support people to improve their skills and secure decent work through a range of schemes and initiatives • Provide a package of support and advice that enables businesses to start up and thrive, including targeted support to those most affected by the pandemic • Deliver improvements and opportunities for local communities through major regeneration programmes • Create a vibrant town centre, accessible to everyone, through a range of complementary schemes and major projects, including the flagship leisure development at Forge Island • Secure further commitments through our social value policy and work with partners to maximise the impact of our collective spending power • Connect people to economic opportunities through a range of transport schemes and improvements that also offer more environmentally friendly travel options.

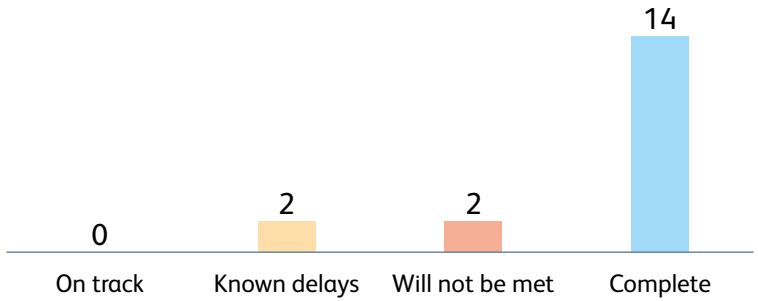
6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

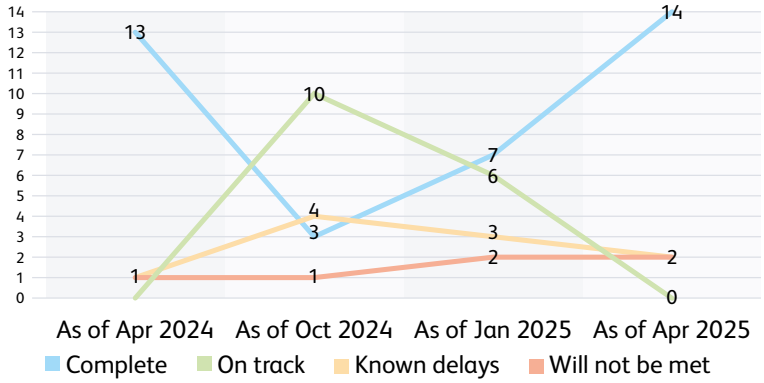
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are nine headline performance measures and 18 priority actions/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

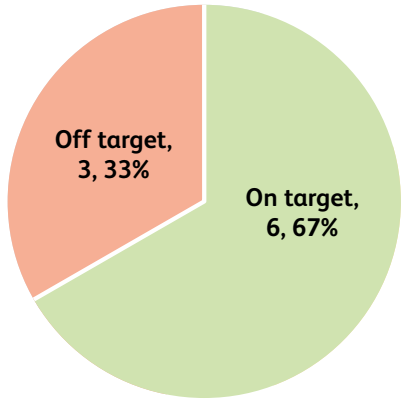


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

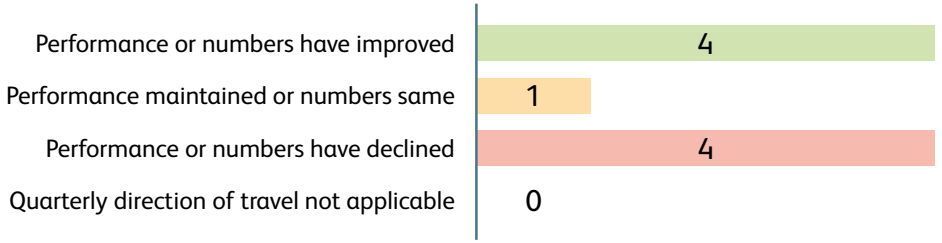


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



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6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

The Council continues to invest in creating the conditions for inclusive economic growth, supporting local businesses, attracting investment, and helping residents into employment and training. The network of business hubs remains central to this effort, offering vital support to entrepreneurs and small businesses. Following improvements to Wi-Fi and facilities in 2024/25, further upgrades are planned for 2025/26 to ensure these spaces remain fit for purpose.

The Rotherham Investment and Development Office (RiDO) delivered 64 business support workshops over the year, attended by 464 participants. In addition, 132 business grants were awarded, totalling £880,605, including four new offers worth £23,753 in Quarter 4 alone. These grants have supported a wide range of activity, from productivity improvements and business growth to start-up support and investment in energy efficiency and carbon reduction.

Major regeneration schemes are also progressing. Forge Island has seen the successful opening of its new Travelodge (July 2024) and Arc Cinema (September 2024), with the first eatery, Vetro Lounge, opening in April 2025. A second venue, Sygnature Dish, is due to open in Spring 2025. Meanwhile, construction has begun on the Riverside Gardens and Corporation Street public realm works, with contracts signed and work having started on site in April 2025.

The Council continues to act as the accountable body for several high-profile projects funded through external investment. These include the transformation of the old grammar school into the Maltby Skills Academy, now a vibrant community and learning hub; the expansion of Magna's educational offer through new exhibits focused on climate change and STEM; and the creation of a new home for children's literacy charity Grimm & Co in a repurposed church. All three projects are now complete. Works at Wentworth Woodhouse were completed in December 2024, and Gulliver's Skills Academy was completed in May 2025, following some delays and schools are now visiting the new facilities.

Through the Employment Hub and Employment Solutions Service, the Council is supporting residents into work, training, apprenticeships, and education. While the target to support 750 people was not met in 2024/25, the service remains a key part of our inclusive growth strategy and will continue into 2025/26.

Performance data shows encouraging signs of progress. The survival rate of new businesses supported by RiDO over their first three years is 86%, exceeding the Council Plan target of 81%. Engagement with library services that support skills and employment reached 130,191 – well above the 100,000 target. Online customer transactions also exceeded expectations, with 239,392 completed in 2024/25 against a target of 185,400.

However, some activities have experienced delays. The start of construction on the Templeborough Business Zone has been postponed to August 2025 due to the need to reconfigure contractual arrangements. Plans to publish a revised Local Plan Core Strategy Policy on social value have been paused, as the Council must now prepare a new Local Plan in response to changes in national planning policy. Work to agree a 12-month apprenticeship plan with Rotherham Together partners is ongoing, with further discussions scheduled.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Performance in some areas has also declined. Only 53% of residents reported feeling optimistic about Rotherham's future – below the 57% target and down from 56% the previous year. The proportion of new starter apprenticeships within the Council workforce stands at 0.9%, short of the 1.5% target. In response, additional actions are being taken to promote apprenticeships and careers within the Council.

Despite these challenges, the Council remains committed to expanding economic opportunity across the borough – supporting businesses to grow, helping residents into good jobs, and delivering regeneration that benefits all communities

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6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

Expanding economic opportunity					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
4.1	**A growing economy that provides decent jobs and chances to progress**	Deliver a programme of business workshops providing start-up advice and support to 150 attendees from both pre-start and new start businesses.	Quarter 4	Complete	20 workshops were delivered in Quarter 4, making a total of 64 workshops for 2024/25 with a total of 464 attendees. Workshops are delivered online and in-person, and cover a wide range of business issues such as developing a start-up and growth strategy; branding and marketing; and managing finance.
4.2		Provide 60 businesses with financial assistance to support investment.	Quarter 4	Complete	44 grant offers were approved in Quarter 3 to a value of £314,941. A further four grant offers were approved in Quarter 4 to a value of £23,753. The year-end total is 132 grant offers to a value of £880,605. Grants are between £500 and £25,000, and support investment in a range of productivity enhancements, business growth projects, start-ups and energy efficiency and carbon reduction measures.
4.3		Produce a strategy to attract inward investment from the UK and beyond. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 2).*	Quarter 4	Complete	The strategy came into operational delivery on 1 April 2025. It outlines an approach to attracting inward investment and is currently active and ongoing.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.4		Publish and launch Destination Management Plan for South Yorkshire and develop new governance arrangements to support the development of the Local Visitor Economy Partnership. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 2).*	Quarter 2	Complete	The Destination Management Plan was published in July 2024 and launched at an industry event in Magna. A Rotherham based chair of the interim Advisory Board has been appointed. The Advisory Board meetings have identified key workstreams and resource to be allocated appropriately to delivery.
4.5	**Delivering regeneration schemes that bring investment and opportunity, both in Rotherham town centre and in our towns and villages**	Opening the hotel, cinema and the first phase of eateries at Forge Island.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Hotel opened in July 2024, and the cinema opened in early September 2024. The first eatery, Vetro Lounge, opened on the 30 April 2025. The second eatery out of four, Sygnature Dish, will be open Quarter 1 2025/26. (See case study below).
4.6		Start construction of Riverside Gardens & Corporation Street public realm works.	Quarter 4	Complete	Work started on site at Riverside Gardens on 28 April 2025. Estimated completion date is Quarter 1 2026/27.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.7		Acting as accountable body, monitor and support partners to deliver projects across Rotherham with funding secured by the Council including: • Wentworth Woodhouse • Maltby Skills Academy • Grimm and Co • Gulliver's Skills Academy • Magna.	Quarter 3	Complete	Maltby, Grimm & Magna projects were complete in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 2024/25. Wentworth Woodhouse was completed 16 December 2024. Gulliver's Skills Academy was completed in May 2025, following some delays and schools are now visiting the new facilities.
4.8		Progress redevelopment plans for Wath Library and Dinnington High St into detailed design and planning submission.	Quarter 3	Complete	Planning applications for both projects have been submitted. Stage 3 designs are complete for both and were approved by Cabinet in July 2024.
4.9		Complete demolition of 3-7 Corporation Street.	Quarter 3	Complete	Demolition of number 7 began in May 2024 and concluded in June 2024. Numbers 3-5 were concluded in September 2024.
4.10		Complete the demolition of the Guardian Building to facilitate the further works to redevelop the new market and library building.	Quarter 3	Complete	Demolition commenced 21 October 2024 and was completed in Quarter 4.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.11		Start construction of the Templeborough Business Zone Project.	Quarter 3	Will not be met	Significant delays encountered in relation to contractual arrangements. Likely resolution by August 2025.
4.12	**Working with partners and suppliers to create more local jobs, paid at the Real Living Wage or above, and apprenticeships**	Agree with Rotherham Together Partnership members an action plan to collectively drive the social value agenda. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 4).*	Quarter 4	Complete	The Social Value Portal has been commissioned to lead this piece of work on behalf of Rotherham Together Partnership. Following a collaborative piece of work across the Rotherham Together Partnership, the action plan has now been agreed to drive the social value agenda forward.
4.13		Agree with Rotherham Together Partnership members a 12-month plan to increase the number of apprenticeships across the borough, through direct employment opportunities and through contracts. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 4).*	Quarter 4	Known delays	Rotherham Together Partners have committed to work together to increase the numbers of apprenticeships in the borough. Data gathering across partners has been undertaken to determine the numbers of new apprenticeships achieved in the last 12 months. Joint workshops and meeting facilitated by the South Yorkshire Apprenticeship Hub have taken place during the first half of 2025, to explore the opportunities to work together and maximise impact, in addition to developing appropriate actions for the action plan. A further meeting will take place in July 2025 to decide on the actions to be included in the 2025/26 plan.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.14		Deliver against key priorities of the Council's Social Value Policy, specifically: • Deliver Social Value Annual Conference with a focus on SMEs • Build the capacity of local SMEs through additional tailored support to 160 businesses receiving non-financial support, including one-to-ones and group sessions. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 4).*	Quarter 4	Complete	Annual social value event held at New York Stadium on 15 July 2024 with 67 attendees. The event was very well received. Go4Growth have started work with Rotherham businesses, producing two Rotherham - specific courses: Bid writing – accessed 64 times Social Value – accessed 43 times They have also provided 1-2-1 advice and support to ten Rotherham businesses. The Chamber's sector-based events started in September with Chamber Means Business, attended by 400 people. Additionally, 160 businesses have been provided with tailored non-financial support to enhance the capacity of local SMEs.
4.15		Publish for consultation a revised Local Plan Core Strategy Policy to consider social value in major planning decisions. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 4).*	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Proposed governance revision to the National Planning Policy Framework and the requirement for a new Local Plan, means that there is no longer a need for this consultation.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.16	**People having opportunities to learn, develop skills and fulfil their potential**	Through the new Employment Hub pathway and Employment Solutions Service, support a minimum of 750 people to access employment, (including training, education, apprenticeships, and paid employment). *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 4).*	Quarter 4	Known delays	711 residents have been supported through the Employment Hub during 2024/25. This is below target following challenges delivering the Individual Placement Support Programme which resulted in 56 fewer residents supported through the Individual Placement Support Programme.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.17		Utilise the Children's Capital of Culture programme to support skills development opportunities for young people e.g.: • Train and mentor at least ten Young Artists in Residence • Recruit at least 80 16-to-25-year-olds to work as paid Trainee Young Producers Support at least 200 young people to achieve Bronze and Silver Arts Award and train 24 Rotherham professionals as Arts Award Advisors.	Quarter 4	Complete	To date the programme has: • Trained and mentored 10 Young Artists in Residence through a range of development grants and paid performance opportunities. • Recruited at least 121 16-to-25-year-olds to work as paid Trainee Young Producers. • Supported 217 young people to achieve Arts Awards, gaining qualifications equivalent to NVQ levels 1–3, which support their routes into further education, training and employment.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

4.18	**Strengthening digital infrastructure and skills which enable access for all**	Work with partners to deliver the Digital Inclusion Strategy as per the agreed action plan. This will include rolling out more free sim cards to digitally excluded residents, along with devices and community-based training session (a minimum of 100 sessions during the year). *(Links to LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 6).*	Quarter 4	Complete	All deliverables of the programme have been completed within the required timescales. Pathways have been established to ensure ongoing access to support for people who may otherwise be at risk of digital exclusion. A stakeholder group invited to be members of South Yorkshire Digital Inclusion Network.

Expanding Economic Opportunity

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
EC01	Proportion of working age population who are in work (or actively looking for work) in Rotherham	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	Q	77.0%	74.2%	71.3%	69.0%	72.6%	74.4%	Not Available	74.4%	Achieve national average	↑	✗	The data for Economic Activity is taken from the Annual Population Survey. The survey releases data quarterly but usually with a 6 month time lag. The data released is based on surveys conducted with residents over a 12 month period rather than a quarter. The data presented here relates to Jan 2024 - Dec 2024. 74.4% of Rotherham's working age population is economically active. In comparison, Yorkshire & Humber and Great Britain are at 76% and 78.6% respectively. Currently Rotherham is 4.2% below the national average. This is the second consecutive quarter where the gap between the national average and Rotherham's position has reduced. Prior to that the previous 8 quarters saw the gap between Rotherham and the UK widening. The Council is involved in the design of a South Yorkshire wide scheme called Pathways to Work. The pilot scheme has been awarded funding in the recent Budget. The scheme is intended to support around the Economically Inactive into work and is expected to go live in Quarter 1 2025/26.
EC02a	Optimistic about the future: a) Proportion optimistic about the future of Rotherham as a place to live	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	A	57%	51%	56%	Not Available	53%	Not Available	Not Available	53%	>57%	↓	✗	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 53% of respondents reported feeling 'very optimistic' or 'fairly optimistic' about the future of Rotherham as a place to live, similar to the 54% average across all surveys. People aged 18-24 were the most likely to be optimistic about the future of Rotherham as a place to live (70%) and women were more optimistic than men overall. There is no comparable national data for these questions.
EC02b	Optimistic about the future: b) Proportion optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	A	24%	27%	27%	Not Available	27%	Not Available	Not Available	27%	>24%	→	✓	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024 and 27% of respondents felt positive about the future of Rotherham town centre. The figure has remained consistent at 27% for the last three surveys, which is above the average of 23% across all ten surveys. 35% of respondents were not optimistic at all about the town centre. Young people aged 18-24 years were the most optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre (46% were optimistic), whereas people aged 55-64 were most likely to not be optimistic. There is no comparable national data for these questions.
EC03	Number of new businesses started with help from the Council	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	Q	103	55	83	26	17	19	16	78	60	↓	✓	The total for this measure (the combined Business Centre and Launchpad totals) for this quarter is 16 . The cumulative total for the year is 78 businesses supported, against an annual target of 60 meaning the annual Council Plan Target has been delivered. Occupancy at Century 2 Business Centre has risen to 66% following movements this quarter, including letting one of the lab spaces to a construction materials business. Over the past year Launchpad has dealt with a record number of enquiries, 464 in total.
EC04a	Actions taken in Rotherham to promote progressive and sustainable Economic Development: a) Survival rate of new businesses supported in RiDO Business Centres over the first three trading years	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	A	93%	86%	83%	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	86.3%	86.3%	81%	↑	✓	The Council Plan target is 81% - the combined survival rate across the last three years for businesses that have been supported is 86%. In particular the survival rate for businesses supported in the last 12 months has increased. Survival rate figures are indicative of trends in the economy, reflecting difficult trading conditions following Covid, but recent figures are showing improvements towards expected levels.
EC04b	Actions taken in Rotherham to promote progressive and sustainable Economic Development: b) Provide advice and support to local businesses to help them recover and grow.	RE - Planning, Regen. & Transp.	Simon Moss	High	Q	136	540	675	185	134	103	100	522	500	↓	✓	The Council Plan Advice and support target for 2024/25 is 500. Quarter 4 2024-25 has seen 100 sessions delivered, 149 less than Quarter 4 2023/24. The total for the year is 522 and is above the annual Council Plan target.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
EC05	Number of engagements with libraries' services which help people learn, acquire new skills or get a job	RE - Culture, Sport & Tourism	Polly Hamilton	High	Q	41,577	93,442	117,594	31,621	33,223	28,746	36,601	130,191	100,000	↑	✔	Council Plan target increased for 2024-25. The cumulative figure for year end is 130,191, service have exceeded the target for year by 30,191 DoT is a seasonal comparison with Quarter 3 2023/24 (against the same point in the previous year).
EC06	Proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council as a percentage of the workforce	ACEX - Organisational Development	Vacant - Head of OD and Change	High	Q	0.6%	0.6%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	1.5%	↓	✖	Compared to Quarter 4 2023-24 performance is lower and 0.9% of live new starter apprenticeships have been created as a percentage of the workforce. There are currently 48 live new starter apprenticeships. A further 24 are required to hit the target. Actions being taken include: - Engagement/recruitment of younger employees continuing through better engagement with schools, colleges and universities - Promoting the role of the Council through attending events, and offering more work placements - Launch of a Careers Hub and Rotherham recruitment campaign to better promote apprenticeships and careers - Learning and Development and HR are working jointly to promote apprenticeships to services to assist with succession planning - Further work is taking place with local universities around Council careers and degree apprenticeships - An apprenticeship group has been formed by Rotherham partner representatives to monitor progress, share approaches and work together where possible to create opportunities.
EC07	Number of online customer transactions	FCS - Customer, Info & Digital	Luke Sayers	High	Q	200,200	185,935	189,171	58,925	51,624	53,764	75,069	239,382	185,400	↑	✔	The annual target for the number of online transactions (185,400) has been met; and exceeded by 29%, with the year-end figure being 239,382. During Quarter 4, there was a signficant increase in self-serve online transactions. Quarter 4 is generally the busiest quarter for online transactions as it usually includes weather related reports such as gritting, road conditions etc. Quarter 4 also includes the peak for garden waste transactions (15,363), with demand for other services also high including 2,668 bulky waste collection requests, 2,558 energy crisis support forms and 2,574 Housing online transactions.

6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

CASE STUDY

Employment Solutions – Recruitment and Networking Event

On 21 March 2025, Employment Solutions held the first of two Recruitment and Networking events aimed at helping Rotherham residents connect with employers and training providers from across the region. These events are designed to highlight the various opportunities available and to introduce attendees to the wide range of support accessible to many individuals in the borough.





The support available covers a range of training opportunities, from mainstreams colleges like Rotherham College, part of the RNN Group, and Northern College in Barnsley, to smaller independent providers such as B2W Group and Street League. The training showcased includes courses tailored to various industries, with some providers focusing on specific sectors. For instance, Rotherham Skills Academy offers unemployed residents the chance to obtain their CSCS card and advance to Boot Camp courses, where they will be connected with employers. Street League provides study programs centred around football and sports, allowing participants to gain functional skills qualifications while engaging in sporting activities. Juniper Training, specialising in apprenticeships training, was also present, adding further variety to the support available.

The March event featured a diverse range of employers actively recruiting, with many reporting that they received applications and CVs they would not have otherwise. Employers ranged from care providers seeking experienced carers or young individuals starting their careers, to various departments in the Council showcasing their services.

Some of the services present included:

- Children and Young People's Services – Early Years were publicising their recruitment campaign to encourage more people to get into childcare and offering tailored packages to support this.
- Facilities Management – Aiming to fill several School Crossing Patrol Warden vacancies, as well as cleaning vacancies across the Council.
- Rotherham Council Fostering Services – Showcasing the benefits and opportunities which fostering can bring.

In addition to Council vacancies, the event featured a variety of external employers such as Henry Boot, Next, the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, and South Yorkshire Police.

Beyond employment and training opportunities, several specialist support providers were present to help attendees overcome personal barriers to employment. These included YWCA, which supports women and their children with housing, relationships and life skills, and Employment is for Everyone, which offers support to neurodiverse residents, helping them build confidence and advocating on their behalf.

The event was a great success, attracting nearly 400 people. The Employment Solutions team received excellent feedback from both returning and new providers. Feedback received is highlighted below:

Pearson Qualifications (employer)

"The job fair was great and really well executed. You did a fantastic job with it all!"

Portland Training (provider)

"Thanks for inviting us to the event it was a great day, and we got a good number of candidates that we are hoping to support with upcoming courses."



6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

CASE STUDY

Opening of eatery at Forge Island

As part of the Council's £47 million development of Forge Island, Rotherham town centre celebrated the opening of Vetro Lounge in May 2025, joining the Arc Cinema and Travelodge.

Forge Island is quickly turning into a popular destination for food and drink. Vetro Lounge offers a laid-back café-bar atmosphere with a diverse menu that includes both vegan and gluten-free options. Sygnature Dish, a new steak and seafood restaurant, set to open in Summer 2025, is run by local entrepreneurs and promises unique, high-quality meals. There are plans for two more restaurants that will further improve the town centre's offer. These new openings are attracting more visitors to the area and boosting confidence in Rotherham's future.

The opening of the Arc Cinema, the Travelodge hotel, and restaurants, such as Vetro Lounge, have boosted the local economy and increased town centre footfall by 10% in 2024. Alongside this, it has also created a number of jobs in construction, hospitality, and retail.

By offering high-quality leisure options, Forge Island encourages residents to spend locally, retaining economic value within Rotherham. The hotel and riverside enhancements position Rotherham as a destination, attracting visitors and supporting the wider South Yorkshire tourism economy.



6.4 THEME 4 – EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Feedback on the new eatery has been overwhelmingly positive in the press and social media:

"I'm so glad this chain has popped up in Rotherham - I think it's just what the town centre and Forge Island needed."

"Vetro lounge has such a friendly atmosphere and the perfect place to go after the cinema. It is a great addition to Forge Island, and I will definitely be returning."

"The outdoor seating area is lovely with views of the new footbridge and river; Forge Island and Vetro Lounge is a valuable addition to the town centre."

Forge Island marks the beginning of extensive regeneration in Rotherham town centre. A major programme of public sector intervention and investment is underway, including the development of new housing and a residential community, the establishment of new services such as a library and market, and enhancements to green spaces and public areas. As the transformation of the town centre builds confidence, private sector investors are increasingly taking the lead in redevelopment, further contributing to the future growth and diversity of the local economy.



6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Our vision is to create a clean and welcoming environment across the borough, and in turn secure our natural environment for the next generation.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• Increasing satisfaction with the cleanliness of the borough • Creating better transport systems for future generations • Reducing the risk and impact of flooding and other environmental emergencies • Contributing to reducing carbon emissions across the borough.	• Ensure our streets are clean by providing an effective response to fly-tipping and littering, and continually improving our approach to street cleaning • To continue to invest in our urban green spaces and country parks, maintaining our four Green Flag accredited parks, whilst aiming for additional accreditations • Complete masterplans for the borough's three country parks, with an ambition to enhance services provided at these parks, whilst improving the appearance, cleanliness and welcome of our green spaces • Work with regional partners to deliver public transport improvements such as a new Tram-Train stop at Magna, as well as longer term aims including a railway station at Waverley and a new mainline station for Rotherham • Develop a new Cycling Strategy and invest in new cycleways across Rotherham • Continue the roll out of public charging points to make electric vehicles a more viable option for residents and visitors • Deliver flood alleviation projects and work with communities and businesses to develop flood resilience measures in the worst-affected areas • Deliver a renewable energy generation project by 2025 • Plant a minimum of 500 new trees every year • Encourage our suppliers to reduce their emissions through implementation of the Council's Social Value Policy • Support residents to access nationally available insulation grants to improve energy efficiency.

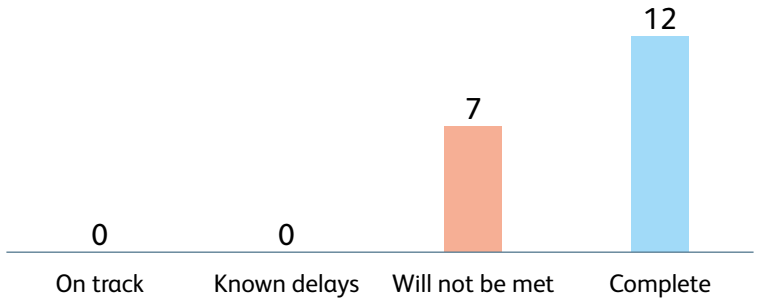
6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

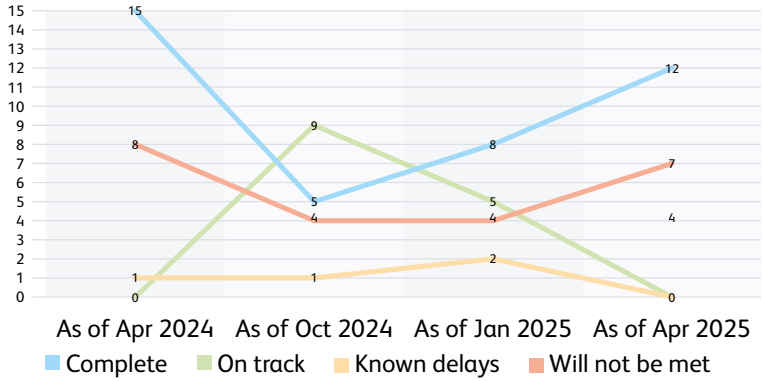
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are nine headline performance measures and 19 priority actions/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status



Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

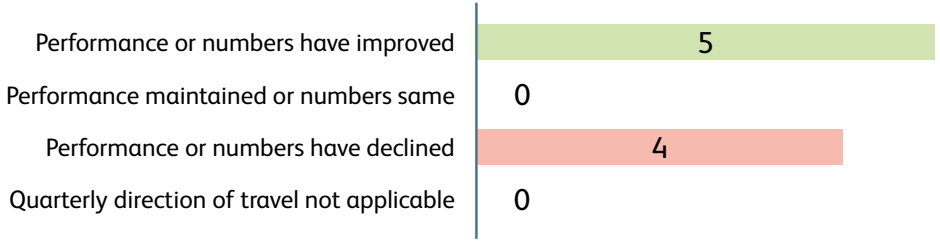


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

This theme aims to create clean and welcoming places across the borough, supporting environmentally friendly activity and initiatives that cut carbon emissions, helping to secure and preserve our natural environment for the next generation. Key areas of progress to deliver on these ambitions are outlined below:

The masterplans at both Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Parks are progressing but remain behind schedule. Work at Rother Valley Country Park commenced in September 2024, with the car park completed in March 2025. The remaining programme is now expected to be completed by November 2025 due to delays caused by the lack of availability of materials. At Thrybergh Country Park, work on the café is scheduled to begin in July 2025, with completion anticipated in Quarter 3 of 2025/26. Changing Places facilities are in place at both parks, supporting the needs of disabled visitors and providing accessible facilities to public places.

Initiatives to increase the cleanliness of the borough are ongoing, with additional cleansing and litter picking both in and outside of Rotherham Town Centre. Between October 2024 – March 2025, there were 69 effective enforcement actions against fly tipping and 4,537 effective enforcement actions for other environmental crime.

Significant progress is being made on the Rotherham Mainline Station project. The Outline Business Case has been completed and was submitted to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Transport in February 2025.

Additionally, major schemes funded through the Transforming Cities programme such as the Link Road and the Park and Ride facility at Parkgate are now complete. The link road opened in December 2024, with the Park and Ride operational from 16 May 2025. Work on the Magna Tram-Train Stop commenced in March, with completion forecast for Winter 2025/26. However, progress at Waverley Station continues to be delayed due to the Barrow Hill Line cancellation. Further discussion proceeds around delivery, and an Outline Business Case will continue to be developed.

Work is continuing to mitigate the risk and impact of flooding within Rotherham and, while some flood defence and mitigation schemes are ready to progress, some continue to face delays. The Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme; Parkgate and Rawmarsh Flood Alleviation Scheme; and Culvert Renewal Progamme have all reached 'shovel ready' status throughout Quarter 3 and 4 but delays have occurred at Catcliffe pumping station alongside both Whiston Brook and Eels Mires Dike flood alleviation scheme. These delays relate to the allocation of funding, however both Catcliffe pumping station, and the Whiston Brook flood alleviation scheme have been progressed to advanced outline designs. It is estimated that the Eel Mires Dike alleviation scheme will progress to full design in Quarter 2 2025/26.

Finally, as part of the Council's actions to reduce carbon emissions across the borough, a trial of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) across ten vehicles ran for six months from October 2023 to April 2024. Results demonstrated a significant reduction in carbon emissions, estimated to be around 90% compared to diesel emissions. Alongside this, a Heat Decarbonisation Plan (HDP) for the Council's corporate estate has now been developed and all scheduled LED lighting upgrades have been completed. The remaining proposed measure, the Riverside House solar canopy works, is facing delays. This is due to more detail design work needing to be completed, but it is estimated that delivery of these works will begin in Quarter 3 2025/26.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

A cleaner, greener local environment					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
5.1	**Increasing satisfaction with the cleanliness of the borough**	Deliver more cleansing in main towns, outside of Rotherham town centre. Including additional litter picking and cleansing activities through an additional day per week of officer time. Each main town will also receive an additional day of mechanical sweeping each week.	Quarter 2	Complete	All revenue investments for the high footfall areas have been completed. Swinton, Maltby, Wath, Dinnington and the Town Centre receive an extra sweep of the high street areas once per week. This has been in place since September 2024. The 'Love Where You Live' works are also progressing as planned.
5.2		Apply for the Green Flag Award for two urban parks and two country parks. Achieve Natural England Accreditation for three country parks: Rother Valley, Thrybergh and Ulley.	Quarter 1	Complete	Four Parks in Rotherham were awarded Green Flag in 2024. These included Ulley Country Park, Rother Valley Country Park and two of our Urban Parks, Clifton and Greasbrough Park. Additionally, Rother Valley, Thrybergh, and Ulley country parks were awarded a Natural England accreditation.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.3		Start redevelopment works at Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Parks, supported by the Levelling-Up Fund.	Quarter 2	Will not be met	Programme is due to be complete by November 2025. Started work at Rother Valley Country Park in September 2024, the car park was completed in March 2025. Work at Thrybergh Country Park café is scheduled to begin in July 2025, with completion envisaged in Quarter 3 2025/26 after a 16-week programme. This will ensure alignment with other capital works (new path around the reservoir, along with the new play facilities). Changing Places facilities are now in place in both parks.
5.4	**Creating better transport systems for future generations**	Progress the delivery of the Transforming Cities Fund and the Active Travel Fund programmes, including the complete construction of the Sheffield Road Cycleway.	Quarter 2	Complete	Practical competition was achieved in July 2024.
5.5		Complete structural repair of the Rotherham Council funded Centenary Way Viaduct remedial works scheme.	Quarter 4	Complete	Project achieved practical completion on 9 November 2024. Contractors have now left the site, and the bridge is now open to full working order. There remain several post completion tasks including, the Road Safety Audit stage 3, residual sign clearance and continued monitoring of the design performance.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.6		Complete submission of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for Rotherham Mainline Station.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Outline Business Case document is complete and was submitted to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Transport in February 2025.
5.7		Work with regional partners, including South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA), Transport for the North and Network Rail to deliver the Council's Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) programme funding public transport improvements. This includes starting the construction of a new Tram-Train stop at Magna and completing the Parkgate Link Road and Park and Ride TCF Scheme. Work with SYMCA to progress the Outline Business Case for the new railway station at Waverley.	Quarter 4	Complete	Work has continued with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority regarding the development of the Transforming Cities Fund programme, including supporting and aligning the Magna Tram Train project with the wider works in the Templeborough area. The Parkgate Link Road opened in December 2024 and the Park and Ride operational from 16 May 2025. Works on the Magna Tram Train project commenced in March 2025, with completion forecast in the Winter 2025/26. Potential risk is posed to the plans at Waverley Station due to the Barrow Hill Line cancellation. However, the Outline Business Case submission is now forecast for August 2025.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.8 (a)	**Reducing the risk and impact of flooding and other environmental emergencies**	Reach 'shovel ready' status across the following flood defence/mitigation schemes: a) Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme.	Quarter 4	Complete	There are ten individual schemes included in the Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme. All of the schemes have been progressed to Approval in Principle. Nine of the schemes have been paused until further funding is available for delivery. The proposed flood alleviation scheme at Kilnhurst, which is one of the ten schemes, will still be progressed to full design in 2025/26 with possible future delivery with identified allocated funding. One phase will be taken forward in the new Year Ahead Delivery Plan and is forecast to be completed in Quarter 2 2025/26.
5.8 (b)		b) Parkgate & Rawmarsh Flood Alleviation Scheme.	Quarter 4	Complete	Two out of three phases have been paused at Approval in Principle until funding has been sought and allocated for construction. One phase is being continued through to detailed design and has allocated funding for future delivery.
5.8 (c)		c) Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The advanced outline designs (Approval in Principle) are complete for this scheme, and is currently being progressed to full design, which is estimated to be complete in Quarter 2 2025/26.
5.8 (d)		d) Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	This scheme will be taken forward in the new Year Ahead Delivery Plan. The full design includes the acquisition of land and is forecast to be completed in Quarter 2 2025/26.
5.8 (e)		e) Catcliffe Pumping Station.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The advanced outline designs (Approval in Principle) are complete for this scheme. It is anticipated that full designs will be completed in Quarter 1 2025/26 and achieve 'shovel ready' status in Quarter 2 2025/26.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.8 (f)		f) Culvert Renewal Programme.	Quarter 4	Complete	The designs for the Culvert Replacement Programme are complete and funding is currently being sought for construction.
5.9		Engage with affected communities, following the flooding caused by Storm Babet in October 2023 to provide the outcome of the formal Section 19 investigation.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Section 19 – Storm Babet report was published in August 2024. All residents and businesses affected by flooding received a hand delivered letter detailing the report and three drop-in sessions were delivered in September 2024 to engage with the residents and businesses affected.
5.10 (a)	**Contributing to reducing carbon emissions across the borough**	Delivery of the Fleet Replacement Plan including: a) Conclude the review and purchasing of vehicles included within the Fleet Replacement Plan, which will reduce carbon emissions by ensuring vehicles meet modern standards as well as providing electric or hybrid vehicles wherever possible.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Out of 60 planned vehicles, 23 have been awarded and will be delivered by the end of Quarter 3 2024/25. 30 vehicles are still pending specifications. All 135 vehicles will help reduce carbon emissions. Efforts are underway to finalise the remaining business cases and procurement packs by September 2025, causing a slight delay.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.10 (b)		b) Conclude a trial of HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) and consider future roll out to reduce carbon emissions.	Quarter 4	Complete	The trial ran for six months, from October 2023 – April 2024. Results show a significant carbon reduction, estimated to be around 90% compared to diesel emissions. Use of this fuel type requires an increase in revenue costs; therefore, consideration is needed prior to implementation.
5.11		Develop a Heat Decarbonisation Plan (HDP) and deliver actions to decarbonise the Council's estate, including: • Complete Riverside House Solar (PV) canopy works. • Complete LED lighting upgrades and energy conservation measures (insulation, draft sealing etc) to the Civic Theatre, Museum and Town Hall and upgrade Building Energy Management Systems.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	A Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the Council's corporate estate has now been produced. All programmed LED lighting upgrades have now been completed. Riverside House solar canopy works are currently awaiting a final ground survey but have been delayed due to design work. Work estimated to begin Quarter 3 2025/26.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

5.12		Work with local communities to change residents' behaviours to reduce climate change by delivering 10 engagement events across the borough.	Quarter 4	Complete	The Community Energy Officer has delivered 23 community engagement events across the borough.
5.13		Identify suitable site(s) to develop low carbon energy generation plans and complete a feasibility study for the delivery of the sites as part of the Council's commitment to deliver a renewable energy project.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Following assessments, no council sites are currently considered to be suitable for low carbon energy generation. A wider assessment of land throughout the borough is currently being undertaken. Uncertainty over completion timelines, completion is dependent on the availability and suitability of local land.

Return to contents

A Cleaner, Greener Local Environment

Outcomes

- Increasing satisfaction with the cleanliness of the borough
- Creating better transport systems for future generations
- Reducing the risk and impact of flooding and other environmental emergencies
- Contributing to reducing carbon emissions across the borough

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
EN01a	Fly tipping and environmental crime: a) Effective enforcement actions; fly-tipping	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	61	45	51	16	18	19	16	69	60	↑	✔	Compared to Quarter 4 2023-24 performance is lower and 0.9% of live new starter apprenticeships have been created as a percentage of the workforce. There are currently AB5248 live new starter apprenticeships. A further 24 are required to hit the target. Actions being taken include: - Engagement/recruitment of younger employees continuing through better engagement with schools, colleges and universities - Promoting the role of the Council through attending events, and offering more work placements - Launch of a Careers Hub and Rotherham recruitment campaign to better promote apprenticeships and careers - Learning and Development and HR are working jointly to promote apprenticeships to services to assist with succession planning - Further work is taking place with local universities around Council careers and degree apprenticeships - An apprenticeship group has been formed by Rotherham partner representatives to monitor progress, share approaches and work together where possible to create opportunities.
EN01b	Fly tipping and environmental crime: b) Effective enforcement actions; other environmental crime (cumulative)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	780	1245	1463	1099	1397	816	1225	4537	1,500	↑	✔	WISE have been extremely proactive since taking over the contract and have had positive interactions with member of the public whilst carrying out their patrols. There has been 1,225 fines issued during Quarter 4, which is a 67% increase when compared with Quarter 3. Year end total of 4,537 against a Council Plan target of 1,500 (3,037 over the target).
EN02	Proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting)	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	High	Q	38.8%	38.5%	41.6%	42.2%	40.8%	33.2%	32.1%	37.1%	45%	↓	✖	Data is a provisional, the finalised recycling rate figures are done 3-months in arrears in order for the service to collate the data/figures. Year-end figure for 2024/25 is 37.1% against a Council Plan target of >45%. Quarter 4 saw a 1.1% decrease when compared against Quarter 3 and 2% less than the same point in 2023/24. The kerbside recycling is lower due to vastly reduced amounts of garden waste and increased residual waste during Quarter 4. NB -This is just % of kerbside waste that is collected for recycling, not overall recycling rates, so is purely driven by what residents put in their bins.
EN03	Number of official complaints relating to: a) street cleaning b) grounds maintenance c) waste management	RE - Comm. Safety & Street Scene	Sam Barstow	Low	Q	a) Street Cleansing 5 b) Grounds Maintenance 17 c) Waste Management 143 Total Complaints= 165	a) Street Cleansing 20 b) Grounds Maintenance 16 c) Waste Management 230 Totals Complaints = 266	192	a) Street Cleansing 1 b) Grounds Maintenance 2 c) Waste Management 60 Total Complaints = 63	a) Street Cleansing 0 b) Grounds Maintenance 4 c) Waste Management 72 Total Complaints = 76	a) Street Cleansing 0 b) Grounds Maintenance 1 c) Waste Management 56 Total Complaints = 57	a) Street Cleansing 2 b) Grounds Maintenance 1 c) Waste Management 58 Total Complaints = 61	a) Street Cleansing 3 b) Grounds Maintenance 8 c) Waste Management 246 Total Complaints = 257	190	↓	✖	Quarter 4 has seen an increase in the number of complaints received when compared to the previous quarter, however remains stable when compared with Quarter 4 2023/24. The majority of complaints received in waste were around repeat missed collections and not returning bins correctly. The service has produced 2 memos to all staff about returning bins and included this in winter training. Coaching documents go to all crews who generate a complaint.

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
EN04a	Overall carbon dioxide emission levels for the Council: a) Operational property portfolio decarbonisation, solar PV and other energy generation, street lighting.	FCS - Property and Facilities	Kevin Fisher (Temporarily transferred from R&E)	Low	A	b. Mains Electricity 1,875.30 c. Natural Gas Heating 1,698.49 d. Streetlighting 1,383.63 f. Onsite Generation 4.09 Total = 4,961.51 %Annual Change = -4.15%	b. Mains Electricity 1,782.05 c. Natural Gas Heating 1,703.36 d. Streetlighting 1,266.74 f. Onsite Generation 0.28 Total = 4,752.43 %Annual Change = -4.21%	Latest data for 2023/24 published Q2 2023/24: b. Mains Electricity 1,782.05 c. Natural Gas Heating 1,703.36 d. Streetlighting 1,266.74 f. Onsite Generation 0.28 Total = 4,752.43 %Annual Change = -4.21%	Not Available	Latest data for 2023/24 published Q2 2024/2025(tCO2e) b. Mains Electricity 1,947.58 c. Natural Gas Heating 1,675.94 d. Streetlighting 1,355.64 f. Onsite Generation 0.00 Total = 4,979.15 %Annual Change = 4.77%	Not Available	Not Available	4.77%	10% reduction by 2024	↓	✗	The status and DoT are based on the latest data for 2023/24, published Quarter 2 2024/25. An increase in carbon emissions from the Council buildings has been observed throughout 23/24 period. This is due to an increase in the carbon intensity (i.e. the amount of carbon released per unit) of electricity by 7% during this time. This is linked to the use of carbon based fuel to generate electricity at source and delays in the decarbonisation of the grid as well as a slight increased electricity demand across the Council's operational estate following the return to standardised office attendance post COVID-19. There has been a slight downturn in the use of gas during time period driven partly by warmer external temperatures.
EN04b	Overall carbon dioxide emission levels for the Council: b) Corporate fleet, grey fleet, EV charging infrastructure.	FCS - Property and Facilities	Kevin Fisher (Temporarily transferred from R&E)	Low	A	a. Corporate Fleet 2,411.77 e. Grey Fleet 272.92 g. EV Charging 0.56 Total =2,685.25 %Annual Change = 1.59%	a. Corporate Fleet 2,390.29 e. Grey Fleet 381.31 g. EV Charging 0.47 Total = 2,772.07 %Annual Change = 3.23%	Latest data for 2022/23 published Q2 2023/24: a. Corporate Fleet 2,390.29 e. Grey Fleet 381.31 g. EV Charging 0.47 Total = 2,772.07 %Annual Change = 3.23%	Not Available	Latest data for 2023/24 published Q2 2024/25: a. Corporate Fleet 2298.59 e. Grey Fleet 396.09 g. EV Charging 2.46 Total = 2,772.07 %Annual Change = -2.70%	Not Available	Not Available	-2.70%	10% reduction by 2024	↑	✗	Greenhouse gas emissions from EN04b sources have increased over the last three financial years, driven by increasing business mileage since the end of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. Data for 2023/24 financial year indicates a decrease of 2.70% . This carbon saving was delivered by a 7-month trial of HVO biodiesel in 10 corporate fleet vehicles. In 2023/24, diesel-fuelled corporate fleet vehicles and mains gas heating comprised 52.6% and 38.4% of greenhouse gas emissions from non-electric sources within scope of Council Plan performance measures, respectively. Heat decarbonisation works have been delayed by issues with the procurement of a low carbon heat network connection at five of the Council's operational sites in the town centre. An initial carbon saving might have been anticipated in 2024/25, however there is now no realistic opportunity to connect to a heat network before 2027. A timelier cut in greenhouse gas emissions may be available from the Council's corporate fleet. A seven-month trial of HVO biodiesel in 10 vehicles has already delivered a carbon saving of ca. 80 tCO2e, in 2023/24. HVO has continued to be used in those vehicles since the trial ended, implying an annualised carbon saving of ca. 137 tCO2e, in 2024/25. Extending deployment of HVO to all the Council's diesel-fuelled, corporate fleet vehicles could cut emissions by up to 2,197 tCO2e per annum: equivalent to a 29% carbon saving, in 2023/24. The status and DoT are based on the latest data for 2023/24 published Quarter 2 2024/25.
EN05a	Number of trees planted by the Council: a) Number of hectares of land for woodland creation	RE - Culture, Sport & Tourism	Polly Hamilton	High	A	9.4	21	1	0	0	0.5	0.87	1.37	5	↑	✗	Measure description amended for 2024-25 to ensure this is defined as the number of hectares of land given to woodland creation. This does not include urban trees. Planting season begins in Quarter 3. 1.37 hectares of woodland were created in 2024/25. There is difficulty finding suitable land. The original sites identified when the planting started have been delivered and so service are identifying new sites and trying to engage more private landowners. It should also be noted that the Trees Service have created 8,693 metres of new hedgerow in 2024/25 which is an important habitat.
EN05b	Number of trees planted by the Council b) Number of trees	RE - Culture, Sport & Tourism	Polly Hamilton	High	A	22,139	2,397	964	0	0	419	178	597	500	↓	✓	The measure on trees planted and woodland creation has seen a total of 597 trees planted in 2024/25. The annual target for trees is 500 in urban areas. In total across Rotherham and including urban planting, 10,827 trees were planted in 2024/25.
EN06	Proportion of council housing with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated C and above	ACHPH - Housing	James Clark	High	A	46.48% (Oct'21)	50.9%	53.7%	54.7%	56.9%	57.4%	58.0%	58.0%	50.0%	↑	✓	At Quarter 4 Council housing with an energy performance certificate (EPC) rated C and above was 58% and has therefore met the target. In summary, at year end 2024/25, 11,570 of 19,941 council housing properties were rated C and above.

6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

CASE STUDY

Mainline Station Outline Business Case

The Rotherham Gateway will transform our the town's connectivity, opening up faster and easier links to the whole of the UK. It will put Rotherham firmly on the map, making it a more attractive place to live, work, and invest.

Rotherham Gateway is a major priority in the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority's Plan for Good Growth and a key mission for the Council, incorporating both rail and Tram Train services and reintroducing mainline trains to Rotherham for the first time since the 1980s.

Located in Rotherham's industrial heartland just north of the town centre at Parkgate, the Gateway will be an anchor for urban regeneration which unlocks local, regional and national benefits for everybody. It will significantly improve local connectivity and town centre access and will complement additional sustainable transport investments planned for Rotherham.

The Gateways location proximity to key housing and employment hubs in Eastwood, proposed Bassingthorpe Farm, and Parkgate Retail Park, as well as the wider South Yorkshire Investment Zone, makes it the ideal choice to drive Rotherham's long-term growth.



6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

This project is at the heart of Rotherham's plans for the wider regeneration of the area, transforming the town into a modern northern economy. The Gateway, which is expected to open in 2031, will drive jobs and investment into the town which will benefit the whole borough as follows:

- Up to 1,000 additional high value jobs in companies close to local residents
- People will enjoy faster journeys across the region and beyond
- £52 million improvement in local economy from new employment prospects
- Rotherham Gateway is close enough to support Rotherham town centre
- 3,000 new homes – Bassingthorpe Farm and surrounding sites will be able to deliver new homes
- Attract talent, boosting business confidence to hire and raising living standards
- The journey to Leeds will be half an hour faster, helping people work and play
- New advanced manufacturing and business space will be unlocked.

Furthermore, the project will support the creation of 8,000 jobs and assist in securing £1.2 billion in private investment across the wider South Yorkshire Investment Zone of Rotherham, Sheffield, Doncaster and Barnsley.

The Outline Business Case document was submitted to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Transport in February 2025.



6.5 THEME 5 – A CLEANER, GREENER LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

CASE STUDY

Parkgate Link Road



The Parkgate link road scheme is a new 800 metre road designed to reduce traffic around the Parkgate Shopping Centre. The road, which runs from Stadium Way and Stonerow Way and ends at a new roundabout junction with Aldwarke Lane opened in December 2024. It provides an alternative access route and has been designed to relieve existing congestion on the A633 around Taylors Lane Roundabout and improve traffic flow and bus journey times.

The £11.5 million scheme is part of a £12.8 mllion package of investment which has mostly been funded by the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA), which also includes a new 300-space Park and Ride facility for the Parkgate Tram Train terminus, including electric vehicle bays. Operational since 16 May 2025, people can park their bike or car at the Park and Ride for free and catch the tram to Rotherham town centre, Meadowhall South, Valley Centertainment, Sheffield Arena and Sheffield city centre.

Cllr Chris Read, Leader of Rotherham Council, said: *"We're delighted that the new link road opened in time for Christmas. I'm sure it's welcome news for shoppers as they head out over the festive season.*

"As well as improving access to the country's first tram-train, the new access road will provide some welcome relief on the congested local road network. It's another great example of the investment we've secured for the borough.



6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

As a Council we have an important part to play in addressing the challenges faced and achieving better outcomes for the people of Rotherham. Our vision is to work with communities to deliver responsive and modern services that are easily accessible to all.

Outcomes – our ambition	How we will get there
• Effective customer services – residents know we mean what we say, are kept informed and can access the services they need in the way that suits them • Engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who feel empowered to adopt new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers • Sound financial management and governance arrangements • Effective leadership, working with our partners to achieve better outcomes across the whole borough.	• Work with services, partners and communities to promote equality, celebrate diversity and ensure fairness for everyone • Communicate and engage with residents so that they feel informed about council services and how to access these • Work in an efficient, open, transparent and accountable way, in partnership with key stakeholders • Work to improve customer satisfaction, including by developing and implementing a new set of customer service standards.

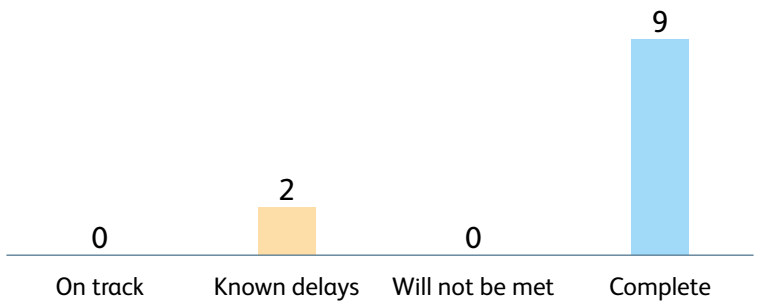
6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

HEADLINES – EVIDENCING OUR PROGRESS

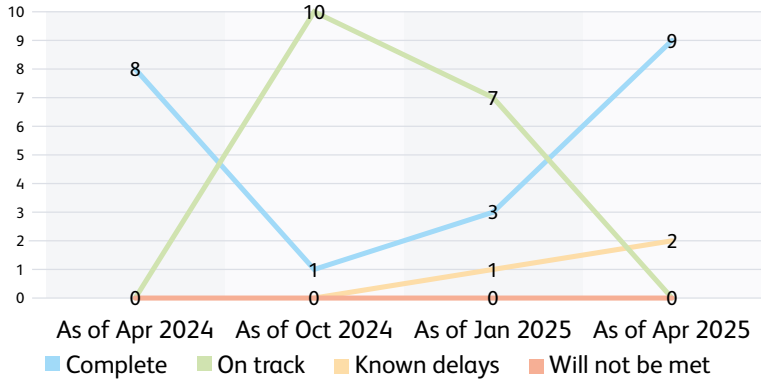
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 11 headline performance measures and 11 priority action/ milestones contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress.

YEAR AHEAD ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions Status

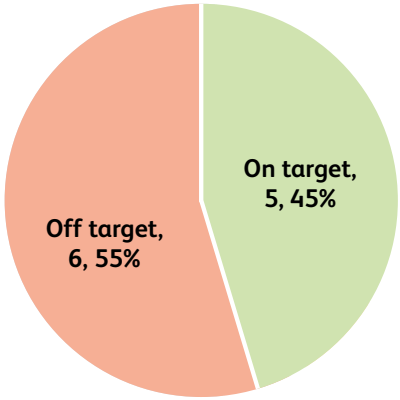


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend

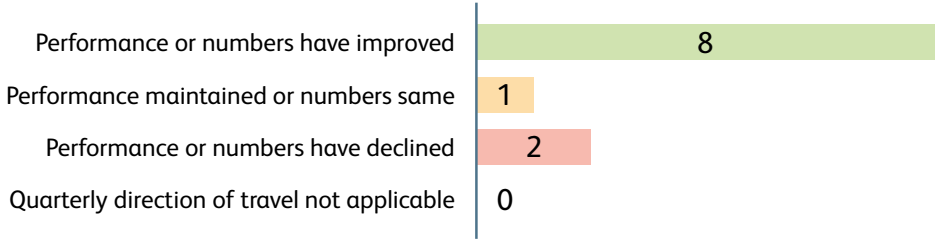


PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures Status



Performance Measures Direction of Travel



6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

NARRATIVE – THE BIGGER PICTURE

The One Council theme is focussed around working with communities to achieve the Council's vision and deliver responsive and modern services which are accessible to all.

Work continues to enhance the Council's commitment to deliver effective customer services. The website is being continually reviewed to ensure it is accessible to as many customers as possible and the range of self-serve web forms has been expanded with over 30 additional digital forms created in the final three months of the year alone (see later case study). For customers who wish to access services face to face, the model was reviewed in September 2024 and new signage has been placed in Riverside House and greater emphasis put on meet and greet delivery from staff, to direct customers more quickly to the right person or place. For those customers who wish to make contact by telephone, call wait times in the Corporate Contact Centre have remained well ahead of the target this year. Wait times dropped to an average of two minutes and 47 seconds over the year and the Contact Centre's ability to answer more calls more quickly has continued to be supported by the call back facility.

The 2024 Resident Satisfaction Survey highlighted that there has been a slight improvement in the proportion of residents who think that the Council acts on the concerns of residents with 52% of residents currently thinking concerns are acted on, compared to 51% last year. These figures are well above the national average for all local authorities which currently stands at 47%. Conversely, the residents who feel that the Council keeps them informed has fallen with only 45% saying that the Council does this "very well" or "fairly well" compared to 50% last year.

Performance in responding to complaints within timescales has improved, compared to the previous year with 83% now being answered in the appropriate timescale as opposed to 82% in 2023/24. Low performance in quarters one and three of the year have held the overall position back. Performance is short of the Council Plan target by 2% but is currently improving.

The Council launched a new set of values in June 2024 (as reported in the mid-year update). These values have also been embedded into role profiles, the recruitment process and are embedded in a toolkit for managers as well as the objective-setting conversations for the year ahead. Following the last Employee Opinion Survey, each directorate has created a set of priorities with employees that are now being put into practice.

One of the Council's key workforce activities is to become an employer of choice and work is continuing to review how the Council attracts, recruits, develops and retains staff from different sections of the community. Improvements continue to be made to employee experience. Each directorate is continuing to implement their action plans and work is ongoing to streamline and improve each stage of the employee lifecycle, with significant improvements made in wellbeing, learning and development, and attraction strategies including apprenticeships and early careers. Progress is being made towards achieving all the targets set around the proportion of its workforce that is made up of disabled employees, employees of ethnic minority groups and young employees. The sickness absence performance measure missed its target but improved over the year. Additional support continues to be provided to managers including absence management clinics and appropriate absence data and information. Managing attendance remains

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

a standing agenda item at Workforce Strategy Board and regular deep dives are undertaken to identify common themes and share best practice.

Work to develop a new Council Plan has now been completed, following a public consultation launched on 5 September 2024 to get residents' views on the Council's priorities. The new Plan covers the period 2025 to 2030 and was approved by Council on 21 May 2025. Alongside this, the revision of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy is progressing, although completion has been slightly delayed due to scheduling challenges.

Meetings of the Strategic Partnership Group are continuing to be facilitated, with these taking place in June and October 2024 and February and April 2025. The Rotherham Together Partnership hosted its biannual showcases in September 2024 at the recently opened Arc Cinema at Forge Island and in April 2025 at Maltby Grammar School.

The Member Development Programme commenced in September 2024 and, as well as bespoke topics, Members are provided with access to development opportunities facilitated by the Local Government Association and other providers. Members have also been provided with access to the Council's E-Learning Portal to further develop knowledge and skills and to support the creation of a personal development portfolio.

In addition, the Member Survey went live on 25 November 2024 until the end of January 2025, providing an opportunity for Members to provide feedback on experiences during the Induction period following the May 2024 all out Elections. 25 out of 59 Members responded and responses were presented to the Member & Democratic Panel on 4 March 2025. Responses will be utilised to aid planning for All Out Elections in May 2028.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN TRACKER

One Council					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
6.1	**Effective customer services – residents know we mean what we say, are kept informed and can access the services they need in the way that suits them.**	Enhance and improve the Council website to ensure information is accessible, accurate and customer focused and increase the number of services available online. *(Links to LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 6).*	Quarter 4	Complete	Quarter 4 2024/25 saw 75,069 online 'transactions' completed between 1 January and 31 March 2025. A range of self-serve web forms expanded – over 30 additional digital forms created.
6.2		Review the face-to-face customer experience at Riverside House to ensure all services are delivered consistently through a new agreed model which can then be used across all Rotherham Council sites in the future. *(Links to LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 6).*	Quarter 4	Complete	During Quarter 4 2024/25, out of date notices, signage, leaflets and posters have been removed, the use of meeting room effectiveness has been reviewed, and more emphasis has been placed on meet and greet delivery from staff to direct customers more quickly to the right person or place.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

6.3		Make it easier for customers to report and receive feedback on their queries and improve the accessibility of community safety and street scene services. This will include a review of website information, ensuring webforms are provided for each service and continuing to introduce new IT systems.	Quarter 4	Known delays	This project has been delayed due to market feedback and a need to repeat the procurement process. The procurement process closed in mid-May with an update to follow.
6.4	**Engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who feel empowered to adopt new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers**	Re-launch the Council's values to underpin employee working practices.	Quarter 1	Complete	The values were co-produced with staff to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to participate. The engagement opportunities were targeted at staff who take part in the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Staff Networks. The range of engagement approaches such as an online survey, in-person focus groups in schools, depots and council locations meant we reached a more diverse group of employees.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

6.5		Deliver improvements in response to the Employee Opinion Survey 2023 results. *(Links to LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 1).*	Quarter 4	Complete	Improvements continue to be made to employee experience; Each directorate is continuing to implement their action plans, as well as a full review of the employee lifecycle to identify organisation wide opportunities for improvements. Work is ongoing to streamline and improve each stage of the employee lifecycle, with significant improvements made in wellbeing, learning and development, and attraction strategies including apprenticeships and early careers. Whilst further work is required to launch a robust and meaningful Pulse Survey, the range of employee engagement channels utilised continues to inform progress against priority areas.
6.6		Launch programme to showcase Rotherham Council work experience, supported internships, apprentices and graduate schemes to attract more diverse candidates.	Quarter 3	Complete	Attendance at various careers fairs, spotlight events and school activities with students has taken place to further promote Rotherham Council as an Employer of Choice. The early careers hub was launched in December 2024, showcasing the entry routes into Rotherham Council.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

6.7		Commission and deliver the first cohort of a learning and development programme that will help embed a strength based-working approach across the Council's workforce and partners: • Level 2 – Enhanced Awareness • Level 3 – Practitioner *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 6).*	Quarter 3	Complete	The first cohort of a learning and development programme to embed a strengths-based working approach across the Council and partners ran from October to December 2024. A total of 119 participants from various services attended, with positive feedback on both training levels.
6.8	**Effective leadership, working with our partners to achieve better outcomes across the whole borough**	Develop a new Council Plan for 2025, including a Performance Management Framework and Communications Plan to support delivery. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendations 1 and 13).*	Quarter 4	Complete	Work to develop a new Council Plan has concluded. A public consultation launched on 5 September 2024 to get residents' views on the Council's priorities. The consultation survey closed on 31 October 2024, and the results have been analysed, for publication alongside the new plan. The new Council Plan was considered by Cabinet in May 2025 and then Council, prior to coming into effect.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

6.9		Work with partners to promote the Rotherham Plan key successes and achievements, through: • Delivery of two newsletters to residents • Facilitation of quarterly Strategic Partnership Group meetings • Delivery of two stakeholder events to promote progress and collaborative working across agencies. *(LGA Corporate Peer Challenge action in response to recommendation 2).*	Quarter 4	Complete	The latest partnership newsletter for residents was finalised and distributed in late 2024. It highlighted the cinema opening and Children's Capital of Culture, together with information on health and wellbeing and community safety initiatives. Meetings of the Strategic Partnership Group have been held quarterly, with the most recent meetings taking place on the 24 February and 28 April 2025. A showcase event was held at Arc Cinema in September 2024. The final showcase event of 2024/25 was held on 30 April 2025 at Maltby Grammar School Buisiness Hub.
6.10		Refresh of Rotherham's Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2025–30. *(Also links to people are safe, healthy and live well theme).*	Quarter 4	Known delays	The development session for the Health and Wellbeing strategy has been moved from the original date in January due to availability issues. The organisation of this session has proved to be challenging as it requires attendance from leaders from Rotherham's health and wellbeing sector.

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

6.11		Implement both the Member Induction and Development Programmes to support new Members and ensure they can conduct both their Community Leadership and Town Hall roles.	Quarter 4	Complete	The Member Development Programme commenced in September 2024 and provides ongoing opportunities for Member Development across a range of topics including the 'Need to Know' Sessions e.g. Code of Conduct, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, CCE/ CSE. Members are also provided with access to development opportunities facilitated by the Local Government Association and other providers. Members have been provided with access to the Council's E-Learning Portal to further develop knowledge and skills and to support the creation of a personal development portfolio.

One Council

Outcomes

- Effective customer services – residents know we mean what we say, are kept informed and can access the services they need in the way that suits them
- Engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who feel empowered to adopt new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers
- Sound financial management and governance arrangements
- Effective leadership, working with our partners to achieve better outcomes across the whole borough

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Year end	TARGET			
OC01	Proportion of complaints closed within timescales	ACEX - Policy, Perf & Intell.	Fiona Boden	High	Q	85%	85%	82%	79%	87%	75%	80%	83%	85%	↑	✗	Performance improved in Quarter 4 (80%) in comparison to Quarter 3 (75%) 2024-25 and year to date (83%). This is a slight improvement on 2023-24 (82%). The year-end figure of 83%, is 2% below Council Plan target. The Corporate Complaints Team continue to target services where there are performance issues to improve the number of complaints responded to in timescales.
OC02a	Satisfaction: a) The proportion of residents who feel that the Council keeps them informed	ACEX - Comms. & Marketing	Alexandra Hanna	High	A	50%	48%	50%	Not Available	45%	Not Available	Not Available	45%	>50%	↓	✗	The annual Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2024. 45% of Rotherham respondents said that the Council keeps residents 'very well' or 'fairly well' informed about the services and benefits it provides. This is below the Council Plan target of 50%, lower than the most recent national result (52%) and below the average percentage across all Rotherham surveys (50%). Younger respondents (aged 18-24) and respondents aged 65+ were the cohorts most likely to think that the Council keeps residents well informed. The next survey will take place around June 2025.
OC02b	b) To what extent do you think that the Council acts on the concerns of local residents	ACEX - ACEX	Alexandra Hanna	High	A	48%	42%	51%	Not Available	52%	Not Available	Not Available	52%	>48%	↑	✔	52% of respondents in Rotherham answered positively when asked about the extent to which the Council acts on the concerns of residents (i.e. 'a great deal' or 'a fair amount'). This is the highest response across all surveys and better than the national result (47%). This is also above the Council Plan target of 48%. Respondents aged 25-34 were most likely to think that the Council acts on the concerns of local residents (60% responded positively) whilst those aged 55-64 were least likely to have this view. The next survey will take place around June 2025.
OC03	Average customer wait time to corporate contact centre (in minutes)	FCS - Customer, Info & Digital	Luke Sayers	Low	Q	Not available - New measure for 22/23	6 mins 8 secs	3 mins 7 secs	3 mins 47 secs	2 mins 29 secs	1 min 25 secs	3 mins 30 secs	2 mins 47 secs	4 (Quarterly target)	↑	✔	The average call wait time target for 2024/25 has been reduced to 4 mins. The target has been been achieved in both Quarter 1 (3 mins 30 secs) and Quarter 4 (2 mins 47 secs), meaning that the target has been met throughout the year. Collectively, the call demand across Quarters 1, 2 and 3 is similar to that of 2023/24. The call back service remains popular, allowing customers to avoid waiting in the queue during particularly busy periods.

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Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25 QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	2024/25 QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	2024/25 QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	2024/25 QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	2024/25 Year end	2024/25 TARGET	Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
OC04	Number of council working days lost to sickness per full time equivalent post	ACEX - HR	Lynsey Linton	Low	Q	13.57	12.79	13.30	13.26	12.91	12.56	12.58	12.83	10.30	↑	✗	The 10.3 days lost per FTE target is based on benchmarking by the CIPD of public sector organisations with over 5000 employees, reflecting absence levels in similar sized organisations in the public sector. Sickness absence levels have increased in Quarter 4 2024-25 to 12.58, compared to 12.56 in Quarter 3 2024-25. The year-end figure is 12.83 against a Council Plan target of 10.3. Additional support continues to be provided to managers including: - Absence management clinics in place to advise and upskill managers - Absence data and information reports are being shared with senior management to ensure effective oversight - Development of Health and Wellbeing intranet pages - Transfer of Health and Safety to the HR Service to ensure holistic health, safety and wellbeing intervention and action planning - Managing attendance remains a standing agenda item at Workforce Strategy Board and regular deep dives are undertaken to identify common themes and shared practices.
OC05	The proportion of completed annual staff performance development reviews	ACEX - Organisational Development	Vacant - Head of OD and Change	High	Q	78.6%	96.5%	96.3%	0.5%	17.2%	41.7%	99.2%	99.2%	95%	↑	✔	Performance indicates 99.2% of staff have had a My Year Ahead Plan, against an end of year target of 95%. The new My Year Ahead Plan approach to performance and development reviews (PDRs) has been rolled out for 2024/25. The new approach includes a rolling timescale, which means that all employees must have a complete PDR within a 12 month timeframe.
OC06a	Diverse workforce: a) Overall proportion of disabled employees	ACEX - HR	Lynsey Linton	Rep. of borough	Q	9.3%	9.7%	10.2%	10.2%	10.5%	10.5%	10.6%	10.6%	9%	↑	✔	10.6% of the Council's workforce are disabled, against a target of 9%. The Workforce Plan sets out key activity to become an employer of choice, including a review of how the Council attracts, recruits, develops and retains staff from different sections of the community. Latest Census benchmarking data to be used for future target setting: - Disability – these figures relate to the total borough population – 21.1% disabled under the Equalities Act, 78.9% not disabled under the Equalities Act. If the 21.1% is broken down further then 9.8% are limited a lot and 11.3% limited a little.
OC06b	b) Overall proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic employees	ACEX - HR	Lynsey Linton	Rep. of borough	Q	4.7%	4.5%	4.7%	5.0%	5.2%	5.2%	5.6%	5.6%	6.3%	↑	✗	The proportion of black, Asian and minority ethnic employees has increased to 5.6% in Quarter 4 2024-25. The is below the Council Plan target of 6.3%. The Workforce Plan sets out a review of how the Council attracts, recruits, develops, and retains staff from different sections of the community Senior Community Engagement Officer post established, which enhances our engagement with communities. The BME network helps to provide knowledge on how the Council can promote being an inclusive employer, alongside other insights on attracting applicants. A dedicated action plan has been developed in response to maximising the impact of the national local government recruitment campaign which includes key actions to support reflecting our communities. Latest Census benchmarking data to be used for future target setting: - Ethnicity – these figures relate to the total borough population – under the high-level categories - 91% white and 9% non-white, however if broken down further then the population is 88.3% white/British and 11.7% minority ethnicities (including white minorities e.g. Roma/Irish)

Ref	Key Performance Indicators	LEAD SERVICE	LEAD OFFICER	Good is?	Qtrly or Annual?	2021/22 (Yr End)	2022/23 (Yr End)	2023/24 (Yr End)	2024/25						Direction of travel	Progress against target	Notes
									QTR 1 (Apr-Jun)	QTR 2 (Jul-Sep)	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec)	QTR 4 (Jan-Mar)	Year end	TARGET			
OC06c	c) Proportion of workforce under 25	ACEX - HR	Lynsey Linton	Rep. of borough	Q	4.2%	2.9%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	3.0%	3.4%	3.4%	4.6%	→	✗	The proportion of the workforce under 25 at Quarter 4 2024-25 is 3.4%, against a target of 4.6%. This is the same as the year-end figure for 2023-24. Actions being taken include: -The Workforce Plan outlines the Council's strategies for attracting, recruiting, developing, and retaining staff from diverse community sections. -The appointment of a Senior Community Engagement Officer has significantly enhanced engagement with young people across the borough. -Efforts are underway to strengthen partnerships with local universities and colleges, actively promoting careers in local government and specifically in Rotherham. Collaborations with 12 secondary schools, 7 colleges, and 3 universities are being developed to create early career pathways. - The Children's Capital of Culture initiative has provided over 400 volunteering opportunities and is hosting funded traineeships as part of the programme. -Additionally, six new graduates joined in September 2024 under the Impact: Local Government Graduate Programme. - The Early careers offer has been refreshed, including work experience opportunities, supported internships, and new starter apprenticeships to better promote careers at the Council to younger people. Work will now focus on identifying where there are opportunities to create better pathways into council roles for younger employees. Latest Census benchmarking data for 2021 to be used for 2024-25 target setting: - borough population aged 18-24, 19,366 or 7.3% of the overall population.
OC07a	Council tax and business rates collected: a) Proportion of Council Tax collected in the current financial year compared with other Met Councils	FCS - Finance	Rob Mahon	High	Q	97.42%	97.01%	96.92%	27.05%	52.81%	78.97%	96.98%	96.98%	Top Quartile	↑	✓	The final collection performance for 2024/25 was 96.98%, a 0.06% increase on the year-end figure reported for 2023/24 (96.92%). The target of Top Quartile Metropolitan Council was achieved in 2023/24 with Rotherham being 5th best Metropolitan Council.
OC07b	b) Proportion of business rates collected in the current financial year compared with other Met Councils	FCS - Finance	Rob Mahon	High	Q	97.40%	97.10%	96.95%	26.23%	52.06%	76.66%	93.96%	93.96%%	Top Quartile	↓	✗	The final collection performance for 2024/25 of 93.96% , a 2.99% decrease on 2023/24 (96.95%). The target of Top Quartile Metropolitan Council was not achieved in 2023/24 with Rotherham being 19th best Metropolitan Council for Non Domestic Rates collection and it is antcipated we will not achieve top quartle perfromance in 2024/25.

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6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

CASE STUDY

Early careers hub launch

Our early careers offer has been refreshed and revitalised during 2024/25 to ensure the Council meets its goal of being an Employer of Choice. Promoting careers at the Council to a younger audience is key to ensure we are able to recruit an engaged, diverse and skilled workforce of the future and guarantee the organisation's ongoing success.

A variety of work has taken place around this key priority.

Firstly, the work experience offer has been refreshed, with new processes, policies and guidance for managers rolled out to ensure the placements offered are high quality and impactful for all students. Work experience placements are followed up with an evaluation survey for all parties so experiences can be reflected on and improved where needed. Work has taken place internally with Directorates to capture all work experience activity which ensures the standard of placements stays consistently high.



Other key activities to refresh work experience included updating the website to offer clear information on work experience placements and how to apply for one. The online form has been refreshed to ensure the process is simple and accessible. Officers from several services are continuing to work together to ensure the quality of information and advice provided online around early careers is high. We have welcomed over 200 students on work experience placements during 2024/25, with over 90% of the students rating their placements as very good or good.

The Council has continued to work with local colleges and education providers to increase the number of supported internships the organisation offers. A supported internship is a structured work-based programme for 16-24 year-olds with special educational needs and disabilities which is designed to equip participants with the confidence and skills for future employment. We have seen eight supported internships take place within the Council in 2024/25.

The impact that supported internships can have is demonstrated by one of our previous supported interns, Idrees.

Idrees originally undertook a supported internship in our Customer Services team for six months in 2023, where he worked in different areas of the team. The structure of the internship and the support from his work-place mentor increased his skills and confidence, empowering him to apply for a Customer Services apprenticeship within the Council. Idrees has now successfully completed his apprenticeship and interviewed for and secured a permanent role within Housing Services, where he is enjoying his work. He was also recognised with the Supported Intern award at the 2024 Rotherham Apprentice of the Year Awards and was highly commended in the Business

6.6 THEME 6 – ONE COUNCIL

category of the RNN Apprentice Awards in February 2025. Idrees has since enrolled on another apprenticeship to undertake alongside his current role. Idrees said "My supported internship was a great opportunity that has opened so many doors for me and played a huge part in my success".

Most work placements requested are for one or two-week blocks. A 'One Council' work experience placement was piloted in January 2025, with students experiencing a number of different Council services to illustrate the wide variety of career opportunities within the Council. A further placement also took place in March 2025, with further One Council work experience placements scheduled on an ongoing basis. There are also plans for further development of alternative experience options, such as school students working on community projects as a group, presentation events where several Council services showcase the varied career opportunities available and providing applied project placement opportunities for university students.

Internally, a new careers hub intranet page has been developed and promoted to ensure managers have all the information they need around how they can support the early careers priority and also see the benefits in their services, both in the short and long term. The page includes information around work experience, supported internships, apprenticeships and the local government graduate scheme.

Work has taken place over the last year to strengthen our partnerships and links with local schools, colleges and universities. To promote as an employer of choice, the Council attended over 25 outreach career and employability events between September 2024 to March 2025. This ranged from careers fairs to bespoke events such as mock interviews, professional networking and group focus sessions. As a result of linking in with local universities to promote our recruitment for the local government graduate scheme, Impact, we saw over 70 applications from South Yorkshire universities.



Increasing the number of new starter apprenticeships is a priority, both within the Council and across the Rotherham Together Partnership. A working group has been set up to monitor progress against our target of 500 new apprenticeships within the borough by 2028, and to enable closer collaboration of Rotherham partners to work together on increasing these opportunities. Work is taking place internally to identify where apprenticeships may be able to help with recruitment challenges across the Council.

Work continues on all of the above to develop and improve our approach, which is key to provide as many opportunities as possible for young people locally to develop meaningful careers as well as expanding economic opportunities and supporting the local economy.

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CASE STUDY

Online Transactions

More and more of us are regularly accessing information and services online. Being able to 'self-serve' gives people greater choice and control and the ability to independently complete tasks at a time that is convenient to them and their lifestyle.

The role of the Customer Services Digital team is to make it as easy as possible for people to find what they need online, so they can complete their task with the minimum amount of effort.



We do this by:

- Creating designs and services that are accessible to as many people as possible. We have designed our website so our customers can view our website 'their way' using a device of their choice; also giving them the ability to change font styles/size and language options so they can access the information and services they need.
- Publishing information that is user friendly with website text that is as simple as possible to understand.
- Expanding the range of things people can do online including booking and paying for services – there are now over 500 web forms that offer online access to a wide range of services.
- Designing our online forms so that we are clear about what we need to know so customers only have to share their information once.
- Providing customers with the ability to upload copies of documents online instead of asking them to send them to us via email or post.
- Offering customers the ability to pin a location on a map so that it's easier for them to report things whilst they're out and about.
- Improving the speed with which our customers find what they need - 'Bailey' our friendly chat bot is always available to help customers find the answers they need.
- Keeping customers informed with automated information updates.

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Between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, the Council's website was visited 1.5 million times. And there were over 239,000 online transactions completed by our customers including:

- 21,977 garden waste subscriptions
- 9,094 housing repairs/enquiries
- 8,572 Council Tax and Benefits enquiries
- 8,655 bulky waste collection requests
- 6,479 applications for support from the Energy Crisis Support Scheme

In the future we expect the way that people communicate with the Council to change as technology continues to advance. Importantly, regardless of the way a customer chooses to self-serve we want it to be a positive experience. For this reason, we continue to encourage customers to become a volunteer tester, so we design our services in the most customer focused way.

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Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None	The Council has produced a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the Council's corporate estate, which targets operational buildings with heating systems that are reaching the end of their serviceable life. As part of the Council's Heat Decarbonisation Plan, all scheduled LED lighting upgrades have been completed. Riverside House solar canopy works are currently awaiting a final ground survey. The Council has made good progress with delivering Energy Conservation Measures within Council buildings, however the next upgrades to heating and hot water systems are delayed due to setbacks in the construction of the Rotherham Heat Network. Final building designs are reliant on knowing the expected incoming temperature from a heat		See actions outlined in the previous column. New YADP for 2025-26 includes new actions which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions.	Carbon Impact Assessments required for all Cabinet reports. All emissions from operational buildings are monitored and reported publicly. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.

		network which is currently unknown. Greenhouse gas emissions from the Council buildings have increased due to an increase in the carbon intensity of electricity. Data from the 2023/24 financial year, published in Quarter 2 2024/25, indicates a 7% rise in carbon emissions across the corporate estate. This is linked to the use of carbon-based fuel to generate electricity at source and delays in the decarbonisation of the UK grid. The 2024/25 target of a 10% reduction in emissions is not expected to be achieved, however the Council continues to carry out actions to reduce gas emissions. In relation to renewable energy generation, following assessments no council sites are currently considered to be suitable for low carbon energy generation. However, a wider assessment of land throughout the borough is currently being undertaken.			

Emissions from transport?	None	A fleet conversion plan has been developed, and a fleet programme officer has been appointed. In addition, a trial has been concluded of an alternative low carbon fuel known as 'Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil' in place of diesel across a sample size of 10 vehicles, which aims to deliver a 90% carbon reduction from emissions. Results are currently being analysed, however do demonstrate a significant reduction in carbon emissions. If results show that the trail has been successful, this may be implemented across the wider fleet. Greenhouse gas emissions from these sources have increased over the last three financial years, driven by increasing business mileage since the end of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. Data for 2023/24 financial year indicates a decrease of -2.70%. This carbon saving was delivered by a 7-month trail of HVO biodiesel in 10 corporate fleet vehicles. HVO has continued to be used in those vehicles since the trail ended. It is not expected that the 2024/25 target of a 10% reduction in	Sheffield Road Cycleway completed under the Transforming Cities Fund and the Active Travel Fund Programmes. This is expected to reduce transport emissions. Work has continued with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority regarding the development of the Transforming Cities Fund programme, including the Magna Tram Train project, the Parkgate Link Road and the Park and Ride at Parkgate. All these schemes are expected to reduce transport emissions. As part of the Local Neighbourhood Road Safety Programme, schemes in 8 out of 13 wards have been completed – 20 mph zones which work to decrease emissions are included in these schemes.	See actions outlined in previous two columns. The Independent Travel Training Programme is in place to support children with special educational needs or disabilities who would normally access the Council's Home to School transport services. This initiative is promoting more sustainable travel and transport solutions. The new YADP for 2025-26 includes new actions which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions.	Approaches to monitoring vehicle usage, emissions, and fuel efficiency. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.

		emissions from fleet and EV infrastructure during the year can be achieved however the Council continues to carry out actions to reduce these types of gas emissions.			
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	The proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting) is 37.5% against the target of 45%. This is well short of the target for the year however, the data is provisional, the finalised recycling rate figures are based on the three months previous. This is just the percentage of kerbside waste that is collected for recycling, not overall recycling rates.		See actions outlined in previous column. New YADP for 2025-26 includes new actions which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions.	Improved information and data to take further action in reducing waste, improving recycling rates and reducing contamination. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None		The Council is continuing to deliver on its commitment to build 1,000 new homes through the Housing Growth Programme. An additional 156 new homes were built or acquired in 2024/25, six more than the target. This includes the first no-gas Council homes at East Herringthorpe and the Small Sites Homes Building Initiative. These houses will imply an increase in emissions from domestic buildings, however in the case of buildings being taken up by existing	Housing Strategy for 2022-2025 includes the Green Housing Strategy to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency of homes. The amount of council housing with an energy performance certificate (EPC) rated C is 58% which has exceeded its target of 50%. By the end of Quarter 4, 11,570 of 19,918 council housing properties were rated C and above. New YADP for 2025-26 includes new actions which	Establish housing stock emission baselines, consolidating the available intelligence and gathering further data as required, using existing data on council-owned housing stock, and developing intelligence on the wider housing stock across the Borough. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.

			residents this may not be significantly different to current domestic emissions from those residents. including: • Under-floor heating – improves the efficiency of the ASHP system and internal space standards on the ground floor. • Solar photo-voltaic panels (PV) – reduces carbon emissions by allowing the homes to self-generate energy and can thereby help reduce energy bills for occupiers. • Mechanical ventilation and heat recovery (MVHR) – improves the efficiency of the ASHP system by allowing air to be recirculated within the dwelling. MVHR can also improve internal air quality, reduce condensation, and help to manage over-heating. Additional airtightness works – reduce heat loss.	will contribute to reducing carbon emissions.	Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None	Construction and developments, such as the continuation of the 2024 roads programme, the completion of the Swinton Library Neighbourhood Hub and Civic Hall and		Introduction of further SPDs (supplementary planning documents) relevant to climate change – SPDs can elaborate on Local Plan policies, giving developers additional technical	Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.

		developing new and improved play areas for children and young people, will increase emissions. Plans for large scale developments and improvements, such as the Towns and Villages Fund, Future High Streets Fund, and the Levelling Up Fund, programme, may all have significant effects on carbon emissions. This includes the Magna and Wentworth Woodhouse Leisure Economy Projects. The construction and completion of the leisure development on Forge Island may have entailed an increase in carbon emissions. However, the Travelodge hotel has several sustainable building features such as PV cells and EV car charging points within the Forge Island car park. Demolition projects, including 3-7 Corporation Street and Guardian Centre Building to facilitate further development works may have significantly impacted carbon emissions.		guidance, speeding up applications and resulting in better quality development for the community and environment. See actions outlined in previous two columns. New YADP for 2025-26 includes new actions which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions.	

Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None		597 trees have been planted by the council in 2024/25, 97 above the target. Improvements in the approach to weed control and removal, as well as sustainable management of verges and greenspaces to encouraging biodiversity and increase wildflower areas, with potential (but likely negligible) impact on carbon capture.		The Council currently has little data related to carbon sequestered via trees, limiting our understanding of the planting required to offset emissions. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

25 ward plans produced and published annually are informed by local communities, many of these include priorities to improve the local environment and tackle climate change.

The Climate Emergency Annual Report was presented to Cabinet in February 2025.

To ensure the Council remains focussed on working towards the outcomes and commitments set out in the Council Plan, a review of the Council Plan performance targets was carried out and new Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions were identified for 2024-25, some of which contributed to reducing carbon emissions across the borough during the financial year. Progress against these have been reported to Cabinet twice a year.

Climate Change and reducing emissions has been considered when developing the new Council Plan for 2025-30.

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

A programme of six priority flood alleviation schemes has seen a continuous, 1.6km line of defence completed on the north and west banks of the river Don, where it flows through the town centre: a flood wall, canal barrier and public realm improvements at Forge Island comprise a 0.4km section of these defences. Other priority schemes have been brought to 'shovel ready' status, alongside a programme of small and medium scale works which have delivered reductions in flood risk for local communities, in a 'no regrets' approach to flood risk management.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:
Given that this is a progress report, and implies no direct recommendations or decisions, there are no relevant emission impacts to consider. Where progress on certain actions has implied a specific definable impact on emissions, this has been included indicatively.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Simon Dennis Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager Policy, Performance and Business Intelligence ACEX
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	Directorate Year Ahead Delivery Plan trackers and Performance Data for Quarter 3 and 4 2024/25.
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 493 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

Appendix 2

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update – Final Report for 2024/25.	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): June 2025	
Directorate: Assistant Chief Executive	**Service area:** Policy, Performance and Intelligence
Lead Manager: Simon Dennis	**Contact:** simon.dennis@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a: [X] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (e.g. service user, managers, service specialist)**
Simon Dennis	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Policy, Corporate Improvement and Risk Manager
Michael Holmes	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Policy and Strategy Officer
Kellie Rodgers	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Research Officer
Sunday Alonge	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Policy Officer
Oscar Holden	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Corporate Improvement Officer
Chloe Harrop	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Corporate Improvement Officer

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)
This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, others groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

The Council Plan is a key document which sets out the Council's vision for the borough and priorities for serving residents and communities. This plan provides the medium-term basis for targeting resources, informing the budget-setting process and planning cycles, and ensuring that residents can hold the Council to account for delivery. The plan ran until the end of March 2025.

The Year Ahead Delivery Plan sits alongside the Council Plan. To ensure delivery of the Council Plan, the annual Year Ahead Delivery Plan also ran up until March 2025 following a review the Plan for 2024-25 was agreed by Cabinet in July 2024. This is the second and final progress report to Cabinet for the 2024-25 financial year.

The report focuses on progress made in delivering the 100 priority actions/milestones contained within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and the 68 headline performance measures that best demonstrate progress in achieving the 26 key outcomes. It also brings together wider information, key facts and intelligence to explain how the Council is working and performing, including timelines and case studies to demonstrate our impact.

Through directorate and service-level business plans the Council carries out wider work to measure performance and quality. This report is intended to provide an overview of the contribution that the Council makes across all its activities to improving Rotherham as a place to live, work and spend time.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

A mix of contextual equalities information, such as the census, and consultation on the Council Plan is provided here.

Population

- Population estimates indicate that the borough is becoming increasingly diverse through international migration, mainly from other EU countries. Based on the 2021 census, the proportion of residents from ethnic minority communities increased from 8.1% in 2011 to 11.7% in 2021. The Pakistani community is the second largest ethnic group in Rotherham after White British, with 3.8% of residents in 2021 and 6.3% of school pupils in 2023.
- Rotherham's ethnic minority population is very concentrated in the inner areas of the town (in Boston Castle/Rotherham East and Rotherham West wards 63.3% of residents are from ethnic minority communities) whilst the outer areas were 95.3% White British in 2021. 42% of residents from ethnic minorities live in areas that are amongst the 10% most deprived in the country and for some groups the figure is higher. This compares with the Borough average of 19.5%.
- The population is ageing; Rotherham has 52,228 people aged 65 years or over or 19.6% of the population, above the national average of 18.4%. The population aged over 65 is projected to increase to over 21% by 2026, with the largest increase being in the number of people aged over 75.

Economy

- Rotherham has a polarised geography of deprivation and affluence, with the most deprived communities concentrated in the central area, whilst the most affluent areas are to the south, although the overall pattern is complex.
- Rotherham is one of the 20% most deprived areas in England with 11,128 children living in "absolute poverty" 2021/22 (provisional figures).
- The inequality in the pay gap between men and women is substantial. According to the 2023 ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, full-time male workers in Rotherham earn £8,881 more than full-time female workers, on average (median gross annual full time pay). This means women's pay in Rotherham is only 75% of men's pay, compared with 85% nationally.
- In the consultation for the Council Plan conducted in 2021, 45% of respondents stated there were not enough job opportunities in their area, as opposed to 19% who stated there were enough. Those with no disabilities were more likely to state there were enough job opportunities in their area (21%) than those with disabilities (15%), with female respondents more likely to be unsure about the opportunities (37%), than men (32%).

Health and wellbeing

- According to the Census, Rotherham had 56,177 people with a limiting long-term health problem or disability in 2021, with 9.8% saying this limits their activity a lot, compared with the average of 7.3% in England. Although there have been health improvements, health inequalities remain.
- Health inequalities are also significant, both between the borough and the national average and between the most and least deprived communities in Rotherham. In addition to these factors, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing inequalities, with the most disadvantaged communities being impacted the most.
- In the Council Plan consultation conducted in 2021, in response to the question on what would have the biggest positive impact on wellbeing and quality of life, men (30%) and those without a disability (27%) were more likely to state environmental improvements (23% overall), while more women and those with a disability stated 'More things to do in the community' (16% women, 22% with disability, 13% overall). Male respondents (14%) and those with a disability (12%) were also more likely to state 'improved working conditions' as factors (8% overall).

Neighbourhoods

- In the survey consultation on the Council Plan in 2021, men were more likely to say they used parks daily (46%) than women (28%), while women were more likely to never use parks at all (7%), than men (1.2%).

- With regards to crime and community safety, tackling anti-social behaviour (79%), tackling crime such as car crime (67%), and protecting vulnerable older people (62%) emerged as respondents' top priorities, over preventing harassment and violence against women and girls (42%), and preventing hate crime (includes disability/ racial/ religious/ homophobic/ transphobic crimes) (35%) – which might partly be due to the age profile and the overrepresentation of older age groups, as well as the underrepresentation of religious and ethnic minorities.

The statistics above have been updated to reflect the 2021 Census data.

Resident Satisfaction Survey
The Council Plan includes eight performance measures from the Resident Satisfaction Survey. The 2024 results are set out below:

- **Satisfaction with Local Area as a Place to Live** – 75% of respondents reported feeling 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their local area as a place to live. This is the same as the national average (75%).
- **Satisfaction with Rotherham as a Place to Live** – 66% of respondents said that, overall, they were 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied. This was above the average across all the previous surveys (61.5%), although there has been considerable fluctuation between waves. Respondents aged 18-24 were most likely to feel satisfied with Rotherham as a place to live, with 74% satisfied. Respondents aged 25-34 had the lowest level of satisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live, with only 52% satisfied. Dissatisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live was highest amongst people aged 45-54.
- **Feelings of Safety** – 85% of respondents in Rotherham said they felt 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' during the day when outside in their local area (lower than the figures observed nationally at 91%). Feelings of safety in the local area after dark were (57%) compared to the national average (71%). There was a significant gender difference in feelings of safety after dark – 62% of men but only 54% of women said they felt 'very safe' or 'fairly safe'.
- **Feelings of Optimism** – 53% of respondents reported feeling 'very optimistic' or 'fairly optimistic' about the future of Rotherham as a place to live, slightly below the 54% average across all surveys. Younger respondents (aged 18-24) were the most likely to be optimistic about the future of Rotherham as a place to live (70%) and women are more optimistic than men overall. Fewer respondents felt optimistic about the future of Rotherham Town Centre either 'very optimistic' or 'fairly optimistic'). 35% of respondents were not optimistic at all about the town centre. The cohort most optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre were young people aged 18-24 (46%), whereas people aged 55-64 were most likely to not be optimistic.
- **Keeping Residents Informed** – 45% of Rotherham respondents said that the Council keeps residents 'very well' or 'fairly well' informed about the services and benefits it provides. This is below the most recent national result (52%) and below the average percentage across all Rotherham surveys (50%). Younger respondents (aged 18-24) and older respondents (65+) were the cohorts most likely to think that the Council keeps residents well informed. It should be noted that this measure covers not only corporate communications but could also refer to face to face or any other types of council touchpoint that the customer experiences.
- **Responsiveness of Rotherham MBC** – 52% of respondents in Rotherham answered positively when asked about the extent to which RMBC acts on the concerns of residents (i.e. 'a great deal' or 'a fair amount'). This is the highest response across all surveys and similar than the national average (47%). Respondents aged 25-34 were most likely to think that the Council acts on the concerns of local residents (60% responded positively) whilst those aged 55-64 were least likely to have this view.
- **Provisions of Values for Money** – 38% of Rotherham residents agreed that the Council provides value for money, an increase from the previous year (36%). This is the same

percentage as the national figures (38%) and the first time that Rotherham and national data has aligned on this measure.

Council Plan data

The Council Plan includes three performance measures which aim to create a diverse workforce and Quarter 4 data for 2024/25 in the report states:

- Overall proportion of disabled employees – 10.6% against a year-end target of 9%
- Overall proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic employees – 5.6% against a year-end target of 6.3%
- Proportion of the workforce under 25 – 3.4% against a year-end target of 4.6%.

The targets are designed to drive the Council towards having a workforce that better reflects the diversity of the borough. The Workforce Plan sets out key activity to become an employer of choice, including a review of how the Council attracts, recruits, develops and retains staff from different sections of the community.

Year Ahead Delivery Plan

When the Year Ahead Delivery Plan undergoes its annual refresh, services are expected to set out the action to be taken to ensure consideration of equality, diversity, and inclusion, including timescales for the delivery of each individual milestone. These actions are reviewed as part of the milestone setting process and progress captured as part of the reporting process.

Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?

Promoting equality, celebrating diversity, and ensuring fairness for everyone runs throughout all the themes in the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan and updates are now obtained from directorates in relation to actions being taken to consider equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) for each of the Year Ahead Deliver Plan actions. EDI has also been built into the case study templates for officers to obtain specific examples.

However, some updates are still lacking detail with regards to actions/activities to gain a better understanding of communities and the equality data being collected and used to better inform activities, along with gaps. It therefore remains unclear, for some areas, how outcomes for different communities and protected characteristic groups are being improved.

Details of how equality, diversity and inclusion actions are being monitored through the Council Plan/Year Ahead Delivery Plan was shared with the Equality Peer Review Team in December 2024 to help identify any further areas for consideration/improvement with findings due to be shared in June.

What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

Progress updates on the Council Plan Year Ahead Delivery Plan are produced on a quarterly basis (twice internally and twice publicly in January and July). Public updates are reviewed by Cabinet and Scrutiny and are available online. The update reports to Cabinet and Scrutiny include progress in relation to actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan, as well as performance relating to a suite of key performance measures and case studies.

As part of this monitoring process, services are required to specially set out progress on the delivery of equalities, diversity and inclusion outcomes for each individual action in the Year Ahead

Delivery Plan. These updates are reviewed and challenged as part of the monitoring process. They are reported as part of the internal monitoring and are also used to inform the public monitoring reports. In addition, as the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities are implemented, services are required to complete an equality screening and/or analysis to ensure due regard has been given and that there is an understanding of the effects of a strategy, policy, service or function on those from a protected characteristic group, where this is applicable to do so.	
Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)	To help inform the priorities and actions in the Council Plan, various consultation exercises took place between August and September 2021. There were over 1,300 interactions across all engagement methods. The consultation was part of an ongoing dialogue between the Council and members of the public. Customers are consulted and engaged in different ways by services when delivering the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities. The performance measures monitored include resident satisfaction and a resident satisfaction survey is conducted annually. In July and August 2024, a statistically representative random sample of 500 Rotherham residents (aged 18 or over) was polled mainly by landline telephone using quotas set by age and gender. The data was further weighted to reflect the age, gender, and social grade profile of Rotherham. This ensures that the sample is as representative of adults in the borough as possible as there is often a bias in the profile of people who respond to any survey. See results from 2024 survey above. Some performance measures are also based on customer perceptions in relation to the quality of the service received. To help guide the priorities and actions in the new Council Plan 2025, various consultation exercises took place between September and November 2024. Engagement has been made with residents through a variety of ways including online and postal surveys, focus groups and short interaction exercises to inform the Council and its partners' priorities over the next few years. The results have been analysed and the findings were presented to Council, alongside the new Council Plan in May 2025.
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	Engagement with staff was undertaken through directorates with regards to the progress made on actions/milestones that applied to them and identifying actions for the new Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2024-25. Staff also provided performance data and contributed to the gathering of case studies used in this report. Throughout the development of the report, Cabinet Members are briefed.

	Furthermore, the headlines are shared with the Assistant Director Group and Strategic Leadership Teams. Wider Leadership events and staff briefing sessions also include highlights in relation to the process being made. Staff at all levels were consulted as part of the consultation process for the new Council Plan for 2025.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)

How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance)

Equalities is cross cutting throughout the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan. Of the five guiding principles, two in particular aim to meet residents' and communities' differentiated needs:

- Expanding opportunities for all
- Working with our communities

Expanding opportunities encompasses the Council's priority to tackle inequality, striving to ensure that the health and life chances of the most disadvantaged communities are improving the fastest. To complement this approach, 'working with our communities' ensures that to achieve the best outcomes for local people, local residents are involved in the things that matter to them and services are designed based on input from those who use them. This will enable service users to take an active role in improving access to services, highlighting any barriers for those sharing protected characteristics in designs and services, making sure that specific needs are met.

There is also an outcome focussed on addressing inequalities and leaving no one behind within the 'people are safe, healthy and live well' theme. This will involve providing support to our communities at a level that is proportionate to the degree of need – taking a universal approach where appropriate whilst also providing targeted support to those who most need it.

Furthermore, the underlying 'One Council' theme encompasses two specific areas, which ensure different needs are met:

- All customers at the heart of everything we do
- Engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who feel empowered to adopt new ways of working to meet the needs of all customers.

The Council's commitment to place all customers at the heart of service delivery includes a strengthened approach to equalities and inclusivity. This will involve working with services and partners to promote equality, celebrate diversity and ensure fairness for everyone. The commitment to an engaged, diverse and skilled workforce is expected to improve the council's response to diverse customer needs, by bringing a more differentiated understanding of equality and diversity considerations and barriers.

The six-monthly progress reports capture progress in relation to all activities within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and a suite of key performance measures.

Within the **five themes of the Council Plan**, a series of universal offers are aimed at all of Rotherham's residents, while several actions are specifically aimed at tackling inequalities and issues of access. The following expands both on the universal and the targeted offers within each theme.

Every neighbourhood thriving
Activities in this area are aimed at meeting the needs of all residents and ensure they benefit from thriving neighbourhoods. The priorities of making neighbourhoods welcoming and safe, local people having access to libraries, cultural activities, parks and green spaces, improved local town and village centres, reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and improving street safety are for the benefit of all residents regardless of protected characteristics. Residents, organisations and businesses are encouraged and enabled to use their skills and resources to help others.

Individual services, such as parks, libraries, cultural offers and neighbourhood working will each undertake an equality analysis, where required to do so, to identify gaps, making sure that any physical, cultural, language or other access barriers are identified, and all residents have offers meeting their needs.

Progress made which links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes include:

- 25 Ward Plans produced and published - Borough-wide and local VCS organisations and groups representing communities with protected characteristics were invited to inform the setting of the ward priorities. Census data and other equalities data was also used to inform the priorities. Details as to how we will continue to engage with communities with protected characteristics are included in the ward plans.
- New pedestrian crossings have been designed and implemented at Cortonwood and Swallownest which has improved accessibility for pedestrians in both areas.
- A number of cultural events have been held in various locations across the Borough. All events consider equalities including translation services and BSL for entertainment activities. Other examples include ensuring that artists and performers appropriately reflect the demographics for each event and provision at all events for disabled visitors.
- Rotherham Show in September 2024 continued to be hugely popular free event for everyone to enjoy, attracting approximately 45,000 visitors. This year, there was a sensory area to provide a calming space for neurodiverse and disabled adults and children and mobility access was improved, with a number of mobility scooters available. The show received a 95% satisfaction rating from survey respondents. A commissioned survey from QA also showed that families were the biggest audience, and visitors were made up of 77% Rotherham residents, with 21% coming from other surrounding South Yorkshire postcodes. The ethnic group split of visitors this year was 88% White British, 6% Asian or Asian British, 3% Black British and 3% Mixed heritage, which is a large shift from last year's audience being 91% White British.
- A full review of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) has been completed to ensure that plans in place are robust and drive enforcement of proposed conditions. Two new three-year orders commenced in January 2025, which will ensure the safety of local areas for residents.
- Changing Places Facilities are now in place in Clifton Park Museum, Gulliver's Valley Resort, Wentworth Woodhouse, Grimm & Co, Rotherham United Football Ground, Rother Valley Country Park, and Thrybergh Country Park. The introduction of these amenities helps to support the needs of disabled visitors and provide accessible facilities to public places.
- A new Community Safety Strategy for 2025-30 has been developed and approved as of February 2025 to improve the security of the Rotherham population in a coherent and accountable manner. Borough-wide and local VCS organisations and groups representing

communities with protected characteristics were invited to contribute to the priorities. Additionally, the Community Safety team attended a wide range of events and consulted with a range of VCS representatives who work with diverse client cohorts.
- Several of the remaining schemes through the Towns and Villages Fund programme have been completed ensuring that improvements are made to the local high street to improve accessibility and connectivity for residents.
- The Our Places programme has developed and delivered schemes to improve gateways into principal towns and villages to improve resident accessibility across the borough.

People are safe, healthy and live well
Actions in this area are aimed at protecting everyone's physical and mental health, while focusing on the most vulnerable.

Within the priority for people to feel empowered, safe and live independently for as long as possible, actions focus on people with learning disabilities and their careers, independent living and adult social care ensure that the needs of these vulnerable groups are prioritised. Notably, in this area, a range of engagement and co-production exercises have been undertaken, with a range of diverse communities, to ensure that their views are considered in service design and delivery and their needs are met. This is central to improving accessibility and enabling inclusive services.

More generally, ongoing monitoring and improvement of services contributing to this theme is key, as the most vulnerable often face the most barriers. Monitoring should identify and address gaps in provision, and in particular ensure that individuals sharing several protected characteristics, and thus potentially facing multiple barriers, can access the support they need.

Progress made which links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes include:

- An impact assessment of the mental health services redesign was completed in October 2024 to recognise ongoing opportunities to improve mental health services. The crisis specification ensures that all mental health agencies understand their responsibility to support residents of all protected characteristics. The Mental Health enablement service is also now operational and is designed to enable adults with mental ill health to maximise their independence and connect to their community to ensure longer-term resilience.
- Launched in April 2024, the new Learning Disability Strategy ensures that people with learning disabilities have access to the right support at the right time. The strategy is available in a range of formats to ensure it is fully accessible.
- Construction and groundwork have now commenced on Castle View Day Service, which will provide a purpose-built centre that will deliver service provision and day opportunities to meet the needs for people with high support needs.
- 17 additional homes have been added to the Council's temporary accommodation portfolio via the Councils Housing delivery Programme to meet demand and reduce hotel usage. These homes meet the short-term needs of a diverse range of households, and actively promotes inclusion by providing suitable temporary accommodation for individuals with protected characteristics.
- New Council housing is needs led. The latest scheme designs include specialised wheelchair user dwellings and other accessible homes on the sites, which have been designed for old people and those with health conditions and disabilities.
- Started the groundwork on new assisted living accommodation in Canklow alongside Castle View, a purpose-built day centre for people with high support needs. This will allow for facilities that more effectively meet people's needs and support people to lead independent lives.
- The Council Tax Support Top Up scheme provided up to £121.96 to working households receiving council tax support and the Energy Crisis Scheme offered up to £250 to

households that are struggling to meet the cost of their energy bill. Customers can access both in a variety of ways and are supported when applying.

Every child able to fulfil their potential

Actions under this theme are aimed at children having the best start in life, children and young people being safe from harm, feeling empowered to succeed and achieve their aspirations, whilst also having fun things to do and safe places to go.

Activities aim to address educational inequalities through collaborative working with schools and partners, so all children are ready to attend school and learn and are able to engage in future education, training, and employment. This will give all young people the opportunity to fulfil their potential, regardless of ability.

Some actions specifically target support to those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable or have disabilities. Specific actions to open new in-house residential children's homes will enable looked after children to access the best local placements whilst other specific actions aim to improve opportunities and outcomes for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), so they can get the best start in life. Activities for young people to have things to do and safe places to go have also been designed so that accessibility is ensured as much as possible.

Progress made which links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes include:

- 90% of families have now registered to the Family Hub Programme. It offers face-to-face services in which families can go to for help and support, alongside digital offers in a number of alternative languages. VCS organisations form part of the wider Family Hubs network, to increase opportunities for families to engage with and be supported by Family Hubs. Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance (REMA), and Clifton Learning Partnership (CLP) are two organisations who are part of the network, working within our most diverse communities and supporting the delivery of the programme, its values, and principles.
- Enhancement of support sessions for under 5's has been delivered through Rotherham's Statutory Children's Centres. The delivery of activity seeks to better engage harder to reach communities, as well as celebrating a broad range of religious festivals.
- New in-house residential children's homes are being developed and opened, enabling looked-after children to remain in the borough where appropriate and remain safe from harm. Ofsted registration for the fourth two-bedroom home was submitted in March 2025.
- Resource Provisions have been registered or approved to provide additional school places for children with special educational needs. This has increased the amount of local education places for young people with SEND.
- The Independent Travel Training scheme has been developed for children and young people in receipt of home to school transport due to a special educational need. This training is bespoke and seeks to promote independence skills. As of year-end, 31 children and young people had successfully completed the training.
- Children's Capital of Culture (CCoC) has been co-designed and launched with children and young people from all communities to ensure that it offers opportunities for all children and young people in Rotherham. Promotion has been particularly targeted at local SEND educational settings and across SEND groups and networks. The CCoC events programme specifically celebrates, represents, and meets the need of gender diverse communities, for example WOW Rotherham.
- Work has now started at the new Water Splash facility at Clifton Park, after consultation with families of children with SEND was completed during Summer 2024. Inclusive and interactive play has been built into the design of the facility.

- The Baby Packs have now been commissioned, set-up and rolled out across the borough to support families with essential items and child development.
- Engagement has taken place through the Enterprise Adviser Network Project with all 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges, in the South Yorkshire Careers Hub to assist them enhance their careers provision, improve interactions with local employers and achieve at least 6 of the Gatsby benchmarks, designed to align young people with opportunities.

Expanding economic opportunity

Aims for this theme include growing the economy to provide decent jobs and chances to progress; rejuvenating places through regeneration schemes across the borough; giving people the chance to learn, develop skills and fulfil their potential; working with partners and suppliers to create more local jobs paid at the living wage or above and more apprenticeships; and increasing digital access through infrastructure enhancements and skills development.

Contributing to these aims are projects supporting residents to gain skills and enhance their employment prospects, a range of regeneration programmes across the borough, action around social value and local labour policies, and the development of a digital inclusion strategy.

Equality analysis and monitoring will be carried out where appropriate to ensure vulnerable residents sharing protected characteristics benefit from this support. Given the gender pay gap in Rotherham is substantial and above the national average, activities in this area will need to be monitored closely to ensure they do not widen the gap.

Activity that links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes includes:

- Redevelopment projects by many of the Councils partners have now been complete. These projects work to improve access to leisure and cultural assets for a range of diverse users while also improving skills within the local community. The redevelopment of Maltby grammar school to create a new business and community hub aims to support students, through a range of specialist staff and inclusive teaching, to fulfil their potential. Improvements to the visitor attractions at Magna have been completed, extending the targeted age range to include better learning provisions for under 5's. An increase in education staffing has allowed for the delivery of additional sessions specifically aimed at SEND support and home educator groups. The redevelopment project has enabled Grimm to purchase and transform a disused church into a new home for the children's literacy charity. The charity has installed a multitude of accessible features to ensure that the needs of disabled children and adults are met. Alongside this, Gulliver's Skills Academy is due to be completed in the Summer. This will help to widen career aspirations for children and young people across the borough.
- Key priorities of the Council's Social Value Policy have been delivered through a range of events and specific courses to support businesses to grow with the public sector. This increases diversity in the supply chain ensuring that every business has accessibility to public procurement opportunities. Networks and links with VCS have been used to ensure marketing reaches the businesses located in the most deprived areas.
- A range of initiatives are supporting residents to improve their skills and enhance their employment prospects, including the new Employment Hub pathway and Employment Solutions Service which help unemployed people into work or training. The Employment hub also supports those in structured recovery from addiction and those with neuro-diverse conditions to access employment or training. 711 residents have been supported via the Employment Hub during 2024/25.
- The Council is actively promoting the living wage accreditation.

- The Children's Capital of Culture programme has been utilised to support skills development opportunities for young people. For example, it has emphasised recruitment of 16–25-year-olds to work as paid Trainee Young Producers.
- Regeneration project designs are developed in consultation with Rotherham residents and construction of new buildings and facilities includes consideration of accessibility. For example, as a result of the Council's growing relationship with Rotherham Sight and Sound, dedicated tours were held prior to opening of Forge Island to ensure users of the town centre with visual and hearing difficulties could become familiar with the new amenity.
- A Digital Inclusion Strategy has been delivered and includes the rollout of free sim cards to digitally excluded residents, along with devices and community-based training session which will benefit residents in terms of communication opportunities and community involvement. Pathways have been established to ensure ongoing access to support for people who may otherwise be at risk of digital exclusion.

A cleaner, greener local environment

The priorities of making neighbourhoods cleaner and greener are for the benefit of all residents regardless of protected characteristics.

This theme encompasses reductions in carbon emissions, working towards net zero targets, better transport systems for future generations, reduced risks of flooding and other environmental emergencies. There are no immediate equality implications in this area, although any direct impacts on residents, such as through actions in housing, transport and in work with community organisations, will be monitored.

Progress made which links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes include:
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- Work has commenced at Rother Valley Country Park and is scheduled to commence at Thrybergh Country Park in July 2025/26. Disabled carparking spaces will be available, sheltered outdoor seating and tables will accommodate the needs of those who are immune-suppressed and new landscaping down to the water's edge will be accessible to those with prams, people in wheelchairs and mobility scooter-users. At Rother Valley Country Park, there will be level access to the landscaped areas surrounding the café to ensure accessibility alongside two accessible toilets on the ground floor and another within the event space. Changing Places facilities are in place at both Country Parks, supporting the needs of disabled visitors and providing accessible facilities to public places.
- The Outline Business Case for Rotherham Mainline Station has been completed and submitted. This will provide the potential to enhance economic growth, sustainability and community well-being, while also creating vibrant public spaces that enhance quality of life for residents in the borough.
- The delivery of bus, tram, and cycle improvements, such as the Sheffield Road Cycleway, aim to connect communities and provide an alternative mode of transport. The work will help to tackle transport poverty and support healthy lifestyles for a wide range of people.
- Delivery of the Council's Transforming Cities Fund programme with regional partners is progressing. Work at the Magna Tram-Train stop has commenced with completion expected in Winter 2025/26. The Parkgate Link Road opened in December 2024, and the Park and Ride at Parkgate became operational in May 2025. These transport initiatives address the needs of various communities, promoting equal access and an inclusive transport service.
- Community engagement has been carried out with residents to change behaviours to mitigate climate change. The Community Energy Officer consulted with several VCS organisations to deliver relevant service information.

For a number of projects within this theme, equality impacts will be considered at both scheme design and delivery stage.

One Council

The One Council theme is focussed around working with our communities to deliver modern services which are accessible to all residents. The theme includes priorities and outcomes that reflect how the Council is delivering effective customer services, ensuring residents can access the services that they need, along with an engaged, diverse and skilled workforce who are empowered to meet the needs of all customers.

The following areas have progressed which have a direct impact on improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes:

- The Council website is examined by an external body on a monthly basis regarding accessibility, and continual feedback from customers is used to shape the layout and functionality of the website.
- Improvement to the accessibility of face-to-face services at Riverside House have been implemented, including higher seating to ensure accessibility.
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion staff networks were engaged in the redevelopment of the Council Values, relaunched in June. This ensures that a focus on equalities is embedded throughout each value.
- The delivery of the first cohort of a learning and development programme that helps embed a strength based-working approach across the Council's workforce and partners was completed in December 2024. At the forefront of this programme is developing an understanding of diverse communities and support in building on the strengths already within those communities.
- The early careers hub was launched in December 2024 to showcase the entry routes into the Council and attract a more diverse pool of candidates.
- Improvements continue to be made to the employee experience. Work is ongoing to streamline and improve each stage of the employee lifecycle, with significant improvements made to wellbeing, learning and development, and attraction strategies including apprenticeships and early careers.
- Work to develop the Council Plan 2025-30 has concluded, it was considered by Cabinet in May 2025 prior to coming into effect. A public consultation ran from September to November 2024 to inform the new priorities. Throughout this, the Council ensured engagement with as many residents as possible, and that the consultation was accessible to those with protected characteristics. Three cross cutting policy drivers run throughout the new plan. One of these includes 'opportunities are expanded to all' to ensure that the Council creates new opportunities, with help targeted to those who need it the most. All outcomes aim to meet residents' and communities' differentiated needs.
- Average customer wait time to corporate contact centre was 2 minutes 47 seconds in Quarter 4, which is considerably lower than the target set by the Council. Shortening customer wait times improves access to services for all residents.
- The number of disabled employees working in the Council is now 10.6% against a target of 9% and has continued to increase over the course of the year.

There are two equality, diversity and inclusion related measures where outcomes have not yet reached the targets. These are:

- Overall proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic employees – 5.6% against a year-end target of 6.3%
- Proportion of the workforce under 25 – 3.4% against a year-end target of 4.6%.

The Workforce Plan sets out key activity to become an employer of choice, including a review of how the Council attracts, recruits, develops and retains staff from different sections of the community. There will also be targeted work with the Young Employees Network to recruit young people, as well as with the BME network to address recruitment barriers facing this group. This work will help to provide a rich source of knowledge on how the Council can promote being an inclusive employer, along with other insights on attracting applicants and work to strengthen partnerships with local universities and colleges to ensure active promotion of local government careers and Rotherham in particular.
Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups? No problems or barriers have been identified or flagged as part of the reporting process.
Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers? Yes, as detailed above.
What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another) No negative impacts expected – any targeted activities are based on known needs and vulnerabilities.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update.
Directorate and service area: Assistant Chief Executive, Policy, Performance and Intelligence
Lead Manager: Simon Dennis
Summary of findings:
The Year Ahead Delivery Plan addresses inequalities in several of its key themes, including the overarching theme 'One Council' and guiding principles, with the aim to reduce inequalities and for the council's services to deliver for all residents. Equality and access data will need to be monitored closely, especially in the 'People are safe, healthy and well' and 'Everyone has economic opportunities' themes, as these are areas of considerable existing inequalities, which will make it more difficult for some individuals and groups to access opportunities and services.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Continue to provide update reports to Cabinet twice a year, including consideration of the equality implications.	All	Six monthly
All services to undertake equality analyses where applicable and monitor.	All	Ongoing
Continue to obtain updates from directorates, regarding what has been done to consider equalities when delivering the Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/activities.	All	Quarterly

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Jo Brown	Assistant Chief Executive	
Cllr Chris Read	Leader	

7. Publishing	
The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date Equality Analysis completed	5 June 2025
Report title and date	Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update – Final Report for 2024/25.
Date report sent for publication	
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	06/06/25

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report with Exempt Appendices
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Land Acquisition for Flood Alleviation Schemes

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
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Andy Saxton, Highway Asset & Drainage Manager
07748 143010 or Andy.Saxton@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Sitwell
Dinnington

Report Summary
The Council acting as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to reduce flood risk to residents of Rotherham. Since 2020 the Council's Flood Alleviation Team have been developing six priority flood alleviation schemes to a "shovel ready" status and delivering the construction of funded schemes. This report seeks approval to acquire five parcels of land in third party ownership which are required to deliver the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme at Whiston and one parcel of land in third party ownership to deliver the Eels Mire Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme at Laughton Common.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the acquisition of approximately 20.04 acres from land title SYK345249 together with associated costs.

2. Approve the acquisition of approximately 15.12 acres from land title SYK648291 together with associated costs.

3. Approve the acquisition of approximately 0.17 acres from land title SYK229346 together with associated costs.

4. Approve the acquisition of approximately 0.12 acres from land title SYK129461 together with associated costs.

5. Approve the lease of approximately 1.11 acres from land title SYK550557 together with associated costs.

6. Approve the acquisition of approximately 12.02 acres from land title SYK156703

List of Appendices Included
Appendix 1 - Plan Showing Land Titles SYK229346 and SYK129461
Appendix 2 - Plan Showing Land Titles SYK345249, SYK648291 & SYK550557
Appendix 3 - Plan Showing Land Title SYK156703
Appendix 4 - EXEMPT - Estimated Land Values
Appendix 5 - (Part A) Initial Equality Screening Assessment
Appendix 6 - Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Improving Places Select Commission (IPSC) – An update on the Council's Six Priority Flood Alleviation Schemes

- 6th February 2020 - to IPSC
- 30th November 2020 - to Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) sub-group of IPSC
- 7th September 2021 - to IPSC
- 25th October 2022 - to IPSC
- 19th September 2023 - to IPSC
- 10th December 2024 - to IPSC

Cabinet - Proposed Capital Investment

- 15th February 2020 – £5.8m to progress 6 priority Flood Alleviation Schemes to a 'Shovel Ready' state
- 12th February 2024 – £5.5m for additional support for delivery (to the 'Shovel Ready' position) and as partial contribution towards the construction of Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme and Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
An exemption is sought for Appendix 4 (Estimated Land Values) under Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this report contains sensitive commercial information with regards to commercial agreements which could

disadvantage the Council in any negotiations if the information where to be made public.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information, as the parties' commercial interests could be prejudiced by disclosure of commercial information.

Land Acquisition for Flood Alleviation Schemes

1. Background

1.1 Following the devasting impacts of the November 2019 floods, the Council identified six Priority Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) projects that will significantly reduce the risk of flooding on people, property, businesses, and infrastructure.

1.1.1 In April 2021, the Council allocated £5.8m of its corporate capital resources to start pre-construction development work for the six priority FAS, with the objective to achieve a 'Shovel Ready' status.

1.1.2 Since then, six reports have been presented to the Improving Places Select Commission on the progress of the six priority Flood Alleviation Schemes. In addition, £5.5m of corporate capital resources have been awarded to support the delivery of the projects (to the 'Shovel Ready' position) and as partial contribution towards the construction of Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme and Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme.

1.2 Whiston Brook is a tributary of the River Rother and flows through the centre of Whiston.

1.2.1 The brook poses a significant flood risk to the village which has been affected by recuring flood events. Most recently, the village was significantly affected by flooding in October 2023. The severity of these floods is worsened by the additional surface water runoff and the strain on the existing drainage systems within Whiston.

1.2.2 There is a flood risk through the village centre, impacting communities immediate to the brook. Where Whiston Brook meets Ulley Brook and the River Rother to the western area of Whiston, high water levels within the River Rother cause the brook to "back up", limiting discharge and resulting in significant flood extents. Previous flooding incidents have disrupted the local road network, notably Howlett Close and Long Lane.

1.2.3 The Council is proposing to provide better flood protection to Whiston village. The flood protection is to protect against overflowing riverbanks (fluvial flooding) and overwhelmed drainage systems (pluvial flooding) caused by heavy rainfall.

1.2.4 A Flood Alleviation Scheme at Laughton Common, specifically focusing on Eel Mires Dike, is needed to reduce the risk of flooding. Flooding in Laughton Common, which was severely affected in 2019, has caused significant damage and disruption to homes, businesses and infrastructure. The scheme aims to mitigate this risk by improving flood management measures.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The key critical issue for the implementation of these measures is that none of the lands where the Flood Alleviation Schemes are to be constructed are within the ownership of Rotherham Council. This report includes all the planned acquisitions and leases for the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme, but only one for the Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme. Future land acquisitions and leases for Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme will form part of a later Cabinet report. The land will be used to construct the various aspects of the schemes, such as attenuation reservoirs, wetland areas and flow control structures to help reduce the risk of flooding to Whiston and Laughton Common.

2.2 To progress with the construction for the proposal, land needs to be acquired from various landowners. The negotiated land value will be based on market evidence supplied by Property Services. Cabinet are asked to approve the acquisition or lease of the following land parcels:

2.2.1 Land title SYK345249 (Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 20.04 acres - acquisition. There will be an additional cost for the landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs in dealing with the acquisition together with the erection and payment for a boundary feature between the land being acquired by Rotherham Council and the remainder of the land held by the Landowner under the land title. Negotiations are ongoing.

2.2.2 Land title SYK648291 (Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 15.12 acres - acquisition. There will be an additional cost for the landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs in dealing with the acquisition. There is also a one-off payment for an additional area within this land title that is not being acquired. This additional area won't form part of the main reservoir but does have an increased flood risk due to the proposed scheme and this is why the additional payment is to be made. Negotiations are ongoing.

2.2.3 Land title SYK229346 (Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 0.17 acres - acquisition. There will be an additional cost for the landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs in dealing with the acquisition There is also a one-off payment for an additional area within this land title that is not being acquired. This additional area won't form part of the main reservoir but does have an increased flood risk due to the proposed scheme and this is why the additional payment is to be made. Additionally, there will be a payment for the erection a boundary feature between the land being acquired by Rotherham Council, and the remainder of the land held by the Landowner under the land title. Negotiations are ongoing.

2.2.4 Land title SYK129461 (Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 0.12 acres - acquisition. There will be an additional cost for the landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs in dealing with the acquisition There is also a one-off payment for an additional area within this land title that is not being acquired. This additional area won't form part of the

main reservoir but does have an increased flood risk due to the proposed scheme and this is why the additional payment is to be made. Additionally, there will be a payment for the erection a boundary feature between the land being acquired by Rotherham Council and the remainder of the land held by the Landowner under the land title. Negotiations are ongoing.

2.2.5 Land title SYK550557 (Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 1.11 acres - lease for a 32 year term. There will be an additional cost for the landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs in dealing with the lease, together with a payment for the erection a boundary feature between the land being leased by Rotherham Council and the remainder of the land held by the Landowner under the land title. The basic terms of the lease have been agreed between the landowner and Rotherham Council. Solicitors have been instructed on this lease, but the completion will only occur once Cabinet approval has been achieved.

2.2.6 Land title SYK156703 (Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme) - approximately 12.02 acres - acquisition. This is already with solicitors, awaiting Cabinet approval.

2.3. A summary of the above land parcels for the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme is displayed in the following table:

HM Land Registry Title Number	Estimated land size	Acquisition or Lease	Additional Inclusions*		
			A	B	C
SYK345249	20.04 acres	Acquisition	x	x	
SYK648291	15.12 acres	Acquisition	x		x
SYK229346	0.17 acres	Acquisition	x	x	x
SYK129461	0.12 acres	Acquisition	x	x	x
SYK550557	1.11 acres	Lease (32 years)	x	x	
SYK156703	12.02 acres	Acquisition			

Additional Inclusions*

A = Landowner's reasonable legal costs and surveyor's costs
B = Erection for a boundary feature
C = One-off payment for land with an increased flood risk, but is outside of land acquisitions

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Negotiate directly with the landowners and continue to build up a positive relationship with them. Some of these landowners will have been directly affected by the flooding in Whiston and Laughton Common in the past and therefore it was considered that they may take the view that their remaining land will benefit from the proposed Flood Alleviation Schemes as well as it being beneficial to the local community. By implication, the landowners will be directly helping the community by allowing Rotherham Council to acquire their land. This is the recommended option.

3.2 Compulsory purchase of the land was considered; however, this can be time consuming and costly approach to acquiring land. Ultimately, it is in the best interests of Rotherham Council to negotiate with the landowners in terms of time and maintaining the ongoing positive relationship with them. This option is not recommended.

3.3 The table above in Section 2.3 shows the land the Council is currently negotiating to acquire or to lease for the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme.

3.4 There will be additional land acquisitions and leases relating to the Eel Mires Dike Flood Alleviation Scheme, and the Council will bring forward a further report to detail the planned acquisitions for this project. There are over 20 landowners the Council is currently negotiating with at Laughton however there is a need to purchase this critical parcel of land as soon as possible as it is available and could be bought by others which would require the Council to start negotiations with the new landowners and could result in delays and or compulsory purchase orders.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The Council has already engaged with communities through Parish/Town Council's in workshops, distributed newsletters to residents and businesses previously affected by flooding, as well as engagement with stakeholders, landowners and residents where applicable.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Head of Highways and Flood Risk is accountable for the development of these schemes to the preconstruction phase and for ensuring funded schemes are completed within budget and timescales. The Highway asset and Drainage Manager leads the operational coordination of actions to ensure the progression of the schemes.

5.2 Project development, including design, surveys and public engagement has already taken place.

5.3 Negotiation and acquisition of the land parcels has already commenced and will be completed once cabinet approval has been received.

5.4 In terms of Whiston, work is expected to start on site in Q2/Q3 2025 and in line with the funding deadline, the completion of the Flood Alleviation Scheme is expected to be completed in Q2/Q3 2026.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 Exempt Appendix 4 provides the anticipated costs of this recommendation and funding proposals for the acquisitions and construction costs. The acquired land will require maintenance but as works should commence quickly, this is thought to be minimal. Consideration to abortive options are also in the exempt appendix.

6.2 For the construction of the Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Eel Mires Flood Alleviation Scheme, the Council currently has an approved budget of £4.25m awaiting allocation (which is part of the £5.5m of Council capital resource allocated in 2024), added to the £150k already allocated to Eel Mires gives a total Budget of £4.4m. Whilst this available budget is sufficient to carry out the required acquisitions and start to progress the delivery side of the project, there is a funding shortfall on the overall delivery. The total projected costs to fully deliver both schemes is £15m (£9m for Eel Mires and £6m for Whitson), as such there is a funding shortfall on these schemes of £11.6m.

6.3 The Council intends to deliver both schemes, and work is underway identify alternative funding sources.

6.4 The land acquisitions are essential to delivering these schemes. It is recommended to proceed with these in advance of a fully funded budget to avoid the land being sold to other parties and/or being utilised for other means, which would essentially mean redesigning the scheme or potentially meaning the schemes becoming unfeasible.

6.5 In the event of the schemes not coming to fruition, the Council has the following options to mitigate any losses:

- Lease the land (the majority of land is agricultural land which could be farmed) until the schemes become viable again.
- Sell the land to recover the investment.

6.6 The acquisition of land falls outside the scope of procurement legislation and as such there are no direct procurement implications associated with the recommendations detailed in this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The Council acting as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to reduce flood risk to residents of Rotherham.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Flood events impact can impact large areas of Rotherham and the residents of those areas including children, young people and vulnerable adults. The Council's Drainage and Flood Alleviation Teams work to reduce flood risk around the borough to ensure full access for all to the highway network and the flood risk to properties is at the lowest level.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 An initial Equalities Screening Assessment has been completed as Appendix 5.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no CO2 Emissions and Climate Change implications arising from this report. However, it should be noted that the need to deliver further flood mitigation is likely associated with the impact of climate change and the modelling used by the team takes account of these changes.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 There are no implications for Partners arising from this report.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 If these land parcels are not acquired by Rotherham Council, the risk is that the proposed Flood Alleviation schemes will not be able to proceed and significant flooding risk will remain at both Whiston and Laughton Common. Acquiring these land parcels will mitigate that risk and enable Rotherham Council to proceed with these Flood Alleviation schemes, working in conjunction with the Environment Agency.

14. Accountable Officers

Richard Jackson, Head of Highways and Flood Risk
Andy Saxton, Highway Asset and Drainage Manager

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	18/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	18/06/25

Report Author:

Richard Jackson, Head of Highways and Flood Risk
01709 823895 or Richard Jackson, Head of Highways and Flood Risk
01709 823895 or Richard.Jackson@rotherham.gov.uk

Andy Saxton, Highway Asset & Drainage Manager
07748 143010 or Andy.Saxton@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's website.

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Issues

FB

FB

Additional land affected by flooding: (0.05ha)
SYK129461

Land Purchase 4: (0.02ha)
SYK129461

Additionl land affected by flooding: (0.07ha)
SYK229346

Land Purchase 5: (0.03ha)
SYK229346

55.7m

57.5m

FURNIVAL WAY

FURNIVALWAY

HOWLETT CLOSE

WORRY GOOSE LANE

chool

37 49 76 72 33 29 21 42 44 30 32 16 14 56 54 58 48 46 28 26 12 14 26 11 12 1 15 6 2 119 1 2 96 86

Plan
1:500

0 25m 50m
1:500

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Notes

Key to symbols

- PROPOSED DEFENCE ALIGNMENT
- LAND OWNERSHIP BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED BOUNDARY FOR PURCHASED LAND
- ADDITIONAL LAND AFFECTED FROM FLOODING

AEP - ANNUAL EXCEEDANCE EVENT

DRAFT SUITABLE FOR INFORMATION

Reference drawings

Status Stamp

MOTT MACDONALD

Client

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Title

Rotherham FAS
Whiston
Land Ownership
General Arrangement
Public Consultation

MMD Project Number	Scale at A1	Security
	1:500	STD
Suitability Description		Suit. Code
Drawing Number		Rev

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Land Purchase 3: (0.45ha)
SYK550557

Land Purchase 2: (8.11ha)
SYK345249

Land Purchase 1: (6.12ha)
SYK648291

Proposed compound area

B 6410

Whiston Brook

Well

Pond

Drain

Path (un)

Track

Great Royds Moor

Plan
1:1250

0 62.5m 125m
1:1250

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Notes

Key to symbols

- PROPOSED DEFENCE ALIGNMENT
- PROPOSED CHANNEL CENTRELINE
- 1 IN 75 AEP FLOOD EXTENT
- PROPOSED WETLAND
- LAND OWNERSHIP BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED BOUNDARY FOR PURCHASED LAND

AEP - ANNUAL EXCEEDANCE EVENT

DRAFT SUITABLE FOR INFORMATION

Reference drawings

Status Stamp

MOTT MACDONALD

Client

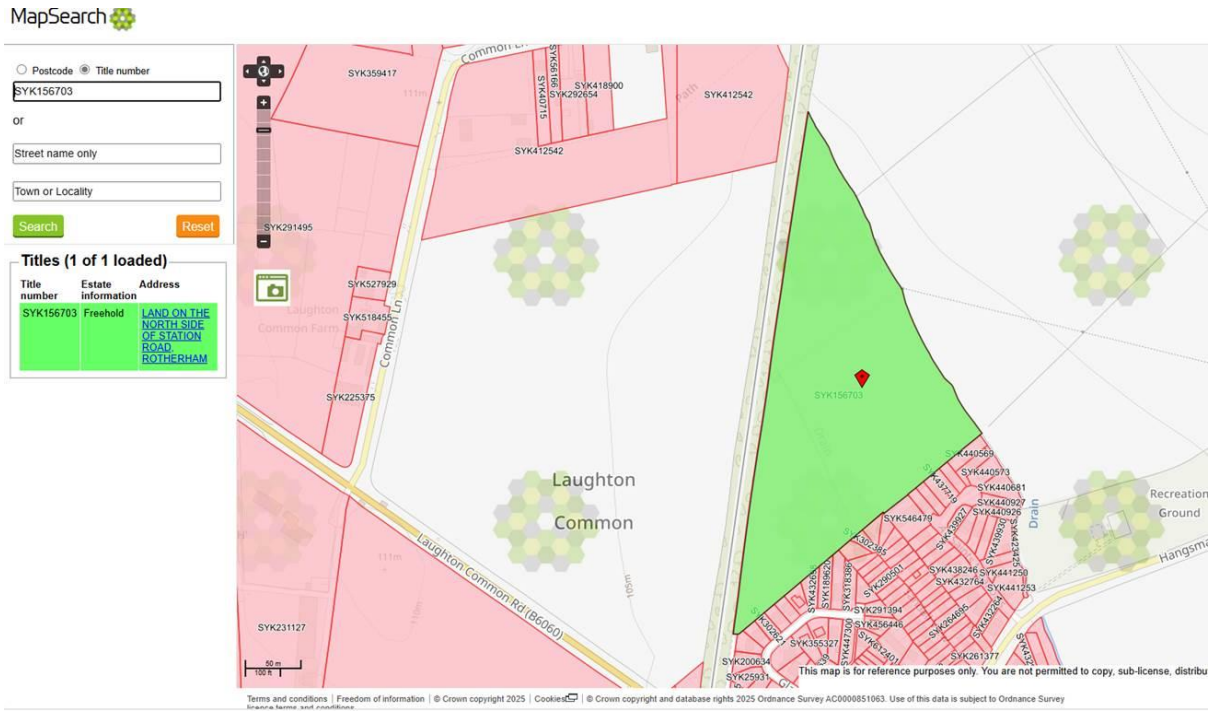
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Title

Whiston FAS
Land Ownership
General Arrangement
1 in 75 AEP Flood Extent

MMD Project Number	Scale at A1	Security
	1:1250	STD
Suitability Description		Suit. Code
Drawing Number		Rev

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MapSearch
Postcode
Title number
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Street name only
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Search
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Estate information
Address
SYK156703
Freehold
LAND ON THE NORTH SIDE OF STATION ROAD ROTHERHAM
SYK359417
SYK418900
SYK292654
SYK412542
SYK291495
SYK527929
SYK518455
SYK225375
SYK231127
Laughton Common
Laughton Common Rd (B6060)
Common Ln
SYK156703
SYK546479
SYK438246
SYK441253
SYK456446
SYK261377
SYK200634
SYK25931
Recreation Ground
Drain
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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Land Acquisition for Flood Alleviation Schemes	
Directorate: Regeneration and Environment	**Service area:** Highways and Flood Risk
Lead person: Richard Jackson Andy Saxton	**Contact:** Richard.Jackson@rotherham.gov.uk 01709 823895 Andy.Saxton@rotherham.gov.uk 07748 143010
Is this a: [ ] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [X] **Other** **If other, please specify** **Flood Alleviation Schemes**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This screening is for the task of purchasing or leasing land for two Flood Alleviation Schemes which are detailed below. A further Cabinet Report will be submitted for the

construction phases of the schemes and any implications for Equality and Diversity will be considered at that time.

The proposed Flood Alleviation Schemes at Whiston Brook and Eel Mires Dike will reduce flooding and the impacts of flooding on the villages of Whiston and Laughton Common.

The flood protection will protect against overflowing riverbanks (fluvial flooding) and overwhelmed drainage systems (pluvial flooding) caused by heavy rainfall.

Proposed works: Whiston

Worrygoose Lane Retaining Wall

- Work will involve building a secondary pipe of channel (culvert) in parallel to the existing one to increase the capacity of water that passes under the road.

Flood Storage Reservoir

- Building an embarkment around Moorhouse Lane and Little Common Lane to form a Flood Storage Reservoir that will collect floodwater during flood events. The works will also include the realignment and diversion of the main Whiston Brook Channel to align with the proposed reservoir.

Upsizing Royds Moor Culvert

- The existing B4610 (Royds Moor Hill) is proposed to be replaced with a new and larger concrete box bridge that will allow increased water flows and reduce incidences of overtopping the B6410 during flood events.

Pinchmill Brook Wetland Area

- The right floodplain of Pinchmill Brook is proposed to become a wetland to counteract the backwater impact of the reservoir basin during high flow events. The wetland would be connected to the main Whiston Brook channel via an overflow channel.

Proposed works: Laughton Common

- New flood storage area, watercourse/culvert improvement works and surface management works alongside and within the watercourses that flow through Laughton Common

- The proposed works at Laughton Common are not as advanced as those at Whiston.

To be able to undertake the proposed works described above, the land acquisition/lease of five parcels of land under separate ownership is required at Whiston.

In terms of Laughton Common, one parcel of land was already available as it was on the market to be sold and it was prudent to acquire this now as a potential new owner would be hard to identify until the Land Registry title had been updated, which would take a minimum of six months. The new owner may not be amenable to selling their land if they have only recently acquired it.

The negotiations with the landowners to date has been extensive. In some cases, individual landowners were reluctant to engage with Rotherham council initially due to previous negative relationships. However, face to face negotiations have enabled relationships with individual landowners to be formed and enhanced for the benefit of the Flood Alleviation Schemes and for Rotherham Council as a whole.

Negotiations are currently continuing with these landowners and their representatives with some reaching final agreements stage.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X

(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)		
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason
This Cabinet Report sets out the reasoning for progressing land purchase / leasing and continuing negotiations with existing land owners where their land is required to be utilised to accommodate the subsequent construction of the schemes. The purchase of land in itself does not have any implications for Equality and Diversity. A further Cabinet Report will be submitted for the construction phases of the schemes and any implications for Equality and Diversity will be considered at that time.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**
- **Key findings**
- **Actions**

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Andy Saxton	Highway Asset and Drainage Manager	08.04.2025
Richard Jackson	Head of Service for Highways and Flood Risk	08.04.2025

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	08.04.2025
Report title and date	**Land Acquisition for Flood Alleviation Schemes**
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	14th July 2024
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	2nd May 2025

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Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from transport?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

This assessment relates only to the purchase / leasing of land required to accommodate the construction of the proposed Flood Alleviation schemes. An additional Cabinet Report will be submitted for the construction phase which will consider carbon emissions on a new assessment

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

As detailed in the main report, the proposal relates to the purchase / leasing of land required to accommodate the construction of flood alleviation schemes on Whiston Brook and on Eel Mires Dike, to protect residents, businesses and local roads from flooding, in Whiston and Laughton Common, respectively.

In November 2019, 27 residential properties were flooded in Whiston and 52 in Laughton Common a combined total of eighteen residences were flooded again during storm Babet in October 2023.

In Rotherham, central climate change projections are for warmer, wetter winters and more intense rainfall all year round. National-level flood risk modelling show that with the Boroughs 's existing defences, the number of residences at high risk (greater than 1 in 30 annual probability) of flooding from river could increase 11.36 by mid-century, compared with present day risk. Greater percentage increases are modelled for other levels and sourced of flood risk. Flood alleviation schemes in Whiston, Laughton Common and elsewhere are needed to mitigate the increased risk of flooding due to climate change.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

This assessment relates only to the purchase / leasing of land required to accommodate the construction of the proposed flood alleviation schemes. An additional Cabinet Report will be submitted for the construction phase which will consider mitigation/monitoring measures. Flood alleviation schemes are needed to protect residents, business and local roads from increasing flood risk, driven by climate change

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Richard Jackson Head of Highways and Flood Risk Community Safety and Streetscene Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	• Met Office. 2025. *Climate Report for Rotherham*. [Online]. Local Authority Climate Service. [Accessed 12 May 2025]. Available from: https://www.reports.esriuk.com/view-report/b8eb3cee8f764147a2cfcd69cf36238f/E08000018 • RMBC. 2024. *Overview of the October 2023 Storm Babet Flooding Event and Response (Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Section 19 Investigation)*. [Online]. [Accessed 12 May 2025]. Available from: https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/4006/storm-babet-flood-investigation-report-29-08-24 • RMBC. 2025. *Rotherham JSNA – Environment – Climate Change*. [Online]. Rotherham Data Hub. [Accessed 12 May 2025]. Available from: https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/data/homepage/7/climate-change •
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form, please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	N/A
Validation	Tracking Reference: Tracking Reference: CIA 463 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report with Exempt Appendices
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Effingham Street Public Realm

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
Melanie Clark, Project Manager
01709 807837 or Melanie.Clark@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Boston Castle

Report Summary

This report provides Cabinet with an update on the progress of the Council's Town Centre public realm programme and seeks approval to allocate additional funding from the Town Centre Investment Fund (TCIF) to the existing budget and implement public realm improvements on Effingham Street.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approve:

1. Reallocation of funding identified in the exempt Appendix 2 from Town Centre Investment Fund (TCIF) to the proposed Effingham Street public realm improvements.

2. The delivery of the Effingham Street public realm improvements project as detailed at Appendix 1 and the budget as detailed at exempt Appendix 2.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1a Site boundary and scheme plans (Upper Effingham Street)
Appendix 1b Site boundary and scheme plans (Lower Effingham Street)
Appendix 2 Budget - Exempt
Appendix 3 Initial Equality Screening Assessment
Appendix 4 Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers

Town Centre Masterplan Public Realm Improvements Phase 1- Cabinet Report December 2019
Town Centre Masterplan Implementation - Cabinet June 21
3-7 Corporation Street Compulsory Purchase Order Update

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
No

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
An exemption is sought for Appendix 2 in relation to Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this report contains sensitive commercial information of letting a tender.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information, as the Councils commercial interests could be prejudiced by disclosure of this commercial information.

Effingham Street Public Realm

1. Background

1.1 In 2017 the Rotherham Town Centre Masterplan highlighted the critical importance of public realm enhancements to help encourage and improve movement and connectivity, particularly between Forge Island and the wider Town Centre, and to improve the physical environment and experience within the Town Centre.

1.2 In December 2019 Cabinet approved the design and implementation of plans for improvements to the Town Centre public realm through the Town Centre Improvement Fund (TCIF). This included plans for:

- College Street
- Bridgegate
- Frederick Street
- Howard Street
- Effingham Street

1.3 The arrival of the Future High Streets Fund grant (now Pathfinder) in 2021 allowed for the use of grant to 'top up' existing budgets as well as adding additional scope to the programme.

1.4 In June 2021 Cabinet approved the expansion and phasing of the public realm programme. With College Street, Frederick Street & Bridgegate underway at this point, the remainder of the original proposed programme was labelled as a second phase.

- Phase 1
  - College Street
  - Bridgegate
  - Frederick Street
- Phase 2
  - Howard Street
  - Effingham Street
- Phase 3:
  - Upper Millgate
  - Riverside Gardens
- Phase 4:
  - Market Square
  - Upper Howard Street
  - Drummond Street
  - Eastwood Lane

1.5 As of May 2025:

- Phase 1 has now completed and has been successful in revitalising the areas, making them more attractive and accessible to business owners, residents and visitors alike.
- Phase 2 Howard Street has completed; however, due to market conditions and resultant cost increases on the schemes delivered to date, the Effingham St project was placed on hold.

- Phase 3 started on site in May 2025.
- Phase 4 works are included in the redevelopment of Rotherham Markets and Library and will start on site in Q4 25/26.

1.6 The cost increases seen as a result of the delivery of the Howard Street project resulted in a reduced Phase 2 budget available for the delivery of Effingham Street, which is detailed within the exempt appendix, and this in turn resulted in a delay to the anticipated timeframe for completion by February 2024.

1.7 This report requests the allocation of additional funding (identified in the exempt Appendix 2) toward the implementation of the Effingham Street improvements and completion of the Town Centre public realm programme as set out in 2019.

2. Key Issues

2.1 **Design**

The proposed designs for the Effingham Street public realm work are detailed in Appendix 1. The design is split into two sections:

- Upper Section (Appendix 1a): running from Hastings Clock to the old Boots building.
- Lower Section (Appendix 1b): running from Market Square to the Camelia sculpture.

2.2 Works proposed as part of the scheme include:

- Replacement and upgrade of old and tired surface materials.
- Improvements and upgrade to lighting to help improve safety and CCTV functionality.
- Improved layout of market stalls along Effingham Street to provide additional space for traders and space to expand the offer to other street markets including continental food markets.
- Feature lighting to add interest to the Streetscene.
- Upgrading of street furniture.
- Infrastructure works to provide new power supplies for market stalls and events.

2.3 A cost assessment has been undertaken by the Council's Landscape Design Team. This cost plan determines the full cost for the scheme which is detailed in the exempt appendix 2. This report therefore requests an additional allocation from the TCIF programme to create sufficient budget to deliver the scheme.

2.4 **Market Trader Implications**

The outdoor covered market traders are currently displaced onto Effingham Street due to works to the Outdoor Covered Market (OCM), and they will be required to move again to allow works to take place on Effingham Street.

2.5 Upon completion of the OCM, the existing indoor traders will have first priority to move into this new space temporarily whilst the Indoor Covered Market (ICM) works are taking place. It is expected that once this decant has taken place there will be some remaining space for displaced outdoor traders to return to the OCM. The need for additional space will be determined through engagement with traders, seasonal requirements and reviews of stall take up following reopening of the OCM. Should there be sufficient demand for on street trading, Frederick Street will be proposed as the preferred solution.

2.6 **Phasing Implications**
The programme is dependent on achievement of the construction programme for the Markets and Library redevelopment due to co-ordination with the market stall holders and the requirement of relocating them whilst work takes place. Work is due to start on site in February 2026 on completion of the works to the Outdoor Covered Market and related public realm, therefore mitigating the risk of contractor conflict.

2.7 The works will require phased closure of Effingham Street. The appointed contractor will be asked to ensure limited disruption to shops and the public, keeping access to retailers throughout the works.

2.8 **Revenue Implications**
The future maintenance of the scheme will be managed under the grounds and street maintenance cleansing programme of the Town Centre teams and is included in the current allocated revenue budget and resource establishment. This programme is under continual review due to predicted increasing footfall levels.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 There are no alternative design options proposed for the Effingham Street Upper Section. A high quality scheme is required to enhance the character of the Old Town Hall listed building and, therefore, any reduced design options are not proposed.

3.2 Design options considered for Effingham Street Lower Section are as follows:

3.2.1 **Option A** – Ensure a consistent palette of materials and design across the town centre, helping with the creation of a better pedestrian flow and a greater sense of pride in the town centre. Replace paving with natural stone, the paving palette which has been used across other public realm schemes in Rotherham Town Centre. Replace concrete paving in carriageway. All elements such as street lighting, uplighting to trees and power for events are included.
This option is recommended.

3.2.2 **Option B** – Replicate the Town Centre's existing concrete paving palette along the footways (the areas that haven't been enhanced in other Town Centre public realm work). Replace concrete paving in carriageway. Concrete does not align with the desired aesthetic for the Town Centre. Natural stone has been implemented on the rest of the completed Town Centre public realm schemes.
This option is not recommended.

3.2.3 **Option C** – Minimal updates to surface materials, localising making good to existing block paved areas. Uplighting to trees, new grilles and power for events would be omitted.

The upper section of Effingham Street will have a high quality standard of work to stay in keeping with the Old Town Hall. To do minimal updates further down the same street in the lower section would create an unbalanced and visually unappealing appearance.
This option is not recommended.

3.2.4 **Option D** – Do nothing.

This is not a recommended option. This could negatively impact the council's reputation. The public are aware of these future plans and failing to act on them could lead to a loss of trust and confidence in the council's commitment to addressing community needs and improving the Town Centre.
This option is not recommended.

3.3 It is therefore recommended that Option A is accepted and taken forward.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Throughout 2019, consultation took place with a wide range of stakeholders and groups to seek feedback on possible interventions that were set out in the Town Centre public realm programme as part of the Town Centre Masterplan. The feedback received from the public and Town users was positive.

4.2 In May 2025 engagement was undertaken with market traders and affected businesses to notify them of the work that will be carried out. Communication with affected stakeholders will continue throughout the detailed design stage. They will also be informed of all key dates so they are aware of how the works will impact them as far in advance as possible to ensure a seamless relationship whilst works are underway.

4.3 Locally, a strategic engagement plan formed a key part of the Town Investment Plan (TIP); MyTown portal was used to initially engage the wider community in understanding the Town's needs. As the TIP was progressed, a more targeted approach was developed, enabling the public to comment directly on proposals via a Virtual Exhibition (in line with Covid

19 restrictions). The presence of the platform was promoted through social media and Council newsletters.

4.4 Events such as the Rotherham Show have also provided a platform for sharing plans and obtaining feedback from communities regarding the Town's regeneration proposals.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1

Activity	Target Date
Detailed designs of Phase 1 to RIBA Stage 4	August 2025
Procurement exercise for a main works contractor	Q2 2025 – Q4 2026
Works commence on site	February 2026

5.2 Accountability for implementation of this decision lies with the Assistant Director, Planning, Regeneration & Environment.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The estimated cost of the project can be found in the exempt Appendix 2, along with proposals for how the project will be funded. The on-going maintenance costs for the upgraded public realm will be funded by existing budgets.

6.2 Dependent on the route to market determined to be the most appropriate for the project, the procurement must be undertaken in compliance with the Procurement Act 2023 or the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The recommendations are consistent with the policies and plans of the Council as referred to in the body of the report. The procurement to be undertaken in respect of the proposal will need to be compliant with the Procurement Act 2023 or the Public Contract Regulations 2015 dependent on the preferred route to market.

7.2 The procurement undertaken in respect of the proposal will result in a comprehensive construction contract to protect the Council's investment and to secure the planned outcome.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct HR implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are not thought to be any direct implications, however the overall improvement of the Town Centre is considered to be beneficial on the entire community.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 The proposed plans for the Town Centre will improve accessibility and be suitable for all users. The increased safety measures will help to deter crime and anti-social behaviour creating a safer and more inclusive community for everyone.

10.2 An Initial Equality Screening has been completed and is attached as Appendix 3. A Full Equality Assessment will be completed at the Full Business Case stage in Q4 2026.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There will be an increase in emissions during the construction period. Through contractor engagement it is hoped that the emissions during construction can be kept to a minimum, promote waste segregation and diversion from landfill. There are no other direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 The work on Effingham Street may cause temporary disruption within the work boundary therefore close collaboration will be maintained with the market stall holders and business owners in the vicinity, ensuring continuous co-ordination and engagement both before and during the works. Engagement with stakeholders took place in May 2025.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Contractor availability affecting deliverability within the preferred timescales. While the procurement approach is yet to be confirmed the new External Works framework could be engaged to reduce procurement timescales and ensure the availability of suitable contractors.

13.2 Dependency on the Market and Library redevelopment programme. Maintain overview of markets and library project and ensure potential contractors are aware of the dependencies.

13.3 Miscommunication or lack of understanding of impact on stakeholders a. Maintain regular engagement with market stall holders and other

stakeholders to ensure they are informed and involved in the planning process.

14. Accountable Officers

14.1 Simon Moss, Assistant Director Planning, Regeneration & Transport

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/2025
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	09/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	04/06/25

Report Author: *Melanie Clark, Project Manager*
01709 807837 or Melanie.Clark@rotherham.gov.uk
This report is published on the Council's website.

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Town Centre Public Ream Improvements

Phase Two - Effingham Street (Upper section) Detailed Masterplan

OLD TOWN HALL

EFFINGHAM SQUARE

MARKET SQUARE

Facade lighting to extend beyond scheme extents for completeness.

Paving mix 1 colour mix to mirror that on nearby Howard St Note unit size variation.

Old Town Hall Arcade Entrance

Natural stone Granite setts

Natural stone Granite channel

Existing tree to retain

Existing tree to retain

Hastings Clock

Existing lighting column postition altered to suit Market stall layout.

Existing tree to retain

2no hardwood timber seats with backrests & armrests

2no hardwood timber benches to plaza area.

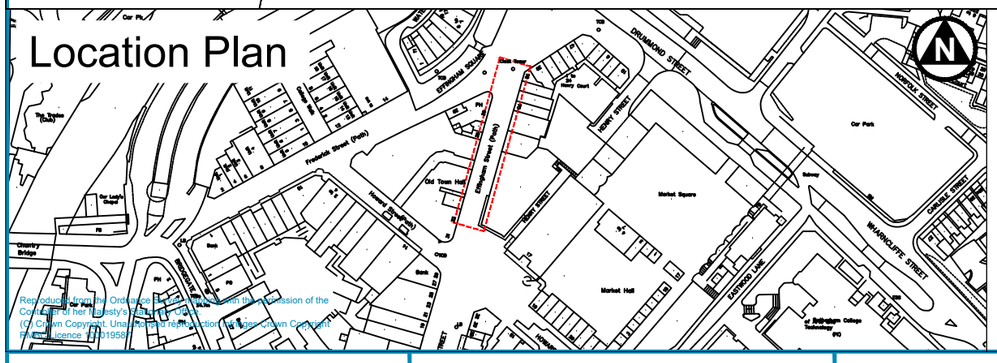
Extent of granite paving to plaza area to match Howard Street entrance.

2no hardwood timber seats with backrests & armrests

Indicative alignment of Hostile Vehicle mitigation seating blocks.

Existing double headed lighting column retained

Location Plan



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Key to Features

Natural Stone Paving

- Proposed Marshalls Elara Granite setts. Mix of 300x200x75 / 300x150x75.
- Proposed Marshalls Elara Granite setts. 100x100x75.

Concrete Paving

- Paving Mix 1- Pedestrian Zone. Proposed Marshall's Modal concrete paving. 200x300x80 / 300x300x80 (Dual Paver Pattern) 33% Light Granite, 33% Light Cream Granite, 33% Oatmeal Granite.Textured finish.
- Paving Mix 3 - Transition Band. Proposed Marshall's Modal concrete paving. 100x100x80. 100% Mid Grey Granite. Textured finish.

Edging

- Concrete Paving Trim 8 to Tree surrounds. Proposed Marshall's Modal concrete paving. 300x100x80. Soldier course. Oatmeal. Textured Finish.
- Concrete Paving (corner pieces). Proposed Marshall's Modal concrete paving. 300x300x80 including cut out for uplighters. Oatmeal. Textured Finish.
- Paving Trim 5. Proposed Marshall's Modal concrete paving. 600x300x80. Stretcher course. Oatmeal Granite. Textured Finish.
- Proposed natural stone edging to tree pits. Marshalls Elara Granite kerbs. 300mm wide as tree surrounds - refer to tree pit detail

Street Furniture

- Proposed hardwood timber bench. Broxap Desford I Bench (or similar & approved). 1920x480x440mm. FSC certified timber. Galvanised mild steel base with powder-coated finish to RAL 7024. Surface-mounted.
- Proposed hardwood timber seat. Broxap Desford IV Seat (or similar & approved) with backrests and armrests. 1920x480x440mm. FSC certified timber. Galvanised mild steel base with powder-coated finish to RAL 7024. Surface-mounted.
- Proposed tree grille. Proprietary Galvanisted steel recessed tree grille with recessed resin infill panels to match Howard Street (or similar & approved). 1400x1400mm.
- LB Existing litter bin to be relocated (or replaced) to position illustrated.
- Hostile vehicle seating block (shallow mounted) location subject to utilities, trial holes and detailed specialist design required.
- HVB Removeable hostile vehicle bollard array (shallow mounted) location subject to utilities, trial holes and detailed specialist design required

Lighting

- L1 Proposed uplighter to trees. LED recessed uplighter with symmetrical beam. Static. Integral driver. Flush with surrounding paving. Ability to incline post-installation. Pedestrain and cyclist loading capability. Include anti-slip coating. Allow for sealable junction box.
- L2 Proposed under-seat marker lighting. Four-way floor grazing LED recessed marker light, Static. 3000k. Black body colour. Integral driver. Allow for sealable juntion box.
- L3 Proposed facade uplighter. Canon 30 - LED recessed circular in ground up-lighter, 240v, 12 degree beam with honeycomb louver, warm white LED, 30w. As supplied by Ark Lighting Ltd quote ref SO5252. Allow for sealable junction box.
- Proposed street lights. Orientation of luminaries as per drawing. 6m Fabrikat Ltd Conical tapered lighting column with 4000k side entry mounted highway diamond 44 LED 700ma FO lens CLO enabled mounted at 0 deg tilt by ASD Lighting Powder-coated to RAL 7024. subject to final lighting engineer confirmation.

Planting

- Existing trees to be retained

Miscellaneous

- Site extents.
- Entry points to buildings.
- Suggested market stall locations - in-situ anchor points to be installed.

Drainage

- Proposed road gully to replace existing. 310x380mm size to match existing.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Regeneration & Environment

Strategic Director:
Andrew Bramidge MA Urban Regen

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Regeneration & Environment
Riverside House, Main Street,
Rotherham S60 1AE

Client:

Rev.	Description
C	Plaza area reduced to match Howard Street.
B	Street lighting relocated to exg positions.
A	Catenary lighting omitted from scheme.

Title: Rotherham Town Centre Public Realm Improvements
Effingham Street - Upper Section

Masterplan

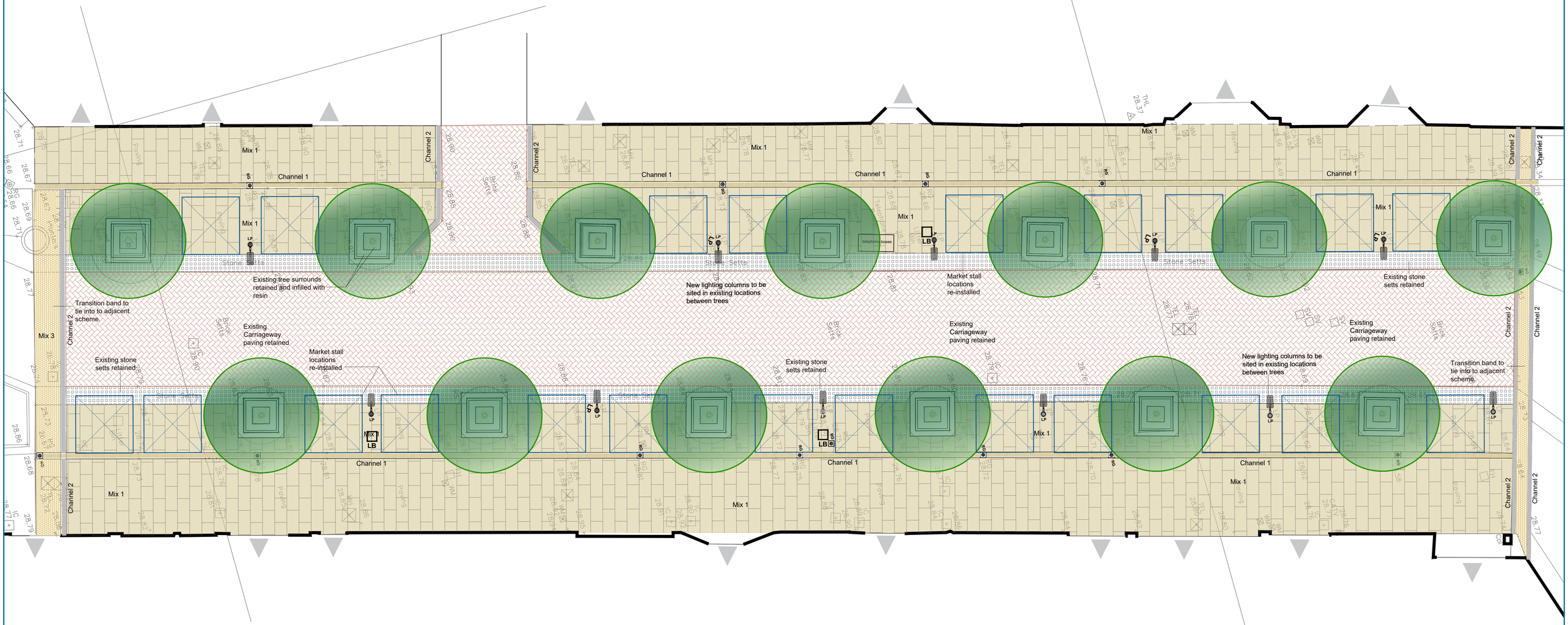
Dwg. No.	Rev.	Scales (if A3)
L5034_101	C	1:250

Drawn MF | Date 17/02/2025 | Chd. by SHa

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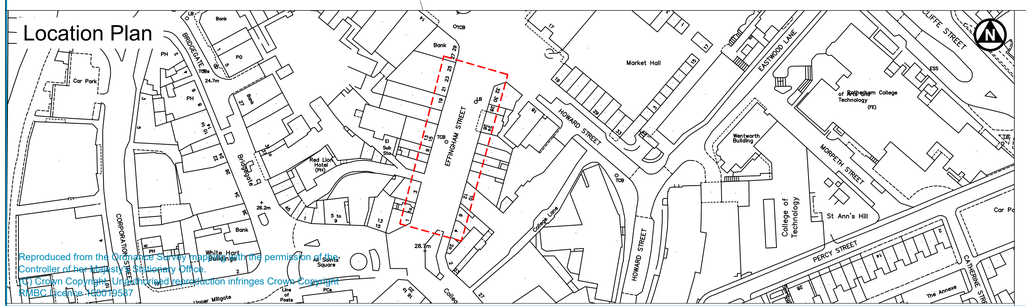
Town Centre Public Ream Improvements

Phase Two - Effingham Street (Lower Section) Detailed Masterplan



Option A - Natural Stone Palette

Location Plan



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Key to Features

Natural Stone Paving

- Proposed Marshalls scoutmoor paving, flamed finish. Mix of 600mm and 450mm coursing using, random lenghths 75 mm depth on mortar bed with mortar jointing.
- Proposed scoutmour Setts. 150x150x75mm on mortar bed with mortar joints.
- Existing stone sett margin retained .

Concrete Paving

- Existing Carriageway Paving. Existing concrete block paving to carriageway areas to be retained and locally made good.

Edging

- Natural Stone Dished Channel (Channel 1). Existing natural stone dished channel (retain and make good) 1000 x 300 x 80, stretcher bond.
- Natural Stone Flush Channel (Channel 2). Marshalls Silver Grey Granite 1000 x 300 x 80, stretcher bond.

Planting

- Existing trees to be retained

Street Furniture

- Proposed resin filled tree pit to match existing.
- LB — Existing litter bin to be relocated (or replaced) to position illustrated.
- Suggested market stall locations insitu anchors required.

Drainage

- Exsting road gullies retained and made good.

Lighting

- Proposed street lights. Orientation of luminaries as per drawing, Powder-coated to RAL 7024 subject to final lighting engineer confirmation.

Miscellaneous

- Scheme extents
- Entry points to buildings.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Regeneration & Environment

Strategic Director:
Andrew Bramidge MA Urban Regen

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Regeneration & Environment
Riverside House, Main Street,
Rotherham S60 1AE

Client:

Rotherham Investment & Development Office

Rev.	Description	Date	Initial	Chd.
A	Reduced scheme option with new footway surfacing, streetlighting replacement and making good to tree pits only	Feb 2025	SH	SH

Project	Rotherham Town Centre Public Realm Improvements Effingham Street - Lower Section
Title	Masterplan - Option 2A - Natural Stone Footways only
Dwg. No.	L5034/102
Rev	A
Scales (if A1)	1:100
Drawn	SH
Date	February 2025
Chd. by	SH

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Appendix 3

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Effingham Street – Town Centre Public Realm Update Report	
Directorate: Regeneration and Environment	**Service area:** RiDO
Lead person: Melanie Clark	**Contact:** 01709 807837

Is this a:

	Strategy / Policy		**Service / Function**	X	**Other**

If other, please specify
Implementation of public realm works in the town centre.

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Service is requesting to reallocate funding from the identified Capital Programme, Town Centre Investment Fund, and approval of proposed designs to enable the redevelopment of Effingham Street Public Realm as part of the last phase of the public realm works specified within the Town Centre Masterplan.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

Appendix 3

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		x
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	x	
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		x
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*	x	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		x
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		x

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

Appendix 3

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

The proposed plans for Effingham Street take equality and diversity in to consideration. The consultation process for the TC Masterplan, which took place in throughout 2019, a number of groups and external and internal stakeholders were contacted to ensure the needs of users are captured, considered and incorporated (where practicable) into the designs.

- **Key findings**

The proposed plans for the town centre will enhance the public open space(s) and provide opportunities for town centre users to socialise together. The improved open space will also provide additional areas to hold events in the town centre, further providing opportunity for increased social interaction. Equipment and furniture etc. will be selected to ensure it is accessible and suitable for all users.

Safety improvements will be made to ensure the town is a welcoming environment, including improved lighting. These improvements increase visibility, making it easier to identify and deter potential anti-social behaviour creating a safer and more inclusive community for everyone.

Liaison with appropriate stakeholder access groups will be undertaken and appropriate features incorporated within the design. Where existing ground levels and infrastructure allow, all paved surfaces will be designed to conform to current accessibility standards.

- **Actions**

To ensure the proposed redevelopment of Effingham Street Public Realm aligns with equality and diversity considerations, the following actions will be undertaken:

Regularly engage with relevant stakeholder access groups to ensure their needs are continuously considered throughout the project lifecycle. Organise public consultation events to gather input from the wider community, ensuring transparency and inclusivity in the decision-making process.

Provide training for staff involved in the project on equality and diversity principles to ensure they understand the importance of these considerations in their work.

Regularly monitor and report on the progress of the equality and diversity actions to ensure accountability and transparency within the project team and organisation.

Appendix 3

Additionally, all equipment and furniture selected will be accessible and suitable for all users, and safety improvements such as enhanced lighting will be implemented to create a welcoming and inclusive environment. Regular engagement and reviews will be scheduled to monitor the impact on equality and diversity and make necessary adjustments.

A Full Equality Assessment will be completed at the Full Business Case stage in Q4 2026.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	January 2026
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	March 2026
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Melanie Clark

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Lorna Vertigan	Head of Regeneration	08/04/2025
Melanie Clark	Project Manager	08/04/2025

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	04/04/2025
Report title and date	Effingham Street – Town Centre Public Realm Update Report
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer	09/06/2025

decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	04/04/2025

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Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	N/A	N/A
Emissions from transport?	None	Contractor vehicles visiting and working on the site could increase emissions during the construction period. The main types of proposed paving are manufactured in the UK.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	Ask contractor to minimise deliveries to site. Look to promote active travel and reduce single occupancy car journeys.	Through design tender and construction process – monthly contractor reports.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Increase	Engagement with the contractor on the design and delivery to ensure there is minimal waste created from the Effingham Street public realm works.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	Engagement with the contractor to ensure promotion of waste segregation and diversion from landfill during the construction process and adherence with local waste management practice during operation.	Statutory reporting requirements during construction.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	N/A	N/A

Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	There will be an increase in emissions from construction due the extraction, manufacture and transportation of materials; waste and transportation of workers and machinery.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	As above in transport and waste sections.	Through design tender and construction process – monthly contractor reports.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	The current number of trees that are established on Effingham Street are staying in situ. No additional trees are being planted.	There are no direct implications expected from the Effingham Street public realm works.	N/A	N/A

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

Providing power to the market stalls could have several impacts, depending on whether this is replacing existing generators used by traders or creating new demand for electricity. Replacing existing generators (which may be run off diesel) with mains power is likely to reduce emissions as mains electricity has a lower carbon factor (ie – some of the electricity is sourced from renewable sources).

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

There are limited impacts on the ability of council services or local people to adapt climate change as a result of this project. Potential impacts may include:

- There may be some differences in terms of the risk of surface water run-off between the current paving materials and the new paving material proposed to be installed.
- Upgraded benches to provide improved seating – features like this can help vulnerable residents rest during periods of extreme heat.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

There will be an increase in emissions during the construction period. These include emissions from:

- Transportation: through the transportation of workers, materials and machinery. This will be mitigated through asking for deliveries to be minimised and for single use car journeys to be minimised.

- Waste: through the disposal of the old paving materials. Through contractor engagement it is hoped that the emissions during construction can be kept to a minimum, promote waste segregation and diversion from landfill.
- Materials: extracting, manufacturing and transportation of the paving materials used. This is mitigated by the two main proposed types of paving being manufactured within the UK.
- Energy use: The provision of mains power to the market stalls is a significant improvement, as it replaces the need for diesel generators. This change not only reduces noise and air pollution but also provides a more reliable and sustainable energy source for the vendors.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Melanie Clark Project Manager RiDO Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	N/A.
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	N/A.
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA444 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report with Exempt Appendices
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Health Hub Development

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
Andrea Brough, Regeneration Service Manager
Andrea.brough@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Boston Castle

Report Summary
This report seeks approval to progress a proposal to refurbish 42-46 Effingham Street (the former Boots building) in Rotherham Town Centre for the purpose of developing a Town Centre health facility.

The proposal is to develop the building in two phases, with the first phase being to secure the provision of a pharmacy within the facility and to support the pharmacy's required relocation.

The second phase will be to develop the wider building in collaboration with health care service providers to provide a building that is equipped to facilitate the delivery of multiple health services direct to the public.

The proposal is to reallocate a portion of funding from the Town Centre Music Venue project, part of the Pathfinder programme, to fund the Phase 1 works and Phase 2 feasibility studies.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approve delivery of Phase 1 of the Town Centre Health Hub project within the scope and budget as detailed at Appendix 1 and Exempt Appendix 2.

2. Approve the allocation of funding from the Pathfinder programme to progress to final design and implementation of Phase 1 and feasibility work for Phase 2.

3. Note the intentions for Phase 2 of the Town Centre Health Hub and approve the commencement of negotiations with interested parties for the provision of General Practice or other walk-in health services.

4. Note the intentions for the Town Centre Music Venue project.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1a Design Concept (Exterior)
Appendix 1b Design Concept (Ground floor plan)
Appendix 2 Financial Assessment - Exempt
Appendix 3 Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix 4 Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Report to Cabinet April 2023 Regeneration Programme: Strategic Land Assembly

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
An exemption is sought for Appendix 2 in relation to Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this report contains sensitive commercial information of letting a tender.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information, as the Councils commercial interests could be prejudiced by disclosure of this commercial information.

Health Hub Development

1. Background

1.1 Rotherham has long standing ambitions for the regeneration of the Town Centre, which focus on the diversification of the offer including new residential communities and the leisure and service provision which will support them. This ambition is supported in the 2017 masterplan, 2021 Town Investment Plan and 2023 Place Based Investment Strategy.

1.2 This report seeks to promote 'Health on the High Street' within Rotherham town centre. The provision of health services in town centres is a proven model to reduce health inequality, improve access to health services as well as contribute to the regeneration of town centres by increasing footfall on the high street. This is a concept that has been promoted by central Government in recent years. Having been tried and tested across the country in areas such as Barnsley and Oldham, the Council wishes to build on the redevelopment and improvement of the markets and library services by providing a community hub for health provision.

1.3 Rotherham Town Centre is currently limited in its provision of health care services and the Council has been working in partnership with health service partners to consider how that provision may be increased. This project would see the first step in improving the provision of health services for the Town Centre and surrounding communities.

1.4 The Council embarked on a plan to acquire various underused land and property across the Town Centre including 42-46 Effingham Street, the former Boots building which was operating as a retail outlet until 2022 when Boots closed, leaving the building empty and unused. Acquisition was completed in May 2023 and the building is currently being used for storage by the Markets and the Events team, as well as a site office for the Markets and Library redevelopment project.

1.5 A phased approach to development is proposed with the intention of maximising available funding and the opportunity presented by the estate requirements of partners. This report seeks approval to proceed with the implementation of the first phase and development of the feasibility of the later phase(s).

2. Key Issues

42-46 Effingham Street

2.1 The building is a large property in a key, prominent Town Centre location, neighbouring the new Rotherham Markets and Central Library. There is a negative visual impact with the building remaining empty without activity that supports and adds to a vibrant Town Centre. While the Council has not actively marketed the building there have been no approaches from the private sector to let or redevelop the building.

2.2 Since acquisition, the building has been used as temporary storage for the Council's Markets Service and Events Team and as a site office base for Henry Boot Construction and their activities.

2.3 A phased approach to development is recommended as follows:

Phase 1 – Abbey Pharmacy

2.4 The ongoing redevelopment of the Indoor Covered Market building requires vacant possession of all properties on Howard Street to enable the works to be carried out, which require Abbey Pharmacy to vacate their current premises.

2.5 The Council's Property Services Team has engaged with all tenants affected by the market's project and sought to agree terms for relocation utilising the provisions under each individual lease.

2.6 The Pharmacy have protected rights under the Landlord & Tenant Act 1954 which includes an automatic right to renew their lease at the end of the term. They have a right to 'quiet enjoyment of the premises' until 26th June 2032. There is also a covenant within the lease that states that the 'Council agrees to indemnify the Lessee against all charges which would extend to relocation of the business in this instance.

2.7 Similarly, Property Services have engaged with the pharmacy and relocation to this building would be their preference. This solution would ensure the Council are able to secure the vacant possession required to continue with the market's redevelopment, while retaining the pharmacy service in the town centre.

2.8 The Council has been working with the pharmacy owners to fully understand their business needs and to incorporate their specific requirements into the evolving designs. The first phases of the design works have been completed for feasibility purposes and the pharmacy are happy that the design meets their trading needs.

Town Centre Music Venue

2.9 Rotherham's 2021 Town Investment Plan included a project to bring the former Guest & Chrimes site into use as a music venue. Having been unable to agree terms with the owner, this project later switched location to the former Empire Theatre building (Essoldo). Due to issues related to the costs of the project and the funding available, in July 2024 Cabinet agreed to move the project to the Council owned Alma Tavern, developing designs at costs to RIBA Stage 3 before returning to Cabinet with an update.

2.10 Stage 2 designs have now been completed and the updated cost plan demonstrates a cost significantly in excess of the funding available. Therefore, while there are benefits of supporting music provision in the Town Centre, the costs of the project are proving prohibitive to the public sector. It is therefore

proposed to seek private sector support for the project and the methodology for this is currently in review.

Funding Proposal

2.11 The estimated costs at this stage for the delivery of the phase 1 proposal are shown in the exempt Appendix 2. This includes significant mechanical and electrical works for the benefit of the whole building, as these cannot be done in isolation. It is proposed that the works will be allocated funding from the Pathfinder budget.

2.12 Rotherham's inclusion in the Pathfinder pilot programme, which provides greater freedom and flexibility in delivery, allows the movement of funds below the £5m 'material change' threshold, subject to oversight by Rotherham Town Board. It is proposed that a proportion of the remaining budget be reallocated to support delivery of phase 1 of the Town Centre Health Hub project.

2.13 Remaining funds will be retained to support improvement works towards a future provision at the Alma Tavern.

2.14 The Town Board approved this proposal being made to Cabinet on 12th June 2025.

Phase 2

2.15 There are two distinct phases to this proposal with the first being the relocation of the pharmacy and the second being the exploration of the development of a new Town Centre health facility within the remainder of the building.

2.16 The Council has been liaising with health providers over the last year. Providers recognise the benefit of a health provision in this location and are actively engaging with the feasibility process.

2.17 Evidence suggests there are multiple benefits to providing health services within easily accessible town centre spaces. The case study evidence within the Government prospectus for the Plan for Neighbourhoods exemplifies the 'Health on the High Street' approach taken in Barnsley. Evidence provided states that proximity to public transport has minimised missed appointments and has attracted an additional 55,000 visits to the town centre, supporting local businesses. It cites 'improved health outcomes and economic growth, improving patient care and fostering a greater sense of community' amongst the positive outcomes of the facility.

2.18 Additionally, the wider Government plan for change also aims to cut NHS waiting times and deliver more appointments during weekends and evenings. There is scope within phase 2 of the Health Hub project to directly address these issues by potentially offering services from a convenient location which could take pressure off existing NHS provisions within Rotherham.

2.19 In terms of phase 2, there have been no decisions on how the remainder of the building will be utilised, but it is envisaged that the building could be used by GPs, Health or Wellbeing operators This is being reviewed and a feasibility

study is being undertaken to deliver a connected and collaborative health provision in the Town Centre. A further report will be presented detailing these future operations and connectivity of users and services within the building. The future report will set out the arrangements that will be in place with any provider or tenants, including any levels of investment, leases and service charges.

Funding Proposal

2.20 Feasibility works will be undertaken to RIBA Stage 4 following professional advice from the Building Design team and a proposed budget for this is shown in the exempt Appendix 2. This would provide the full suite of feasibility works including initial designs and cost analysis. It is requested that this funding be allocated from the Pathfinder funding.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Phase 1: Pharmacy relocation:

3.1.1 **Option 1**: Relocation to alternative premises elsewhere in the town.
This option has been fully investigated by the Council's Property Services team who have looked at all alternative town centre solutions including premises owned by the Council and premises under private sector ownership. There is a lack of vacant Council units within the town centre as the Council does not own a significant amount of property within the town centre area. There were a limited number of available options with private landlords.

3.1.2 Due to the terms of the lease, the Council would be required to carry out and fund all internal fit out works within a private landlord's property to ensure that the pharmacy could experience minimal interrupted trade. This would have been a permanent move for the pharmacy as they have clearly stated that they do not wish to move multiple times. **This option is not recommended**

3.1.3 **Option 2:** Remaining in their current location whilst works are undertaken.
The Building Design Team has investigated this option and also taken professional advice from the Markets & Library contractor. They have looked at the possibility of installing a crash deck to protect the retail area of the building, this would involve the construction of a platform to protect the building areas below from any falling debris, but this would prevent the pharmacy from using the full extent of their property, including their staff welfare facilities. The contractor also strongly advised against this option.

3.1.4 Installing a crash deck would be an expensive solution and Property Services advise that this still would not mitigate the health and safety risks. It would also mean that the pharmacy shop front would be heavily scaffolded, and the unit would need to be accessed through the scaffolding by customers. This is not a solution recommended by in-house professionals or the contractors who will be carrying out the works on the markets redevelopment.
This option is not recommended.

3.1.5 **Option 3:** Provision of a pharmacy outlet for occupation by Abbey Pharmacy within the former Boots building. This option would enable the Pharmacy to relocate close to their existing premises, therefore with minimal impact on their customer base. This is the preferred option of the pharmacy and would enable the vacant possession of their existing premises to prevent costly delays with the indoor market refurbishment contract. AHR architects have been appointed to develop proposals and cost implications for this option to establish feasibility. The detail of the feasibility including initial designs and initial cost advice is included within Appendix 1 & 2. It is proposed that this is developed into a full comprehensive specification and will then be subject to a procurement exercise to engage a contractor to carry out the works. Funding has been identified for this as an allocation from the Pathfinder budget. Details of the costs associated with this option are attached within exempt Appendix 2)
This option is recommended.

3.2 **Phase 2: Town Centre health service provision**

3.2.1 **Option 1**: Do nothing and allow the market to dictate the use for the property. This option would require the building to be sold on the open market. Given the Council originally acquired the property to prevent it being used for storage there is no guarantee that the building would either be purchased or that any future use would support town centre activity and vibrancy. At the present time the Council has received no enquiries from potential purchasers or leaseholders looking to locate in this part of the town.
This option is not recommended.

3.2.2 **Option 2:** Refurbish and advertise for letting as a retail unit. This would incur refurbishment costs without an identified end user. Due to the size of the building, it is unlikely that it would attract one single use, therefore it would incur significant additional refurbishment costs to be able to create multiple independently operated units. This option would require substantial additional feasibility work to explore whether this would be an option in terms of servicing multiple individual units.
This option is not recommended.

3.2.3 **Option 3**: Carry out full detailed studies and cost analysis based on refurbishing the building in partnership with healthcare providers to deliver a centralised ‘health hub’ that will provide much needed services for the town centre within an accessible location. This option would meet the needs of health care delivery partners and support RMBC’s aspirations for the town centre.

3.2.4 The cost of feasibility works and design development are proposed to be allocated from the Pathfinder budget. The costs and detail of the required feasibility works are included within Appendix 2. This feasibility works will provide the information required to enable informed cost estimates to be prepared along with the assurance that the building can accommodate the needs of health service delivery partners to improve their service delivery to the town centre. The initial sketches that the feasibility will investigate are included at Appendix 1. These designs will be developed into a full

specification if the project is deemed viable and then subject to a procurement exercise to identify a contractor to carry out the works. This is the recommended option.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Abbey Pharmacy have been consulted by the Council's Property Services team over the last 12 months and are fully aware, and supportive of the proposals.

4.2 Key strategic documents such as, the Long Term Plan for Towns, highlight the importance and transformational effect a town centre health provision can achieve. The case study evidence based on findings from Barnsley town centre further supports this. Consultation with representatives from health partners has been ongoing for approximately 12 months in order to prepare the design briefs to formulate the options for development of the second phase proposals.

4.3 Once feasibility designs have been developed, public consultation exercises can be scoped and planned in partnership with health care providers to ensure that the services planned to be delivered meet the needs and aspirations of the service users. The consultation plan will be developed and presented to Councillors for approval at the appropriate time in the process through a further report to Cabinet.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Phase 1: relocation of Abbey Pharmacy: The timescales required for the procurement, will be determined by the appropriate route to market selected through the analysis undertaken in the pre-procurement business case (i.e. direct award via a Framework Agreement or competitive tender).

	Direct Award	Competitive Tender	
Milestone	Date completed	Date completed	Responsible
Procurement	October 25	December 25	Led by procurement team and Building Design Team
Mobilisation and Works Start on Site	November 25	January 26	Contract managed by Building Design Team
Completion of Works	January 26	March 26	Lease issues led by Property Services Team
Pharmacy relocation	February 26	April 2026	Led by Property Services Team

5.1.1 The proposed timescales are within those acceptable under the terms of the MHCLG Pathfinder. Whilst the original date for completion of spend was end

of March 2026, on 14th April 2025 MHCLG confirmed an allocation of £16.7m could be utilised up to end of March 2027.

5.2 Phase 2: feasibility of health hub provision within remainder of building

Milestone	Date	Responsible
Feasibility and initial cost advice	August 2025	Led by Regeneration Service
Design development to RIBA 4 and cost plan	October 2025	Led by Regeneration service
Funding strategy	November 2025	Led by Regeneration Service
Cabinet Approval	March 2026	Led by Regeneration Service

5.2.1 The proposed governance structure for the delivery of the feasibility and early design stage for the Health Hub is proposed as follows:

5.3 Project group:
Coordinated by the Regeneration Service and attended by the lead officers from the Regeneration Service, Building Design Team, Public Health Team, the Health Service providers and the Architect.

5.3.1 Progress from the Task and Finish Group will be reported through the Regeneration Programme Board and Capital DLT and the Markets and Library Board for phase 1.

5.3.2 Following completion and acceptance by all parties of the full feasibility and design works for phase 2, a project delivery governance structure will be proposed and detailed in a further Cabinet report.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 All procurement activity detailed in this report must be undertaken in compliance with the relevant procurement legislation (Procurement Act 2023 or the Public Contracts Regulations 2015), which will be determined based on the route to market identified, as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

6.2 The estimated capital costs associated with these proposals, phase 1 and phase 2, are included within the exempt Appendix 2. It is proposed that phase 1, the pharmacy relocation and feasibility costs associated with phase 2, the development of the Town Centre Health Hub, are funded by reallocating Pathfinder funding earmarked for the Town Centre Music Venue. As the amount to be reallocated is below the MHCLG's £5m materiality threshold, there is no requirement to seek formal MHCLG approval. However, there is a requirement to seek the approval of the Rotherham Town Board for this funding reallocation.

6.3 Property Services have led discussions with the Abbey Pharmacy in respect of relocation. The current lease has a number of years to run and is protected

by the Landlord and Tenant Act. Under the current lease arrangements, the pharmacy are responsible for all internal repairs / maintenance and utility costs and this will continue to be the case once relocated. The Council will be responsible for all external repairs. The rent for the new premises will be set based on market value for the size of the new unit created.

6.4 In terms of phase 2, there have been no decisions on how the remainder of the building will be utilised, but it is envisaged that the building could be used by GPs, Health or Wellbeing operators This is being reviewed and a feasibility study is being undertaken to deliver a connected and collaborative health provision in the Town Centre. A further report will be presented detailing these future operations and connectivity of users and services within the building. The future report will set out the arrangements that will be in place with any provider or tenants, including any levels of investment, leases and service charges.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The Council's Property Services team has engaged with all tenants affected by the market's project and sought to agree terms for relocation utilising the provisions under each individual lease.

7.2 The Pharmacy has protected rights under the Landlord & Tenant Act 1954, which includes an automatic right to renew their lease at the end of the term. They have a right to 'quiet enjoyment of the premises' until 26th June 2032. There is a covenant within the lease that states that the Council agrees to indemnify the Lessee against all charges which would extend to relocation of the business in this instance.

7.3 All procurement activity detailed in the report must be undertaken in compliance with the relevant procurement legislation (Procurement Act 2023 or the Public Contracts Regulations 2015), which will be determined based on the route to market identified, as well as the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Additional health provision located within the town centre improves accessibility and increases the Borough wide health service provision. A dedicated building serves to provide a full range of extended services including those targeted at specific and vulnerable groups.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no negative implications.

Phase 1, Pharmacy: positively supporting their relocation due to the refurbishment of the Indoor Market to retain their business within a town centre location.

10.2 Phase 2, Health Hub: improving access to health facilities for all communities and groups including vulnerable groups. Increasing health service provision in a more accessible setting. Increasing health service provision for new emerging town centre communities.

10.3 Initial Equality Screening Assessment (part A) completed and attached as Appendix 3.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 Locating services within the town centre ensures accessibility from bus and train links therefore reducing reliance on cars. There is no dedicated car park for this facility which again seeks to encourage public transport use.

11.2 Increasing the range of health services available from one location reduces the number of journeys people have to make to access multiple appointments for different services and treatments.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1. Health service delivery partners are very supportive of developing a health provision within the town centre and are keen to see this progress. This project will have a hugely positive impact on their service delivery and in turn the improved health of the local communities. A collaborative approach between providers will ensure efficient service delivery through one serviced building, benefiting the health services, patients and service users and the businesses within the town centre, as a result of the proven increase in footfall that this type of facility provides.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1

Phase 1 delivery costs exceed budget provision	Close management of the design process including meaningful value engineering will ensure that budget provisions are realistic and adhered to. Contracts for works will be detailed in the specification allowing for accurate pricing and construction risks will be appropriately allocated.
Phase 2 feasibility study concludes that the building is not viable for this purpose	Initial surveys have shown that, structurally, the building is in good condition. Should the feasibility indicate that the refurbishment plans are not achievable then alternative plans will be investigated to ensure the building can be brought back

	into use and contribute to the vibrancy of the town centre.
Service delivery partners are unable to commit to the project	The project team will continue to work closely with partners to ensure that the new provisions within this building are able to be contained within their delivery plans and included within their financial planning. The project team will also continue to work with a range of potential delivery partners in parallel to ensure there are alternative options if required.

14. Accountable Officers

Simon Moss, Assistant Director Planning, Regeneration & Transport

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

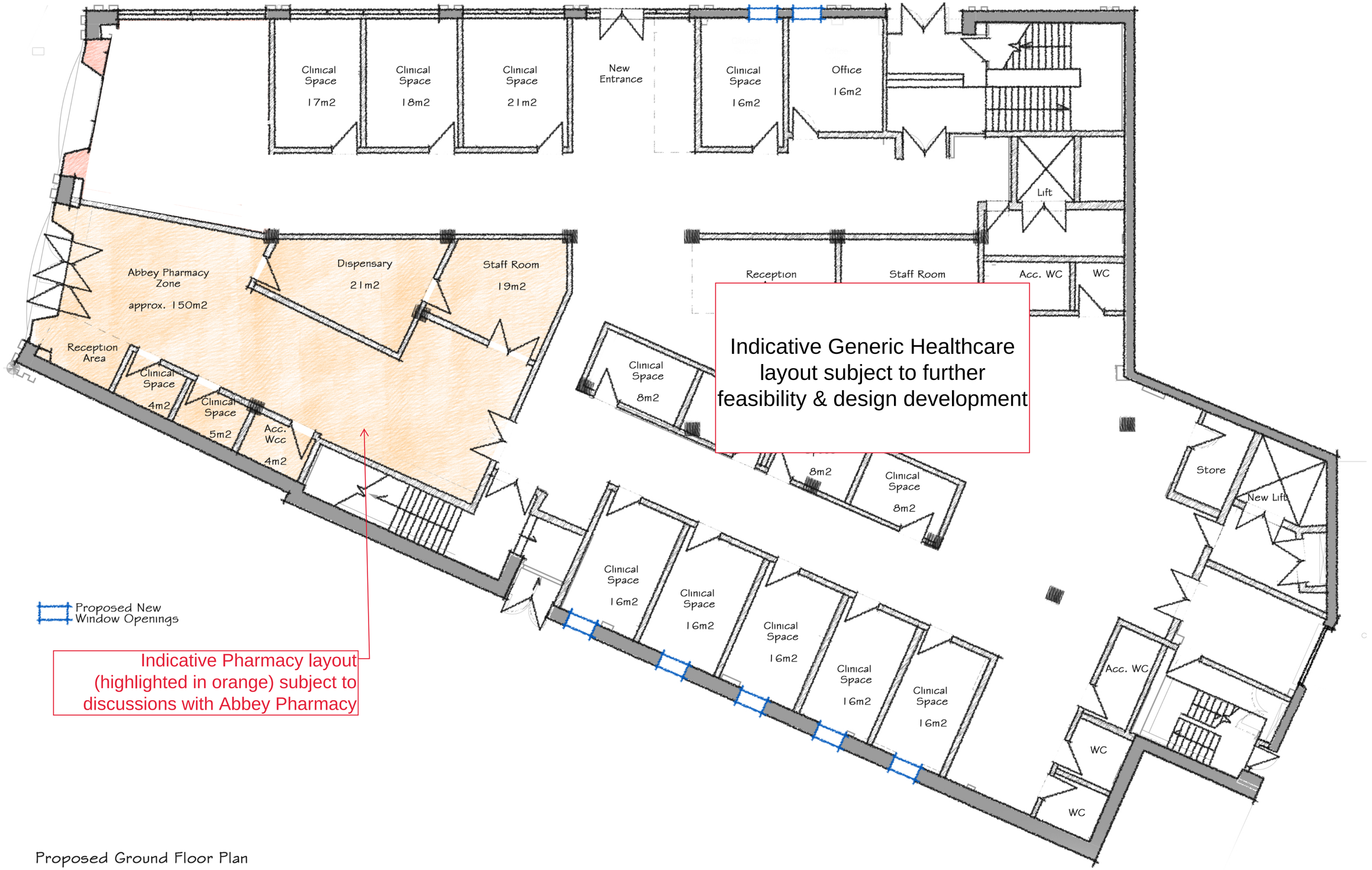
	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	23/06/25
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	20/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	18/06/25

Report Author: *Andrea Brough, Regeneration Service Manager,andrea.brough@rotherham.gov.uk*

This report is published on the Council's website.


Health
Hub
Rotherham Health Hub
abbeypharmacy+
more choice, more savings

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Indicative Generic Healthcare layout subject to further feasibility & design development

Indicative Pharmacy layout (highlighted in orange) subject to discussions with Abbey Pharmacy

Proposed Ground Floor Plan
1:100@A2

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Appendix 3

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Rotherham Town Centre Health Hub Phase 1	
Directorate: Regeneration & Environment	**Service area: Regeneration**
Lead person: Andrea Brough	**Contact: 07443 670499**
Is this a: ☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☒ **Service / Function** ☐ **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The relocation of Abbey Pharmacy from it's current position in the Indoor Covered Market (ICM) within Rotherham Markets Complex to the former Boots building located on 42-46 Effingham Street which was acquired by the council in May 2023. This is due to the ongoing development of the ICM which requires vacant possession of the all properties on Howard street. Abbey Pharmacy must vacate their current premises by February 2026.

Appendix 3

The pharmacy has been consulted by the council's property services team and they are supportive of the relocation. The council has worked with the pharmacy owners to fully understand their requirements. The first phase of the design works have been completed for feasibility purposes and the pharmacy are satisfied that it meets their trading needs. RMBC is also looking into utilising the building for more than one purpose and create a health hub which offers a range of services to accommodate patient needs and prevent travel between multiple sites. A feasibility study is required to understand this element of the project in more detail.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		X

Appendix 3

(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)		

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason
The relocation of the pharmacy will be beneficial for the community inclusive of those with protected characteristics as it will improve accessibility through a modern and well designed building. The new location of the pharmacy is within close proximity of it's previous location in the ICM therefore, it retains the benefits of remaining within a prominent area of the town centre close to transport links and car parks there will be minimal impact to the existing customer base. The feasibility works for the health hub within the same location will take into account equality & diversity and ensure the service delivered is accessible to all.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity
If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.** Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation. Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).
• **How have you considered equality and diversity?**
• **Key findings**
• **Actions**

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	

Appendix 3

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Andrea Brough	Service Manager	28/04/25

6. Publishing	
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date screening completed	28th April 2025
Report title and date	Rotherham Town Centre Health Hub Phase 1 – 28th April 2025
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Cabinet – 7th July 2025
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	28th April 2025

Appendix 4, Climate Impact Assessment, Health Hub

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	Increase	None from the Council as this building will be leased by the health care providers for the delivery of their services.		In terms of energy use, the refurbishment will enable the building to become more energy efficient through the choices of materials including M&E solutions.	
Emissions from transport?	None	There will be more travel to the site during the construction phase, from staff and delivery vehicles.	The development of a health hub in Rotherham town centre will facilitate access to local services, close to public transport links and active travel routes.	The location of the building will enable some site staff to travel on public transport where that is appropriate avoiding the use of more cars.	
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Increase	There will be some waste generated as a result of the works commissioned by the Council. This will be managed in line with the contractors obligations that ensure that waste is managed appropriately.		The contractor will be expected to follow their waste management strategy and to minimise waste on site. More waste would have been produced if the proposal was to demolish the existing building.	The waste management strategy will be applied to the contract terms.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				

Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	A refurbishment contract will require the existing building to be modified for its new use. This will require labour to travel to the site, there will be power usage for machinery and manufacturing of materials.		As this building is to be refurbished, the impact is significantly less than it would be if the building was demolished and rebuilt. Demolition would require heavy construction machinery to operate for a significant length of time along with the removal of all materials from the site. Rebuilding would require all new materials, increased deliveries and therefore significantly increased emissions. The plans will be drawn up to minimise the works required to bring the building back into use. For instance, the existing staircases and lifts will remain in situ.	There will be nothing contained directly within the contract to monitor this however, this impact is significantly reduced compared to a new build scheme.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				
Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:					

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change? Climate change is known to have an impact on people's health, affecting underlying health conditions. Providing a town centre health facility will have a positive impact on the health of the people within the borough. There are numerous benefits that have been experienced with

similar facilities, including a huge reduction in missed appointments, increase in the scope of services available in one location thereby reducing the number of journeys patients need to make. This is added to the town centre benefit of increasing footfall and creating a more vibrant town centre adding to the quality of life of all residents and town centre users.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: The proposal is to refurbish an existing building and bring it back into use. This has a significant positive impact on emissions compared to levels that would be seen should the proposal have been to demolish the building and rebuild. The contractor will be required to follow the proposals within their waste management strategy to minimise and effectively manage all waste on site and to minimise the creation of waste during the refurbishment. As the building is being redeveloped to provide town centre health facilities, there will also be positive outcomes to the health of residents, ensuring access to health care in a convenient location with good links to public transport.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Andrea Brough Regeneration Service Manager Regeneration Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 459 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report with Exempt Appendices
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 07 July 2025

Report Title
Mainline Station and Strategic Acquisition

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

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
Maria Coyne, Senior Project Manager
maria.coyne@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
Rotherham has an opportunity to create a transformational change in the way in which the Borough connects to the wider region and beyond. While the Borough's ambitions for growth continue, its potential is stifled as a result of poor rail connectivity.

The Council is working with partners to promote the development of Rotherham Gateway Station. This mainline and tram-train station will be a catalyst for growth, improving local, regional, and national rail connectivity for all communities and businesses across the Borough, breaking down barriers, driving investment, attracting businesses, creating employment and supporting the development of high-quality new homes.

To ensure this opportunity brings the greatest benefit to Rotherham communities, the Council undertook the development of a Masterplan, exploring how development in the vicinity of the station could contribute to wider regeneration and growth objectives across the Borough and act as a catalyst for investment. The Masterplan explores the potential scheme benefits, presents designs for the mainline and tram-train interchange and promotes good connectivity to the Town Centre and neighbouring communities.

This report presents the Masterplan for Cabinet endorsement.

To progress the implementation of the Masterplan there is a requirement to proceed with the negotiation and acquisition of relevant land and property. This report seeks approval to progress these negotiations and allocate capital funding.

This report is also seeking a Resolution in Principle to investigate use of powers to acquire by Compulsory Purchase or through use of a Transport and Works Act Order. In the event that it is not possible to acquire any or all of the properties by agreement, and the investigation into the use of Compulsory purchase powers indicates an acceptable likelihood of success, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet seeking formal resolution to acquire the property interests through use of Compulsory Purchase or Transport and Works Act powers.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Endorses the Rotherham Gateway Station (Mainline and Tram-Train) Masterplan, attached at Appendix 1.

2. Approves undertaking public engagement on the Masterplan in the autumn of 2025.

3. Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy to prepare and submit a Strategic Programme Business Case for the Masterplan to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA).

4. Authorises the Assistant Director of Property and Facilities Services to agree the acquisition of properties in exempt Appendix 2 in consultation with the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment, Cabinet Member for Jobs & the Local Economy and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety.

5. Approves the allocation of the Strategic Acquisitions Fund agreed at the March 2025 Budget Council to progress the acquisition of the sites as outlined in exempt Appendix 2, including potential holding costs that the Council may incur.

6. Grants a Resolution in Principle to investigate the use of powers, under a Compulsory Purchase Order or Transport and Works Act Order.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1	Rotherham Gateway Station Masterplan
Appendix 2	EXEMPT Rotherham Gateway Masterplan Land Acquisition Costs
Appendix 3	Part A Initial Equalities Screening
Appendix 4	Part B Equalities Assessment
Appendix 5	Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Regeneration Programme: Strategic Land Assembly, March 2022

Town Deal and Levelling Up Fund: Update and Implementation, May 2022
Rotherham Integrated (Mainline & Tram Train) Station Land Acquisition & Project Update, September 2023

Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 and Medium Term Financial Strategy
REPORT TEMPLATE FOR CABINET & COMMISSIONER

Strategic Economic Plan (SYMCA, 2021 – 2041)

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
Yes

An exemption is sought for (Appendix 2) *under Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this report contains as this report contains financial information relating to potential future land acquisitions for the Masterplan.*

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information because potential future negotiations and financial information should remain confidential between the parties.

Mainline Station and Strategic Acquisition

1. Background

1.1 **Rotherham Gateway Station**
Rotherham has an opportunity to create a transformational change in the way in which the Borough connects to the wider region and beyond. While the Borough's ambitions for growth continue, its potential is stifled as a result of poor rail connectivity.

1.2 The Council is working with partners to promote the development of Rotherham Gateway Station. This mainline and tram-train station will be a catalyst for growth, improving local, regional, and national rail connectivity for all communities and businesses across the Borough, breaking down barriers, driving investment, attracting businesses, creating employment and supporting the development of high quality new homes.

1.3 In February 2025, the Rotherham Gateway Station Outline Business Case (OBC) was submitted to SYMCA and the Department for Transport for assurance and approval to release £11.35 million for Full Business Case development, approval of which will lead to the delivery of the station. A decision on the OBC is due in the autumn of 2025.

1.4 **A Masterplan for Rotherham Gateway**
Following a rigorous options assessment by Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) in 2021, a site was selected for the Station on Forge Way in the Parkgate area of Rotherham. This site was selected for the mainline proximity to the tram-train (branch), offering the opportunity to create a transport interchange. The site had also benefitted from remedial works by the developer EV Waddington with support from the European Regional Development Fund. These works mitigated against flood risk, providing value for money when weighed against the other options.

1.5 Initial plans were drawn up by NPR for a 'parkway' style station, one which typically serves a park and ride, rather than a town or city, similar to those found at Liverpool South, Bristol and Birmingham International. However, it is recognised that there is a far greater opportunity to contribute to Rotherham's growth ambitions by considering the station as a catalyst for wider investment and development. This vision required a Masterplan to understand the wider potential of this transport-led scheme.

1.6 **The Masterplan Vision**
'Rotherham is well-placed to position itself as an economic hub between Sheffield and Leeds; leveraging its existing strengths in advanced manufacturing and new technologies to drive investment to a new innovation campus adjacent to the new station. The ambitious Masterplan is purposefully designed to support Rotherham's economic future, improving opportunities for all residents. A strong employment offer will precede the introduction of other uses in the long-term, including housing.'

1.7 This report seeks endorsement of the masterplan as well as approval to progress actions which will see its implementation over the next twenty years, these include the acquisition of property and development of funding packages.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Rotherham Council secured £31.6m from the Town Deal programme (now Pathfinder) in June 2021. £10 million from the funding was allocated to pursue land acquisition for the proposed Station at Forge Way and for master planning the wider area of opportunity

2.2 The Council appointed Weston Williamson and Partners to prepare a Masterplan for the station in August 2022. London and Continental Railways (LCR) were appointed to assist officers in managing the creation of the Masterplan. The aim of the plan was to design the layout of the Station and tram-train interchange and determine land requirements for the scheme. It would also ensure good connectivity to the Town Centre and neighbouring communities such as Eastwood and take account of future opportunities such as the development of Bassingthorpe Farm.

2.3 Further Masterplan development explored how to maximise the benefit of the station investment and deliver a longer-term vision for the immediate site and wider regeneration opportunities. This provided a phase-by-phase approach and a twenty-year timescale for delivery. The completed Masterplan outlines the vision for the development of the station and the surrounding area and breaks this down into phases, with a development potential totalling in the region of £134m.

2.4 **Phase 2 – 2030 to 2040 (target date)**

Phase 2 focuses on the development of the Innovation Campus (proposed 16,420 square metres of development space) to the west of the Core Station Area:

- Renewing the existing industrial character, turning its focus towards high-quality employment in the advanced technologies sector.
- Connecting the Innovation Campus via a new spine road between Greasbrough Road and the Station Quarter.
- Creating opportunities for socialising and public amenities with active frontages, for example, food and beverage or retail use to extend the experience of the Station Quarter and provide natural surveillance, creating an overlooked and safe space.

2.5 **Phase 3 – 2040 to 2045 (target date)**

Phase 3 will achieve the regeneration of industrial property in the North-west quarter with potential for 13,042 square metres of development space:

- Extending the Innovation Campus, renewing the existing industrial character and creating high-quality employment in advanced technologies.
- Creating a new multi-storey car park to the North of the mainline to free up land on the Core Station Area.

- Developing the free Core Station Area plots for active uses such as Food and Beverage and/or offices.

2.6 **Phase 4 – 2045 onwards (target date)**

To the east of the Station Quarter, the Masterplan encourages residential use and the development of a Living Quarter with 204 flats and 37 townhouses:

- Encouraging natural surveillance for the Station Quarter.
- Characterised by traffic-calmed streets and community courtyards, encouraging active use of the green common areas as well as the canal side with improved public rights of way (PROW).
- Limited parking for a low car usage estate (due to good transport links), facilitated below the courtyards of residential blocks and limited on-street parking.

2.7 **Land Acquisition**

2.7.1 Following the initial design work of the Masterplan, and the development of a land assembly strategy for the site, authority was sought from Cabinet in September 2023 to acquire properties deemed essential to facilitate the delivery of the Integrated Station along with two further parcels of land which would bring significant benefit for the implementation of the Masterplan. This report also approved the investigation of the use of powers to acquire the properties through use of Compulsory Purchase Orders or use of a Transport and Works Act Order should acquisition by agreement not be possible.

2.7.2 Following Cabinet approval, the Council has been in discussions with owners to purchase the land essential for the Station. One of the three key sites has already been acquired, and negotiations are progressing positively on the remaining two sites.

2.7.3 To deliver the wider Masterplan, further land acquisition will be required. The estimated costs for the acquisition of the required land parcels are presented in exempt Appendix 2

2.7.4 In March 2025, the Council approved the allocation of a further £2m toward the acquisition of strategic property to progress the regeneration of Rotherham. This was in addition to the previous allocation of £3m (over two years) to continue acquiring sites of strategic importance with the outcome of progressing the Council's ambitions for regeneration.

2.7.5 Acknowledging the strategic nature of the fund, it is therefore proposed that this tranche of £2m is allocated to the acquisition of further land and property to facilitate the delivery of the Station Masterplan.

2.7.6 It is noted that the indicative costs of the land in Phases 2, 3 and 4 far exceed the Strategic Acquisitions allocation. The Assistant Director of Property and Facilities Services will agree the acquisition of properties in exempt Appendix 2 in consultation with the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment, Cabinet Member for Jobs & the Local Economy and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety.

2.7.7 Acquisition of land may therefore need to be prioritised. should this occur an exercise will be undertaken in consultation with Assistant Director of Property & Facilities Services, the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment, Cabinet Member for Jobs & the Local Economy and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety.

2.7.8 In the negotiation of land and property, consideration will be given to the potential for holding costs and any revenue streams associated with the properties once they are acquired by the Council. Though it is difficult at this stage to be clear on estimated costs without possession of the properties and without access to them at this early stage, the Council considers that costs should be minimised as there are tenancies in place on several of the sites and these sites are hard surface with minimal landscaping and as such will require little maintenance. A percentage of the £2 million Strategic Acquisitions budget will be set aside in order to cover these holding costs.

2.7.9 Consideration has also been given to acquiring an 'option' to buy the required land and properties. This would give the Council the contractual right to purchase land on defined terms from a Seller subject to the satisfaction of any defined conditions within a defined period in exchange for an option fee. The agreement will prevent the landowner from selling the land to a third party for the agreed option period. This would help to de-risk the project and the ongoing management of the properties until such time when the land is required for the station development.

2.7.10 If the Station scheme does not go ahead, the Council could explore the benefits of continuing the Masterplan/Innovation Campus with the assembled land, addressing the employment land shortage and expansion requirements of the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District.

2.7.11 Acquisition by agreement is the Council's preferred route to secure the necessary land and property for the Masterplan and is a precursor to any Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) or Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO). However, given the length of time and cost implications of the Council pursuing acquisition powers it is important that the Council prepares for this potential route. This report seeks a Resolution in Principle to investigate the use of CPO or TWAO powers. If the use of formal powers is required, it will be the subject of a further report to Cabinet for authority to make any such order.

2.8 **Additional Projects - Station Business Centre – Phase 1**

To activate the Core Station Area, and create a well-used, safe space, the Masterplan proposes the development of a Business Centre on site. This should be a high-quality, flagship building of architectural merit to act as a gateway into Rotherham, incorporating the station facilities into the Business Centre ground floor. It would also be an anchor building for the Innovation Campus and catalyse further development.

2.9 **Additional Projects - Effingham Street Active Travel Route – Phase 1**

It is essential that the town centre benefits from the development of the station, and key to this will be ensuring commuters can easily travel between the two locations. The proposed station site is located 10 minutes walk outside of the town centre. The creation of a tram-train stop at the Rotherham Gateway site will ensure commuters are able to connect quickly and easily into the town centre via the tram network within an estimated 2 minutes.

A key route along Effingham Street has been identified for active travel. A comprehensive scheme has been proposed for this vehicle dominated route that could incorporate a new cycle/foot bridge, landscape improvements, and improving pedestrian crossings.

2.10 **Programme Business Case**

To progress the Masterplan, the Council proposes the preparation of a Programme Business Case covering the four Masterplan phases, the land acquisition and the priority projects coming out of the Masterplan. This would be a 'high-level', strategic Business Case that highlights the priorities to SYMCA, with a view to securing development funding to further progress the projects through the Business Case gateways.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 RMBC could choose not to pursue the Masterplan and instead locate just the Station but not the wider development on the Forge Way site. This would miss capitalising on the wider regeneration opportunity that the Station presents and opportunities to secure jobs and growth for the Borough. **This option is not recommended**.

3.2 RMBC could choose to do a smaller scale development, for example, just developing the Core Station Area. This could just focus on a Station building, rather than the Station building and Business Centre, and not pursue the further phases including the Innovation Campus to the West. Again, this would miss the opportunity for the Borough to benefit from regeneration potential that the Station scheme offers. **This option is not recommended.**

3.3 RMBC could choose not to progress the wider land assembly for the Masterplan at this stage, however, there would be significant impacts on the timescale for delivery of the Masterplan as a result. The acquisition of the land is essential for the wider Masterplan to capitalise on the economic regeneration potential of the Station. **This option is not recommended.**

3.4 RMBC could consider allocating the Strategic Acquisitions fund to Town Centre projects, an approach which has been taken for previous year's funding. Allocation of the funds to the Gateway station is in recognition of its strategic importance and potential. The funds will help to kick start and de-risk the scheme by acquiring the land and ensuring the progression of the Masterplan coincides with the Station development. **This option is not recommended.**

3.5 It is recommended that Cabinet endorses the full Masterplan and progresses the wider land assembly to ensure that the full benefits of the Station scheme are realised for the Borough. **This option is recommended.**

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Stakeholder consultation was undertaken throughout the masterplanning process. This was facilitated by the Project Governance structure. Partners presented opportunities through the Station Board and Station Steering Group that fed into the masterplanning and design process. This included rail stakeholders such as Network Rail and Transport for the North as well as Train Operating Companies. The masterplanning team has worked closely with Network Rail on the design development of both stations (mainline and tram-train) and the completed designs reflect the requirements of the project stakeholders.

4.2 Consultation took place with stakeholders such as emergency services, utilities (including Northern Powergrid), Secure by Design and colleagues managing car parking/EV charging. The draft Masterplan was circulated for feedback from internal teams, including colleagues in Planning to explore the implications for the longer-term vision for the Masterplan area. Engagement sessions also took place with developers to inform the Delivery Strategy for the Masterplan and explore market conditions.

4.3 Engagement on the wider scheme has taken place with local and regional stakeholders including representatives of local businesses, education and community partners via internal and external boards. The Town Board has been updated regularly on the project and is supportive of the scheme.

4.4 Events such as the Rotherham Show have provided a platform for sharing plans and obtaining public feedback. Following approval, officers propose to launch the Masterplan and the wider Station scheme at the Rotherham Show in September 2025.

4.5 In the coming months, work with stakeholders will continue to obtain feedback before work starts on the Full Business Case for the Station and the Strategic Programme Business Case for the wider masterplan. This will include follow-up sessions with the stakeholders and partners who were consulted as part of the Masterplan development. This review work will be crucial to guide the next stages of the Masterplan design work.

4.6 The Council's agent, supported by Property Services, is in dialogue with the landowners affected by the proposals. Initially, this will raise awareness of the scheme and direct owners to sources of further information or advice should they require it. All efforts will be made to acquire the land by negotiation and offer opportunities for relocation of businesses to retain them within the Borough. Should the Council need to pursue powers, affected parties will have the option of legal representation and all due consideration will be given to equalities implications as outlined in Section 10 of this report.

4.7 Property Services will lead on these proposed negotiations, supported by Regeneration and will discuss the detail of each transaction with the agents so that they are happy that the proposed purchases represent a reasonable consideration for the property interests that are being acquired.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1

Station Masterplan endorsed at Station Steering Group/Board	June 2025
Notifying landowners, refreshing land surveys	June 2025
Cabinet Decision	July 2025
Opening negotiations with landowners identified as priority acquisitions	August 2025
Submit Programme Business Case (PBC) to SYMCA	August 2025
Public Engagement on Masterplan at Rotherham Show	September 2025
PBC approved – being draw down for Priority projects from development funding	October 2025
Rotherham Gateway Station Outline Business Case Approval	November 2025
Full Business Case and Masterplan continuation	December 2025 onwards

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 At this point there are no direct procurement implications associated with the recommendations detailed in the report.

6.2 The station masterplan is an ambitious regeneration programme which will bring many economic benefits. An external consultant has estimated the potential costs of this programme to be £134m, however this report provides no further breakdown of this. At this stage, funding has not been identified for most of the programme.

6.3 The estimated values of the land acquisition required for the programme are detailed in the exempt appendix. It is recommended that the Strategic Acquisition Fund provides some of the budget requirement for these purchases. The acquisitions required for the programme are far in excess of this fund.

6.4 In addition to the potential acquisition costs in the exempt appendix, there will also be property holding costs. It is understood that it is difficult to estimate these at this time, but given the nature of the sites, as detailed in 2.7.7, they are thought to be minimal. An allocation towards these costs will be made from the Strategic Acquisitions fund. There is a risk that the Council purchases properties and the scheme doesn't transpire, therefore a suitable exit plan is required. This report does not reference the overall estimated costs of delivering the full Masterplan.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 The recommendations in this report are in line with existing decisions and the Council's constitution. Other than as outlined in the report there are no substantive legal implications arising from the content of the report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct HR implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are no direct implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults arising from the recommendations in this report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Both an Initial Equality Screening and Full Equality Analysis have been completed and are attached as Appendices 3 and 4.

10.2 The Masterplan aims to meet the needs of various communities by enhancing accessibility for all protected characteristic groups under the UK's Equalities Act. It will provide improved access to transport links that will facilitate easier travel for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and those with young children, while promoting economic growth and creating job opportunities for local communities, adjacent to one of the most deprived Boroughs in the region. Enhanced safety measures and inclusive design will ensure a welcoming environment for all, fostering social inclusion and reducing barriers to mobility. During construction, there may be potential disruption to neighbouring communities, however, this will be monitored closely and mitigated by Construction Management Plans.

10.3 Equalities implications will be continually considered throughout negotiations with affected landowners. Should acquisition by negotiation not be possible, the Council will explore the use of Statutory powers. During this process due regard will be given to the landowners and tenants rights under the ECHR/ Human Rights act 1998 as well as under the Equalities act 2010, to this end landowners and tenants will be included in the consultation process as per Part B of the Equalities Impact Assessment completed as part of this report (Appendix 4).

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 Approving the Masterplan is a key step towards sustainable transport infrastructure, with long-term benefits including reduced emissions and improved economic resilience and wellbeing for Rotherham. The wider scheme will boost public transit use, reducing reliance on private cars and lowering overall emissions in the Borough. The development of Active Travel routes will

further decrease carbon emissions and enhance residents' health and wellbeing.

11.2 Emissions as a direct result of a decision to endorse the masterplan and approve Strategic Acquisitions funding will be minimal, with potential for a small increase as a result of council staff and surveyors visiting proposed sites for acquisition. Emissions can be mitigated with valuations of land etc being conducted online and surveyors/council staff car-pooling to their destination.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 Partners and stakeholders have been involved in the development of the Masterplan through specific engagement activity and updates via the Station Board and Steering Group. They are supportive of the Station scheme and the wider Masterplan. There are no specific implications at this stage of the scheme.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 **Risk:** Programme Business Case not taken forward by SYMCA and development funding not available to progress the Masterplan.

13.1.1 **Mitigation:** There has been engagement with SYMCA throughout the development of the Station/Masterplan and positive, initial conversations have taken place with SYMCA officers. The scheme compliments the wider work being undertaken by colleagues at SYMCA on the development of Advanced Manufacturing and Technology sectors.

13.2 **Risk:** Rotherham Gateway Station Outline Business Case is not approved by SYMCA and DfT and scheme is not continued to FBC resulting in the Masterplan not having the transport-led scheme to lead it.

13.2.1 **Mitigation:** As with the Masterplan, there has been engagement throughout the scheme via the Station Board and Steering Group and partners are working positively together to progress the scheme. There is scope to continue the masterplanning work, even if the Station does not progress, exploring the demand for land for Advanced Manufacturing purposes.

13.3 **Risk:** Wider political support for the scheme is not achieved.

13.3.1 **Mitigation:** A Communications Strategy is currently under development, aimed at reaching out to politicians to share key messages and encourage high-level partners to advocate for the scheme.

13.4 **Risk:** Inability to acquire the land and infrastructure for the scheme.

13.4.1 **Mitigation:** The council has already made good progress in negotiations with landowners regarding the Station floormat. Additionally, the council has appointed surveyors to provide an accurate value of masterplan land and to raise awareness among landowners affected by the wider Masterplan. Any

future requirements for consultancy support in this matter will be in consultation with Property Services.

14. Accountable Officers

Simon Moss, Assistant Director Planning, Regeneration and Transport
Kevin Fisher, Assistant Director Property & Facilities Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp OBE	Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	18/06/25
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	18/06/25

Report Author: *Maria Coyne, Senior Project Manager*
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This report is published on the Council's website.

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Rotherham Integrated Station Masterplan

Summary Report

Prepared for and on behalf of:
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC)

Project Name:
Rotherham Integrated Station Masterplan

Report Name:
Summary Report

Status:
Final

This document has been issued and amended as follows:

Issue	Description	Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
01	Draft Issue_01	02/09/2024	SS	IB	GJ
02	Final Submisison	18/10/2024	SS	IB	GJ
03	Revised Final Submisison	01/11/2024	SS	IB	GJ

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Executive Summary

The Rotherham Integrated Station Masterplan is the outcome of an 18-month study commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC). The study sets out the vision for the masterplan, details the development of Rotherham's new mainline station and tram-train stop and also defines the integration of the stations with the wider area.

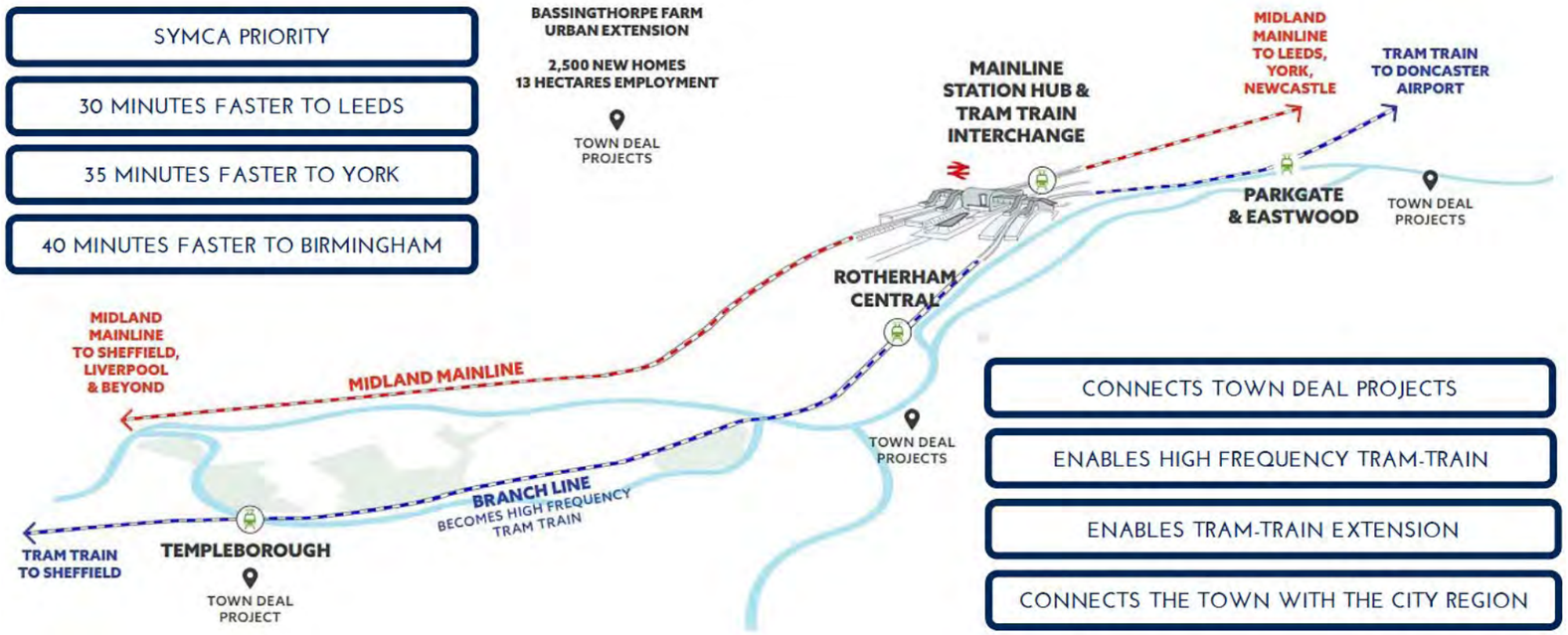
As supported by the Strategic Outline Business Case in August 2022, there is a strong case for investing in a new mainline station. The strategic initiative aims to address the town's existing rail connectivity challenge, primarily reliant on the branchline rail services via Rotherham Central station. This aligns with national, regional, and local strategic priorities, notably the Government's growth and decarbonisation agendas. It is also endorsed in regional plans such as the Sheffield City Region Strategic Economic Plan and Integrated Rail Plan.

The proposed masterplan consists of three distinct zones in its core area: Station Quarter, Innovation Campus and Living Quarter. The layout is designed to promote north-south accessibility, active travel connectivity to the surroundings, clear and visible wayfinding and connection between the two new stations, as well as enhancing biodiversity.

Rotherham is well-placed to position itself as an economic hub between Sheffield and Leeds and leverage its existing strength in advanced manufacturing to drive investment into a new innovation district adjacent to the new station. The development of the site will be able to provide more than 33,000 sqm of advanced manufacturing and commercial spaces and about 250 homes. There will also be around 9300 sqm allocated for green spaces and 3000 sqm of public realm.

In the wider strategy, the masterplan identified 14 street enhancement projects for walking and cycling, including almost 3 miles of new or enhanced cycling routes proposed and about 1.4 miles of improved access along canals. There are also 6 potential long-term project opportunities identified for adaptive reuse and regeneration of development sites and active travel.

This report is a condensed version of the full project report, which contains more detail on specific design elements.



Outline Business Case

Funding to progress the delivery of the new integrated mainline and tram-train stations (SYMCA CRSTS allocation £1 million).

Integrated Mainline Station

Masterplan

Supports the case for the station by demonstrating potential regeneration benefits unlocked by the station investment.

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1. Introduction

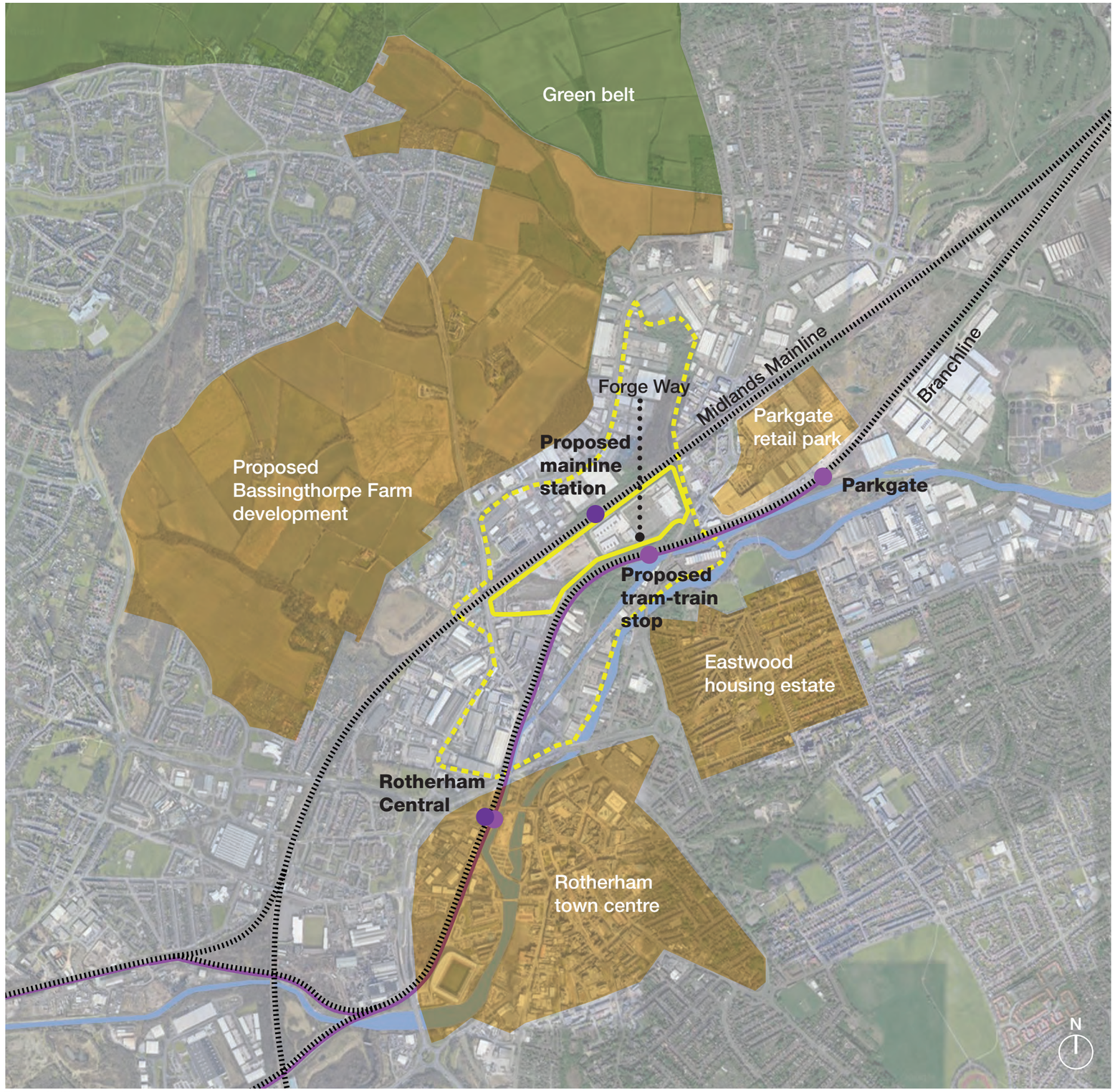
1.1 Site Location

The preferred site for the new mainline station at Forge Way was agreed upon following a rigorous option assessment process that included the Department for Transport (DfT), Network Rail (NR) and Transport for the North (TfN), as well as local stakeholders. It is adjacent to the existing tram-train line as well as the main bus corridor, complementing other sustainable transport investments planned for Rotherham.

The preferred site is located within an industrial heartland to the north of Rotherham's town centre. The town centre is currently undergoing a series of regeneration projects with the support of the Towns Fund. Therefore, the connectivity between the town centre and the site for the new mainline station will be key to the masterplan.

The site is also close to a number of housing and employment sites:

- To the north-west of the site, the proposed Bassingthorpe Farm development was confirmed as a strategic allocation and removed from the Green Belt on adoption of the Core Strategy on 10th September 2014;
- To the east of the site, Parkgate Retail Park is currently a major local attraction for retail;
- To the south-east of the site, Eastwood housing estate is another key area to be connected to the station. Driven largely by EU migration, the estate largely represents young people & BME communities, with the fastest growing being the Slovak Romani. Population turnover is high as a result of short-term leases in private rented housing. 31 new homes for council rent on the Netherfield Court & York Road sites in Eastwood were approved on 16th October 2023.



KEY:

- Masterplan Core Area
- Wider Strategy Area
- Existing Railway Tracks
- Tram-train Route
- Tram-train Stop
- Railway Station

Figure 1. Site boundary

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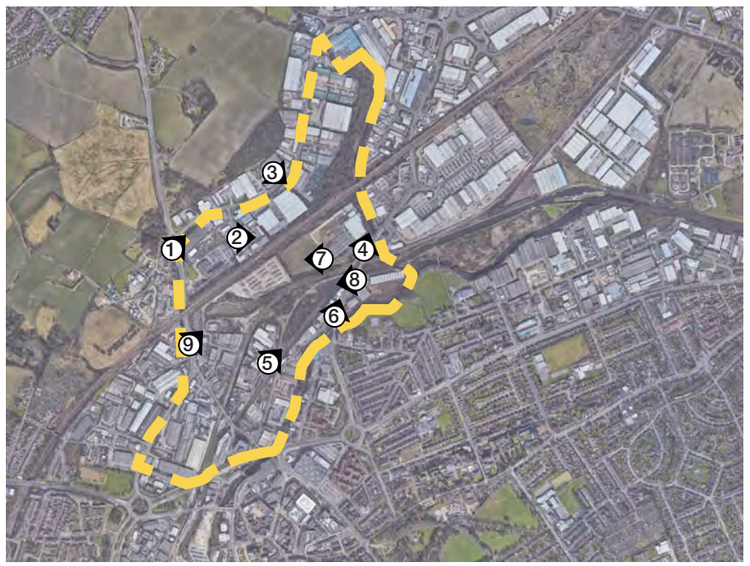
1.2 Site Context

The masterplan area is currently dominated by industrial character and designed for predominantly vehicular access. Most existing connections between the masterplan area and Rotherham's town centre are currently car-centric and do not provide safe and attractive cycling or pedestrian access for all ages, as well as micro-mobility users.

The pedestrian-only access is an informal canal footpath along the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation Canal. Due to its undefined character, it can feel unsafe, particularly at night.

At the intersection between Rotherham Road and Forge Way, there is an opening to a Public Rights of Way (PROW) footpath (Image 4) which leads through a dense wild-growing scrub area along the Fitzwilliam's Canal. This route is not paved or lit and due to the dense planting, it can feel unsafe and difficult to navigate.

The site for the proposed Station Quarter in the Masterplan Core Area is currently occupied by industrial warehouses and a paved surface. Located between the mainline and tram-train tracks, it is key to the seamless interchange between the two new stations (mainline and tram-train) for Rotherham.





View towards the exit to Mangham Road from the roundabout on Greasbrough Road.



View towards the northern access of the proposed station on Mangham Way.



Unpaved and overgrown PROW that leads to Mangham Road from the mainline underpass.



Access to PROW along Fitzwilliam's Canal beside the junction of Forge Way and Rotherham Road.



Informal car park area off Northfield Road leads to the access to the canal footpath.



Access to Forge Way from the town centre via Rotherham Road.



The site for the proposed Station Quarter is currently occupied by industrial warehouses and paved surface.



View to the proposed location for tram-train stop from the bridge on Rotherham Road.



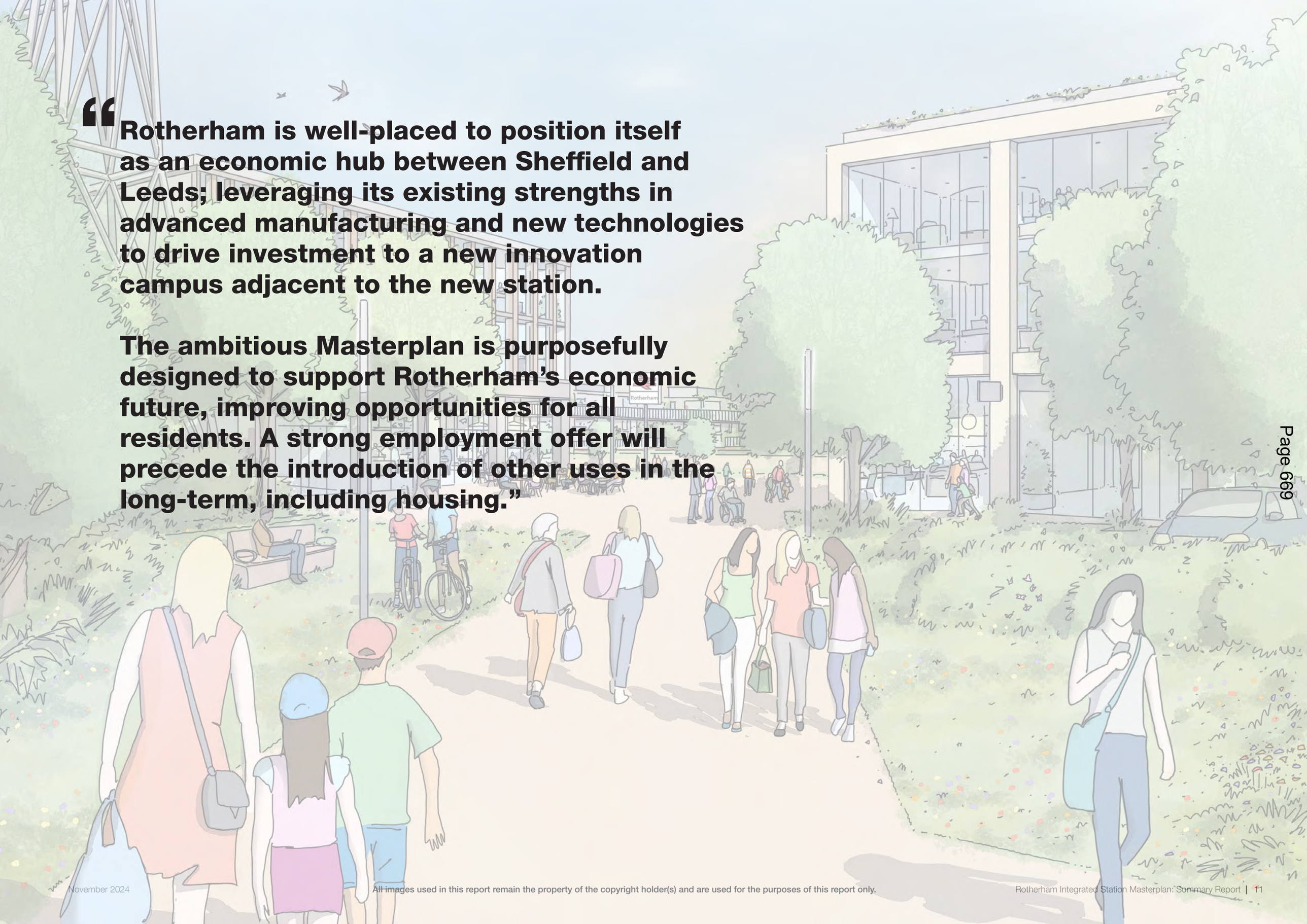
Private access to the industrial sites from North Drive which is off Greasbrough Road.

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2. Masterplan Vision



“Rotherham is well-placed to position itself as an economic hub between Sheffield and Leeds; leveraging its existing strengths in advanced manufacturing and new technologies to drive investment to a new innovation campus adjacent to the new station.

The ambitious Masterplan is purposefully designed to support Rotherham’s economic future, improving opportunities for all residents. A strong employment offer will precede the introduction of other uses in the long-term, including housing.”

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2.1 Aims & Objectives

2.1.1 Capitalising on existing strengths

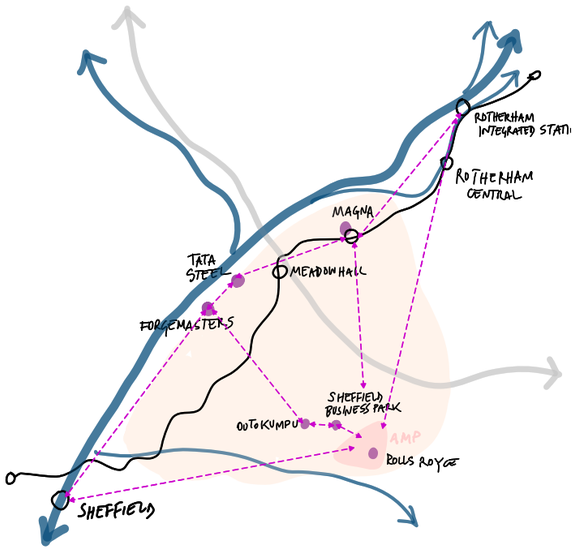
Rotherham is uniquely placed to capitalise on its existing specialism in advanced manufacturing and strategic location between other manufacturing specialist cities.

- **Building on regional specialism:**
  Advanced manufacturing is a regional specialism with the Waverley Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (University of Sheffield), McLaren and Rolls-Royce all based here.

- **Part of a wider industrial geography:**
  Rotherham is strategically located in proximity to major advanced manufacturing specialist cities, including Sheffield, Leeds and Derby. The site is also close to major trading and energy ports that have freeport status on the Humber Estuary.

- **Part of a strategic transport network:**
  This forms part of the wider northern transport corridor in line with the ambitions of Transport for the North.

- **Presence of existing leading educational institutions:**
  Rotherham is in proximity to world-leading universities including the University of Sheffield.



2.1.2 Maximising opportunity for economic growth

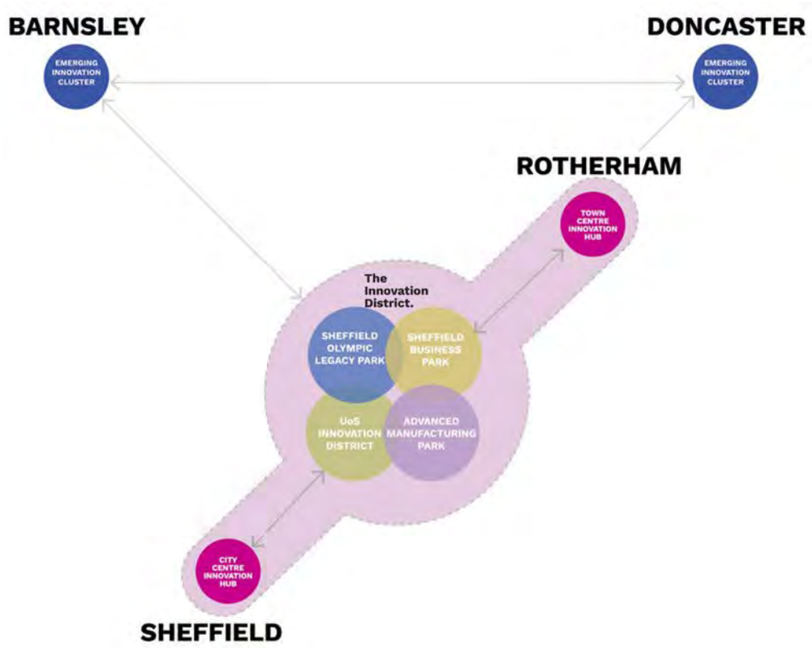
An opportunity to develop the UK's first transport-led innovation district.

- **An exemplary sustainable innovation district:**
  Exemplar development of high technology industry fit for the future economy that builds on the industrial legacy and supports the green industry.

- **Opportunity for education:**
  Expands opportunities for skills and training with partnerships across Yorkshire at specialist technical institutions.

- **Creating a balanced place:**
  Fostering a thriving local economy creates employment opportunities for new and existing residents.

- **South Yorkshire Investment Zone:**
  Rotherham is part of the UK's first Investment Zone across South Yorkshire. This involves the support of an Advanced Manufacturing cluster across Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley to create an estimated 8,000 new jobs and £1.2bn of private funding by 2030.



SYMCA Investment Zone Brochure

2.1.3 Maximising potential impact

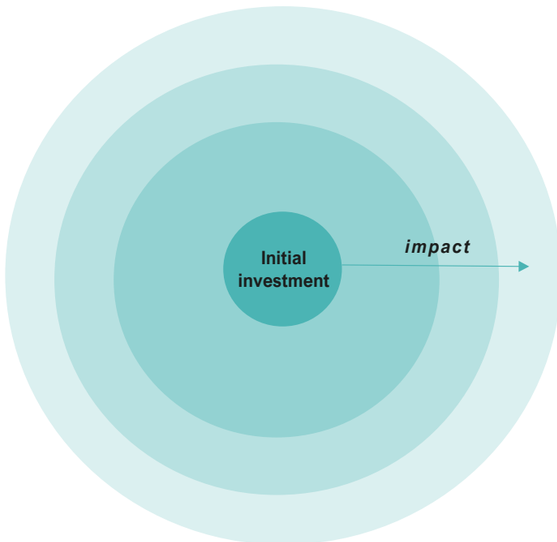
An employment and transport-led approach to regeneration maximises the impact of investment the council can have through direct and follow-on opportunities.

- **Creating high-paying jobs:**
  Boosting local wages and employment opportunities for new and existing residents.

- **Upskilling residents:**
  Opportunities for strategic partnerships with education and training institutions can boost technical skills for local people.

- **Unlocking further economic activity in the surrounding town:**
  Demonstrating economic specialism and opportunity locally, securing further business investment in the long term.

- **From this housing will follow:**
  The creation of a station-led economic hub will unlock future opportunities for viable residential development surrounding the station and beyond.



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2.2 Why is the employment-led masterplan needed?

Rotherham needs to secure and enhance economic prosperity for all residents.

- **Tackling deprivation:**
  Some of the most deprived communities in the UK are located around the station masterplan area.

- **Extending economic opportunity:**
  Improving travel times between Leeds and Derby will create beneficial exchanges and expansion of the labour market.

- **Boosting economic opportunity:**
  Strong business growth locally has not translated into employment opportunities or wage growth in Rotherham.

- **Responding to the climate emergency:**
  Supporting the council's efforts to mitigate the impact of climate change.

2.3 How should the masterplan address these challenges?

Purposefully designing Rotherham's economic future to improve opportunities for all residents.

- **Delivering a new economic hub model:**
  Connecting talent and economic opportunities via a green transport corridor.

- **UK Government Funding for Rotherham:**
  Repositioning Rotherham to create economic opportunities and benefits that further social mobility, growth, skills enhancement, accessibility and a just transition (Transition from an extractive economy to a regenerative economy).

- **Boosting investment potential:**
  Providing economic certainty and confidence that unlocks further development by boosting the local economy, workforce and development viability.

- **Supporting regeneration of the whole town:**
  Complementing investment across the borough including wider town centre regeneration.

2.4 Rotherham's Innovation Campus

Rotherham is well-placed to position itself as an economic hub between Sheffield and Leeds and leverage its existing strength in advanced manufacturing to drive investment into a new innovation district adjacent to the new station.

- The Brookings Institution's research paper 'The Rise of Innovation Districts: A New Geography of Innovation in America' (Katz and Wagner, 2014) defines an Innovation District as: "geographic areas where leading-edge anchor institutions and companies cluster and connect with start-ups, business incubators and accelerators."

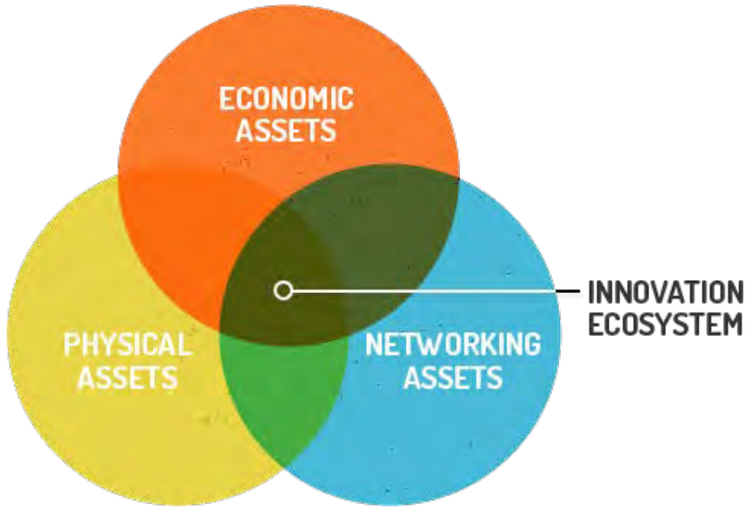
- They are also physically compact, transit-accessible, technically-wired and offer supporting amenities such as retail and F&B.

- Close geographic proximity drives interactions and exchange of ideas between the occupiers of the innovation district.

The masterplan for a proposed Innovation Campus can strengthen Rotherham's economy, provide jobs and apprenticeships for the local population, play an active role in the South Yorkshire Region and build development value and social value on site.

The Rotherham Innovation Campus will provide an alternative and complementary offer to out-of-town business parks and function as a hub with improved access and a dynamic working environment.

A strong employment offer precedes opportunities for wider growth including housing development. As a long-term opportunity, the feasibility of delivering housing could be tested longer term potentially on adjacent sites in closer proximity to the town centre and existing communities.



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3. Strategic Framework

3.1 Framework Aspirations and Principles

3.1.1 Framework Principles

The strategic framework design development adheres to the following principles, serving as foundational design pillars for the masterplan proposal.

Encouraging Active Travel

Strengthening active travel links between the new mainline station, tram train station and the town centre. Encouraging micro-mobility users and the use of public transport.



Sustainable Development

Advanced manufacturing opportunities, focussing on sustainable practices and social engagement with the local community and users.

Enhancing Biodiversity

Implementing a green approach to the public realm with nature-based solutions and green pockets within the masterplan. Enhancing and expanding existing vegetation to embrace active travel links.

Prioritising Connectivity & Accessibility

Strengthening an inclusive design that prioritises accessibility and connectivity enhancements within Rotherham.



Celebrating Local Character

Celebrating the character of Rotherham and ensuring continuity in the experience of the space. Focussing on a site-specific approach to design.



Light segregation of cyclists and pedestrians



Local communities and their use of public spaces



Woodland Park routes



Connectivity and inclusion



Integration of the built with the surroundings

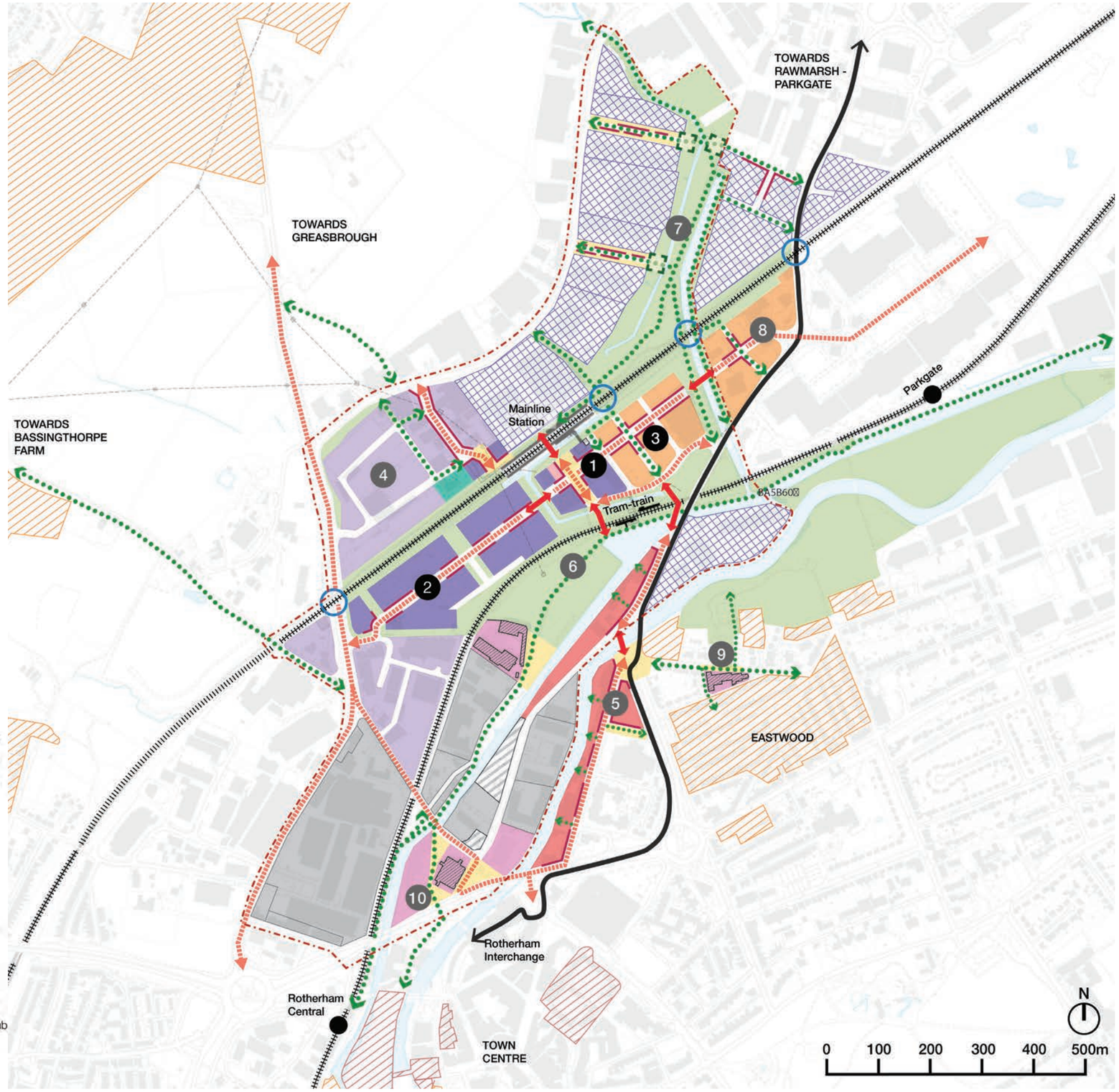
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3.2 Masterplan Framework

Strategically located near Forge Way, the new interchange will draw passengers and visitors from the region and beyond to this revitalised commercial destination and will create new travel opportunities for residents and nearby communities alike. The wider strategy of the masterplan seeks to not only encourage easy wayfinding but also activate and enhance key links emanating from surrounding developments (eg Town Centre, Eastwood, Parkgate, and Bassingthorpe Farm) with a steadfast commitment to fostering sustainable transport solutions using active travel. The proposal is dedicated to elevating the industrial use offer in Rotherham, fostering innovation and promoting sustainable growth.

At the centre of the Masterplan Core Area, the Station Quarter's versatility serves as an important node, connecting businesses with the public realm and the station forecourt. By providing a western link through the spine road, the proposal facilitates the integration of plot developments in the western quarter as part of the Innovation Campus. In the eastern area, there is also an opportunity for residential development to create a vibrant and active Living Quarter adjacent to the station.

To enhance active travel links between the Station Quarter and the town centre, the masterplan proposes activating plots along Rotherham Road and Effingham Street after the canal crossing. Additionally, there could be a regeneration effort to improve the areas around Bailey House, Northfield Road and Eastwood's Erskine Road. This comprehensive approach will not only transform the physical landscape of Rotherham but will also help to establish the Masterplan Core Area as a dynamic hub for both business and community.



KEY:

- Masterplan Boundary
- Railway
- Active Travel Links
- Main Bus Corridor
- Green Connectors
- New Bridges
- Enhanced Underpass
- Active fronts
- Improved access to green infrastructure

PROPOSED LAND USE

- Station Building (Integrated with development)
- Residential use
- Existing Industrial/Commercial use
- Innovation Campus
- Market-based Intervention with Industrial/Commercial use
- Long-term policy to upgrade existing Industrial use
- Multi-storey Car Park (Potential Future Location)
- Community use (Leisure/ Education/Health/Civic/Religious)
- Mixed Use
- Green infrastructure
- Public realm enhancement
- Utilities / major plant
- Reuse of existing building

ONGOING / FUNDED SCHEMES

- Residential development
- Mixed Use development

PROJECTS

1. Station Quarter
2. Innovation Campus
3. Living Quarter
4. Northwest Quarter
5. Effingham St Activation
6. 'Swan Lake' Park
7. Woodland Park
8. Parkgate Living Quarter
9. Eastwood Community Hub
10. Bailey House Hub

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3.3 Active Travel Links

3.3.1 Active Travel - Walking

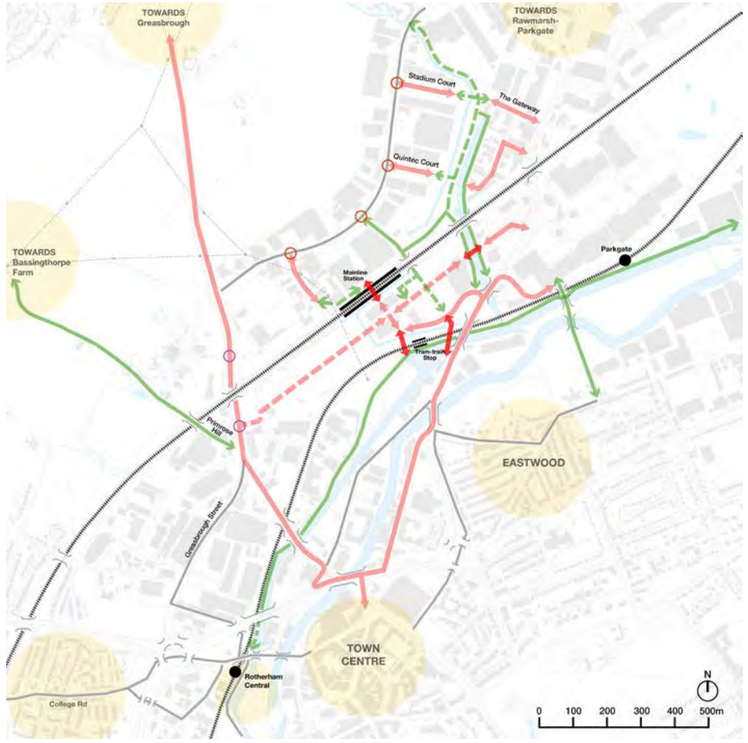
The aim of the masterplan is to enhance connectivity and active travel links between the town centre and the proposed station. The project also looks to enhance a wide range of streets, pathways and links that have great potential to strengthen the walkability of Rotherham and boost accessibility to and from the proposed station. The proposals are based on a small-scale intervention strategy which over time will transform the urban context of Rotherham with active travel prioritised in the public realm.

Active travel links are developed further in the Street Typologies section.

3.3.2 Active Travel - Cycling

As with the accessibility for pedestrians, the proposal also looks at improving the safety and accessibility for cyclists. It aims to enhance the quality and availability of green connectors, along with improvements to existing main arteries to the town centre such as Rotherham Road and Greasbrough Road.

Note: Proposed routes align with the feasibility study, 'Rotherham Active Travel Scheme' undertaken by Fore Consulting.



Active Travel - Walking

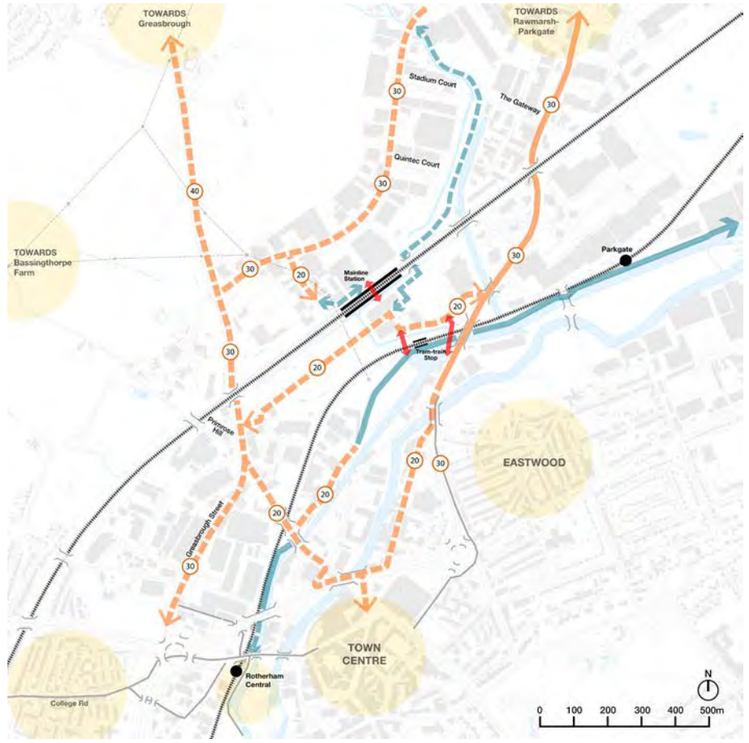
KEY:

General

- Railway
- Destinations
- Existing dike/waterway
- High voltage overhead cable
- High voltage pylon
- Bridge/underpass
- Existing pedestrian links

Proposed Links

- New uncontrolled crossings
- New controlled crossings
- Enhancement of existing pedestrian route along road
- New pedestrian route along road
- Enhancement of existing pedestrian route on off-road footpath
- New pedestrian route on off-road footpath
- Potential new bridge



Active Travel - Cycling

KEY:

General

- Railway
- Destinations
- Existing dike/waterway
- High voltage overhead cable
- High voltage pylon
- Bridge/underpass
- Existing cycle links

Proposed Links

- Enhancement of existing cycling route with cycle way/shared footway along road
- New cycle route along road with cycle way/marked lane on road
- Enhancement of existing cycling route on off-road shared footpath
- New cycle route on off-road shared footpath
- Potential new bridge

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3.4 Bus Network

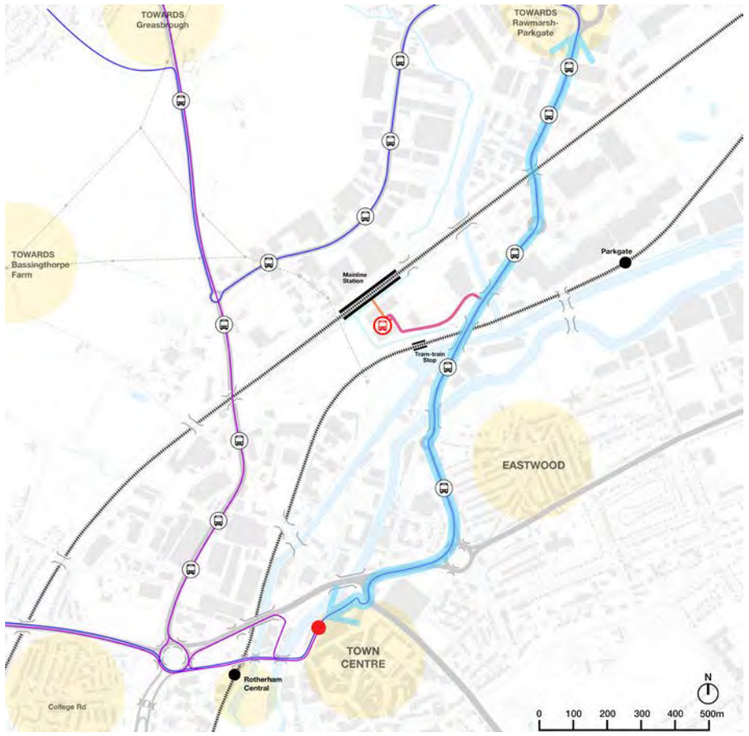
To encourage active travel modes and opportunities, the strategic framework includes a proposal to provide bus services that service the proposed Station Quarter. These are subject to further exploration.

PHASE 1

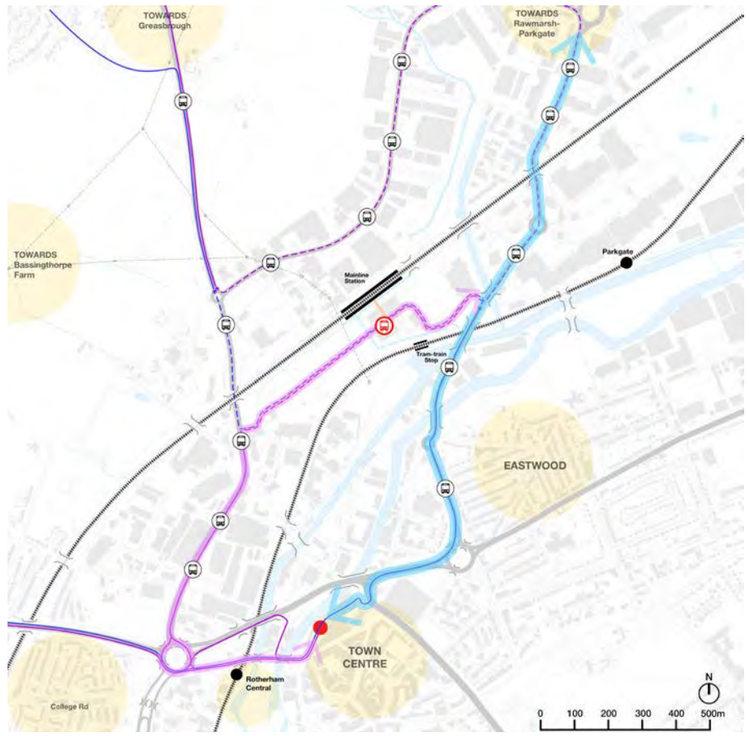
- Services on the main bus corridor are mostly operated by Stagecoach.
- Alteration of existing routes will increase journey times and mileage. Therefore it is unattractive to the operators. However, rerouting is recommended to provide better accessibility to station.

LATER PHASES

- Bus routes in the later phases will travel via the Western link (highlighted in light purple on the diagram (far right).
- Proposed to alter existing routes.
- Need buy-in from bus operators - to be further investigated with stakeholders and SYMCA.



Phase 1



Later Phases

KEY:

- Railway
- Destinations
- Existing dike/waterway
- High Voltage Overhead Cable
- High Voltage Pylon
- Bridge/underpass
- Primary Road Network
- Phase 1 access to station

Existing Bus Routes

- 139 | 140 Rotherham - Greasbrough St - Kimberworth Park (Circular Route)
- 141 | 142 Rotherham - Mangham Road - Kimberworth Park (Circular Route)
- Main bus corridor on Rotherham Road served by multiple bus routes
- Additional link for bus stop from existing bus route
- Existing Bus Stops
- Proposed Bus Stops

KEY:

- Railway
- Destinations
- Existing dike/waterway
- High Voltage Overhead Cable
- High Voltage Pylon
- Bridge/underpass
- Primary Road Network
- Phase 2 access to station

Proposed Bus Routes

- Potential exchanging routes between 139 | 140 and 141 | 142 for both to use the new link road through station site
- Re-route certain services from St Ann's Road to use the new link road through station site.
- Existing Bus Stops
- Proposed Bus Stops

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3.5 Street Typologies, Landscape and Public Realm

The streets comprise a variety of typologies defined and characterised by their diverse physical aspects and functional requirements. These typologies aid navigation, focusing on wayfinding and hierarchy of routes that assist in shaping the area for future development.

The landscape and public realm strategy aims to deliver a network of public recreation, blue and green infrastructure and potential street enhancement projects. As residents and visitors move through Rotherham, the landscape and public realm setting will change in line with location for intuitive way finding and cohesive local identity. Landscaping schemes will need to consider future climate impacts including excessive heat.

KEY:

- Masterplan boundary
- Railway
- Destinations
- Existing waterways
- High voltage overhead cable
- High voltage pylon

Connectivity Interventions

- Boardwalk
- Park trails
- New bridge
- Improved access to Woodland Park

Points of Interest

- Play offering
- Group gathering offering
- Outdoor gym offering
- Treatment of existing blank walls

Blue and Green Infrastructure

- SuDS with planting
- Swale
- Considerations for biodiverse green roof
- Woodland
- Nature park
- Green canal buffer
- BNG mitigation area
- Open green space

Public Realm Projects

- 1 Station Forecourt
- 2 ‘Swan Lake’ Park Arrival Plaza
- 3 Pocket Parks
- 4 Raised Courtyards

Street Enhancement Projects

Shared Space Links

- A Northfield Road
- B Effingham Street
- C Bailey House public realm improvements

Active Travel Roads

- D Car Hill - Greasbrough Road
- E Centenary Way Crossing
- F Rotherham Road
- G Greasbrough Street

Park Connectivity

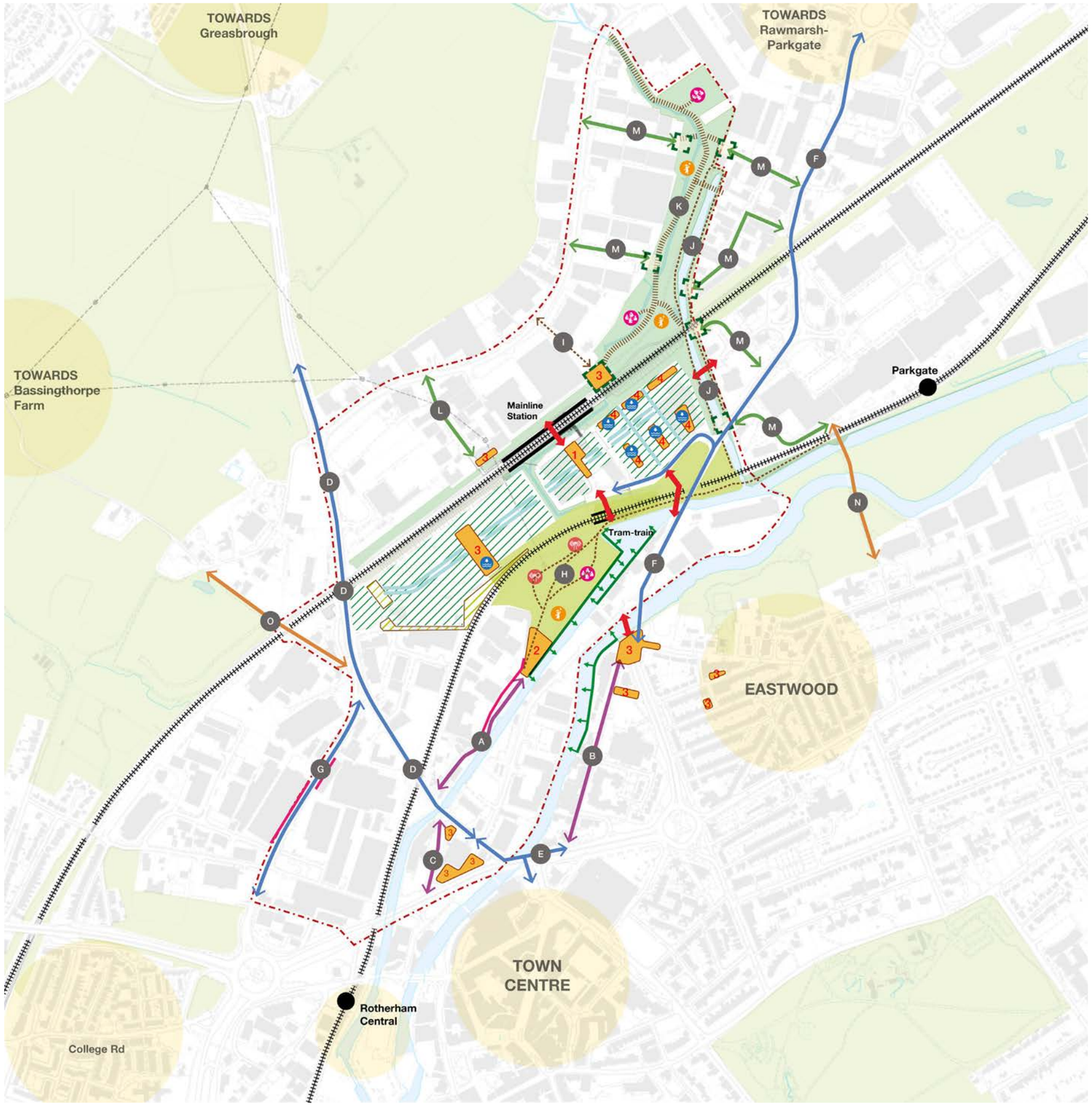
- H ‘Swan Lake’ Park & Canal Footpath
- I Underpass Trail
- J Woodland Park Boardwalk Trail
- K Fitzwilliam’s Canal side Footpath

Industrial Green Links

- L Mangham Way
- M Access to Woodland Park & Fitzwilliam’s Canal

Accessible Bridge Links

- N New accessible Bailey Bridge
- O Primrose Hill - Bassingthorpe Lane new accessible mainline overbridge



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3.6 Public Realm Potential Projects

A series of public realm spaces provide natural rest zones between the industrial, commercial and residential settings. The intention is that distinctive routes within the masterplan area will be linked and defined through a series of public realms that reflect the landscape hierarchy and act as a method of wayfinding and placemaking.

1 Station Forecourt

- Gateway public realm entrance to serve the Mainline station.
- Interchange between a variety of land uses.

2 'Swan Lake' Park Arrival Plaza

- Plaza aligned towards the West to facilitate access from the town centre links (also beneficial for flood issues).

3 Pocket Parks

- A network of small outdoor spaces for people to gather and relax.
- Meet a variety of needs and functions of the local community and visitors.

4 Raised Courtyards

- Enclosed green spaces associated with residential blocks.
- Verdant space for neighbourly socialising and relaxation.

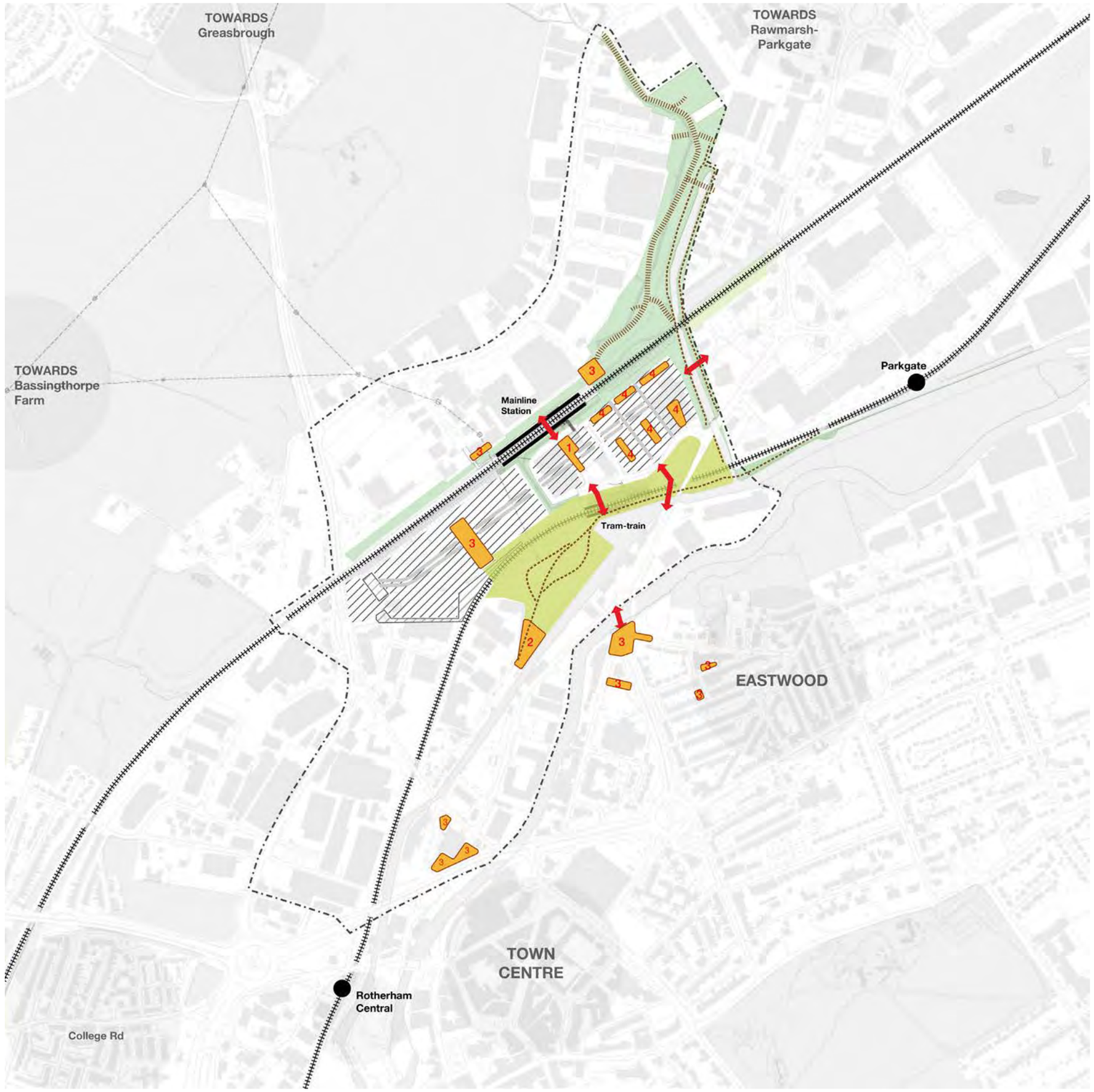
KEY:

Public Realm Projects

- 1 Station Forecourt
- 2 'Swan Lake' Park Arrival Plaza
- 3 Pocket Parks
- 4 Raised Courtyards

Green Infrastructure

- Woodland
- Nature park
- Consideration for biodiverse green roof

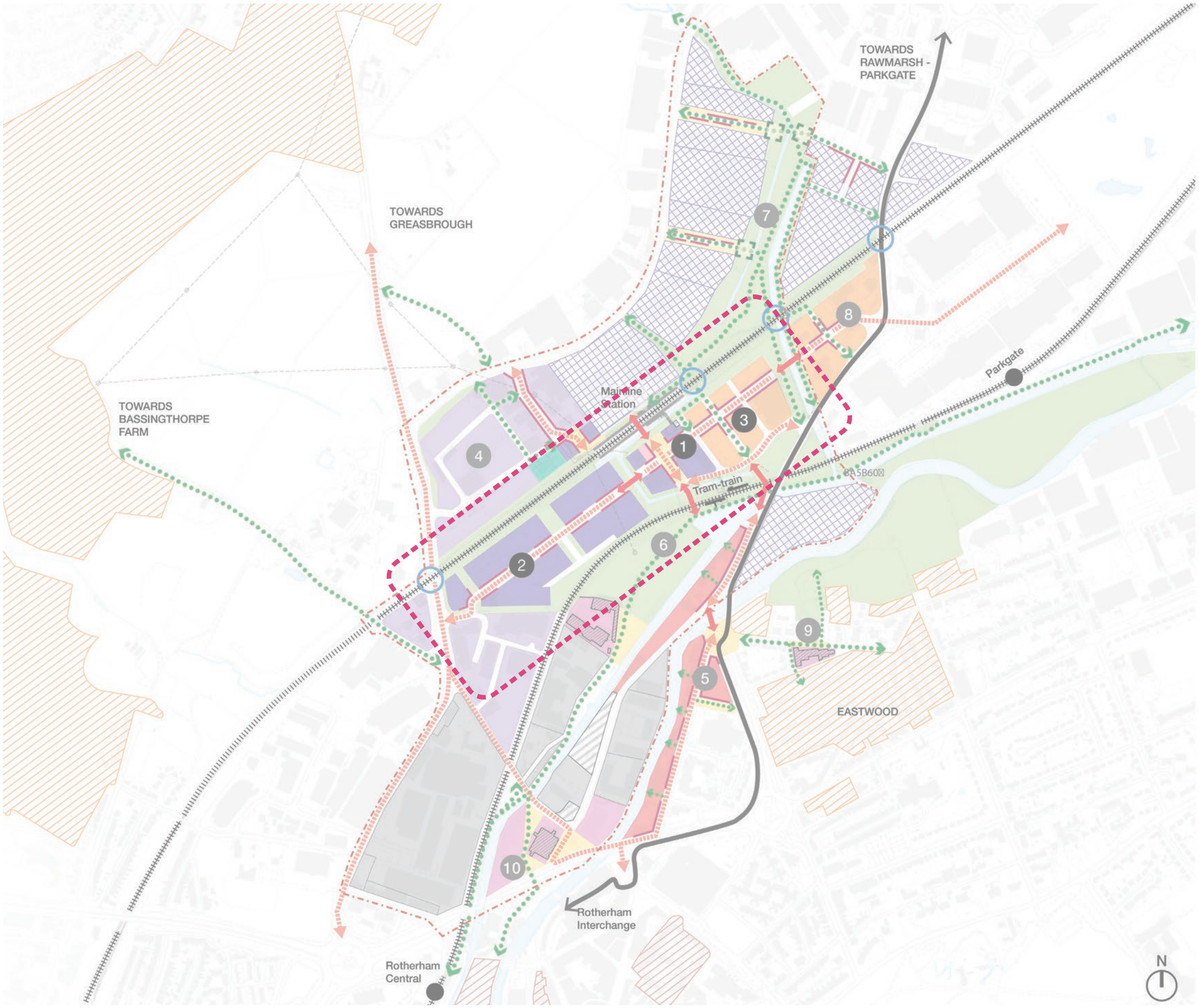


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Proposed Active Travel Connection on Effingham Street (concept)

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4. Masterplan Core Area



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4.1 Site Constraints

The masterplan core area underwent a desktop examination in Task B to capture current conditions and anticipate how proposed alterations to the site might influence the design of the masterplan.

The site of the masterplan area is impacted by flooding. However, the topography in the area east of the dike and accessible via Forge Way has been raised by previous works. Flooding is still a recurring issue for the tram-train tracks, therefore flood defences are proposed alongside the dike and canal as mitigation.

The area west of the dike is impacted by the existing High Voltage Overhead Transmission Line (HVOTL) which limits building heights. The western site also borders an existing Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) site which may have implications for any industrial plots within this zone.
Refer to COMAH zone: http://www.syfire.gov.uk/business-advice/comah-sites/

NOTE:
The captured risks are desktop activities and are not underpinned by detailed technical assessment.

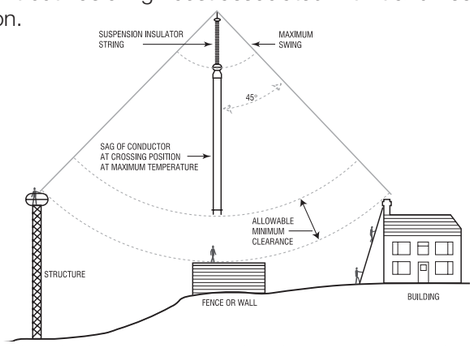
1 Area Beneath HVOTL

- Limitation to build height **(maximum ~11.5m)**** applies but built development is NOT preferred by National Grid.

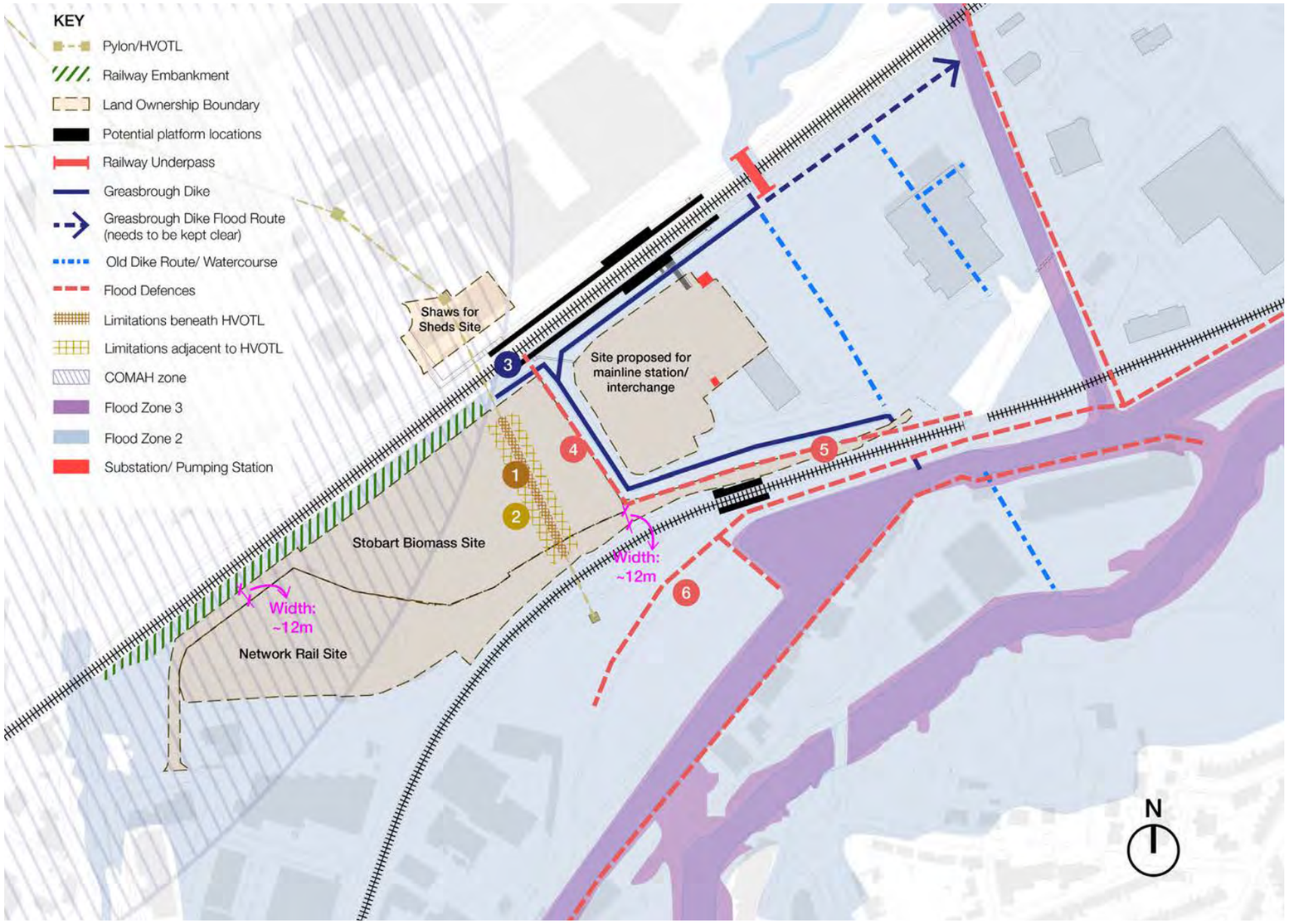
2 Area Adjacent HVOTL

- Limitation to build height applies to development 6m distance from the edge of the overhead lines.
- The maximum allowance for build height increases, the further the edge is away from HVOTL. **(Ranges approx. 11.5m-14m)****

Moving the power line underground gives flexibility to building plots and development but has a high cost associated with it and needs further investigation.



The build height limitation is an approximate calculation based on information in *'Design guidelines for development near pylons and overhead lines'*** by **National Grid**. The minimum safety clearance to an object (on which a person can stand) used in this case is 5.3m for 400kV. Consultation with National Grid is required.



3 Dike

- Watercourse will become flood locked due to proposed flood walls, which might result in localised flooding but this would be an improvement to the current conditions.

4 Proposed Flood Defences along Dike

- Flood defences will likely not exceed 24.4m AOD (TBC).
- It likely would be by high ground or landscaping.

5 Proposed Flood Defences North of Branchline Railway

- Most probably a hard defence or embankment.

6 Proposed Flood Defences South of Branchline Railway

- Most probably a hard defence/embankment or raised ground levels (if required at all).
- The alignment is flexible

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4.2 Core Masterplan Design Principles

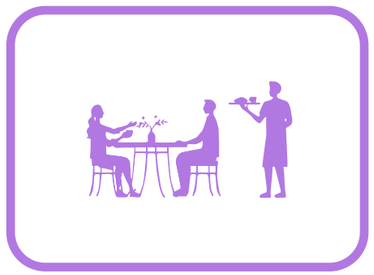
As a response to the baseline analysis of the Masterplan Core Area, a set of design principles has been defined to guide the masterplan. These are to promote active travel, north-south accessibility, active frontages and uses, new employment opportunities, high quality public realm and 'welcome' to Rotherham, clear and visible wayfinding and connections, as well as enhancing biodiversity.

Active Travel

Promoting active travel within the masterplan and its surroundings by encouraging micro-mobility and the use of public transport.

North-South Accessibility

Strengthening the north-south connection between the mainline station and tram-train stop by enhancing accessibility and reinforcing inclusivity.



Active Frontages and Uses

Encouraging public use by activating ground uses and engaging communities.



New Employment

Providing opportunities for growth and employment by realising the potential of communities to contribute to Rotherham's economy.



High Quality Public Realm

Introducing high quality public spaces for people to thrive and enjoy.

Clear and Visible Wayfinding

Clear signage and wayfinding is important for people to easily navigate the space and have a relaxing onward journey.

Enhancing Biodiversity

Implementing a green approach by expanding existing vegetation, introducing new landscape elements and enhancing biodiversity.

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4.3 Mechanisms of Delivery

As an outcome of the design principles, the following mechanisms enable their delivery across the masterplan.

1 Mainline Overbridge

- Unpaid bridge to be aligned to meet the desired route from Mangham Way to the tram-train stop, to enhance active travel and connectivity to the town centre.

2 Tram-train Overbridge

- Unpaid bridge to be aligned to meet the desire lines from the Mainline Overbridge and the station forecourt, as well as meeting existing routes from the town centre.

3 Underpass Link

- Facilitates access to mainline station from the north-east (unable to be the primary unpaid connection across mainline tracks as it is currently subjected to flooding).

4 Western Link Bridge Connection

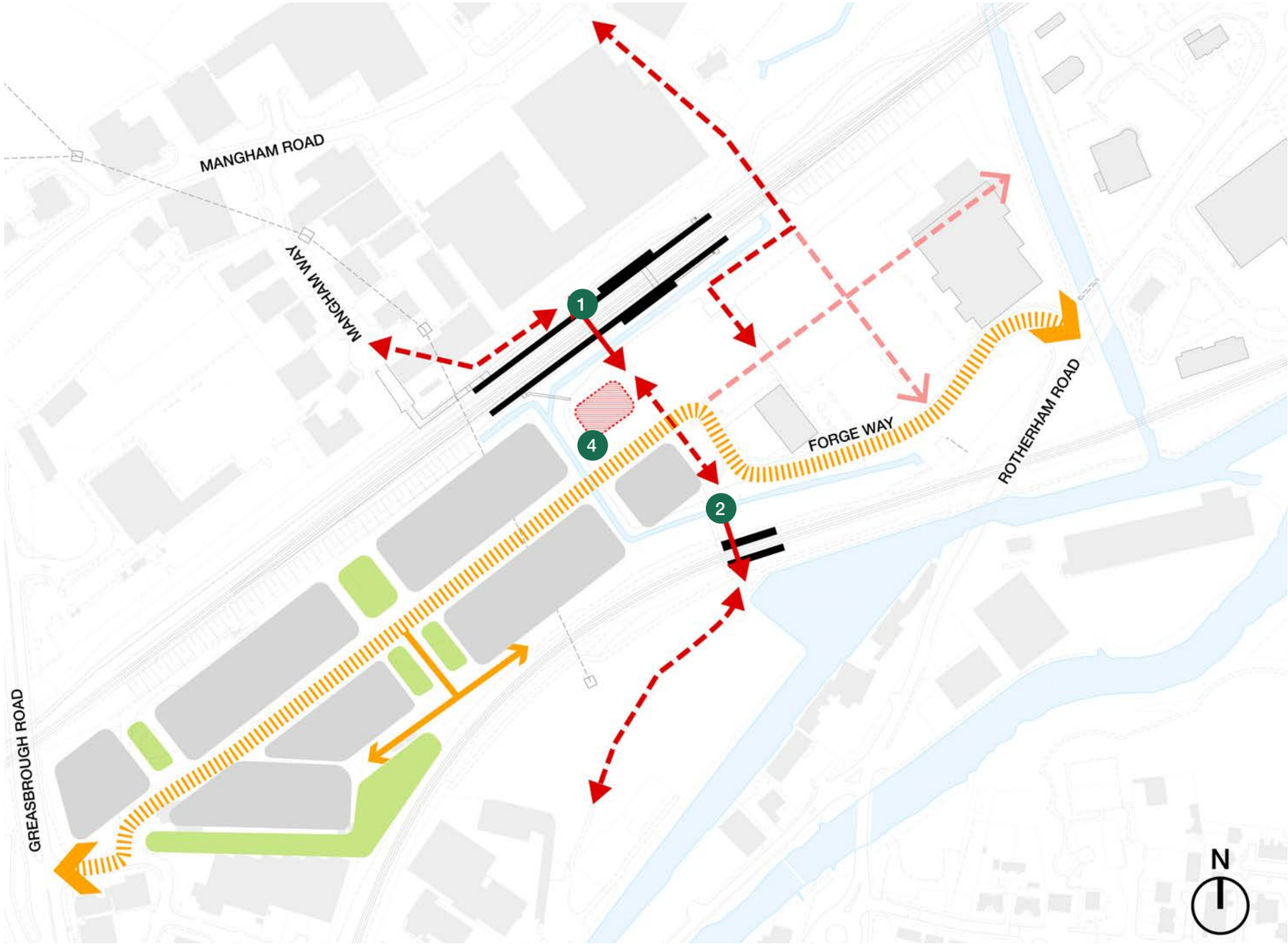
- Connecting Greasbrough Road to Forge Way through the centre of the site.
- Clear central route activated on both sides by development in future phases.

In the Wider Strategic Framework, priority destinations were established to connect to and from the Integrated Station Development. They are the town centre, Eastwood, Rawmarsh-Parkgate, Greasbrough and Bassingthorpe Farm.

In the Station Quarter, the key objectives and interventions are aimed at:

- Overcoming the north-south barrier created by the mainline and tram-train tracks, via the mainline underpass, the mainline station overbridge and the tram-train overbridge.
- Enhancing the pedestrian and cycle connectivity between the mainline station and the tram-train station, which needs to be direct and safe.
- Enhancing the active travel connectivity to/from the town centre and Mangham Way.
- Providing access from Greasbrough Road (the 'Western Link').

The Masterplan team recommends a preferred alignment for the tram-train and the mainline overbridge so that the connection between the two is logical and responds to the strategic connectivity aspirations. This is subject to testing from Network Rail.



KEY:

Mainline station and key accessibility

- Potential overbridge location
- North-south active travel link

Access from Greasbrough Road (and surrounding development)

- East-west vehicular & active travel link

Longer term - Connectivity and development to the east of the station

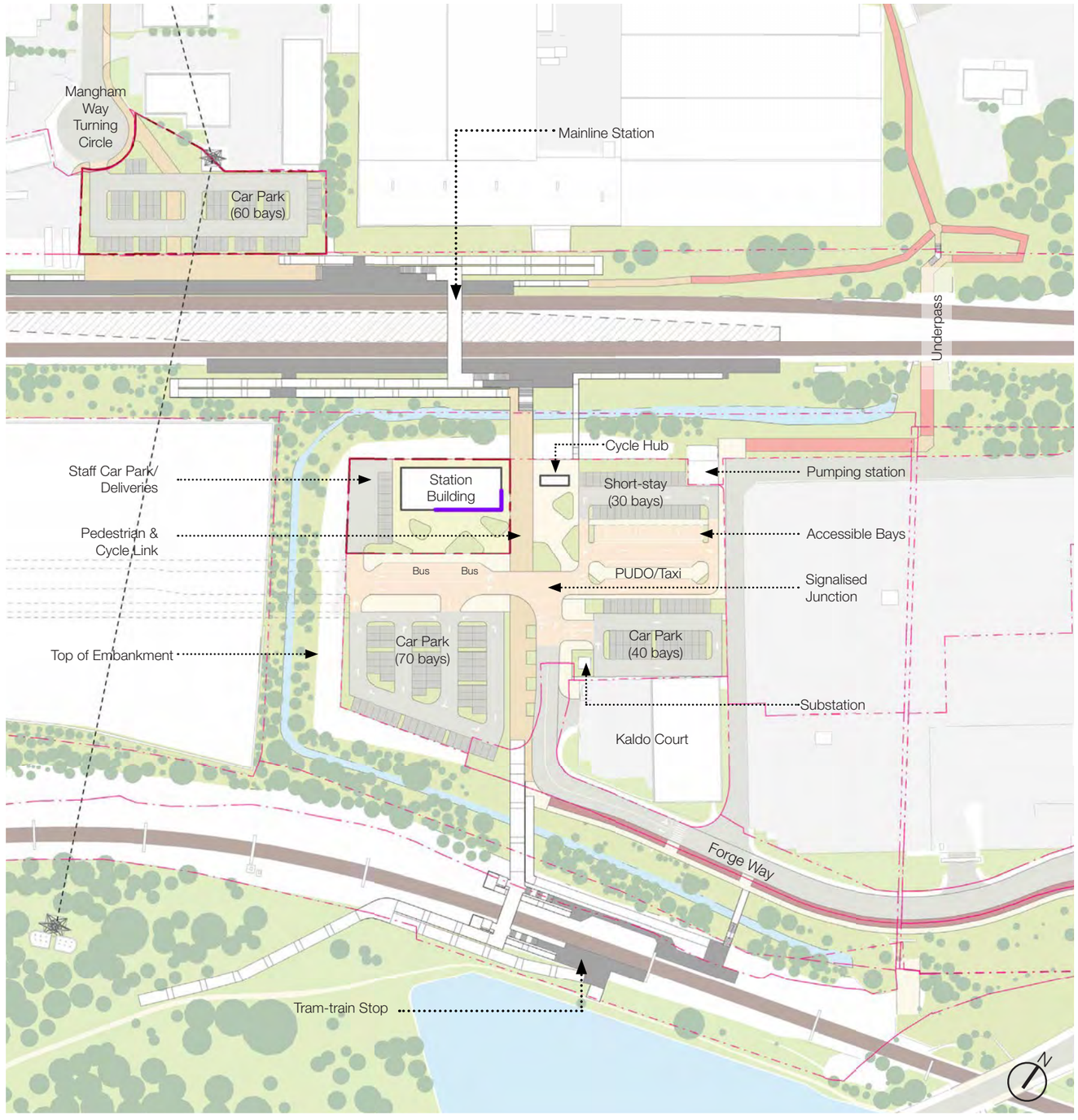
- Potential route for future connectivity

Development

- Potential station building
- Green pocket parks/ Biodiversity mitigation area
- Development site

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4.3.1 Station Quarter Phase 0 Layout

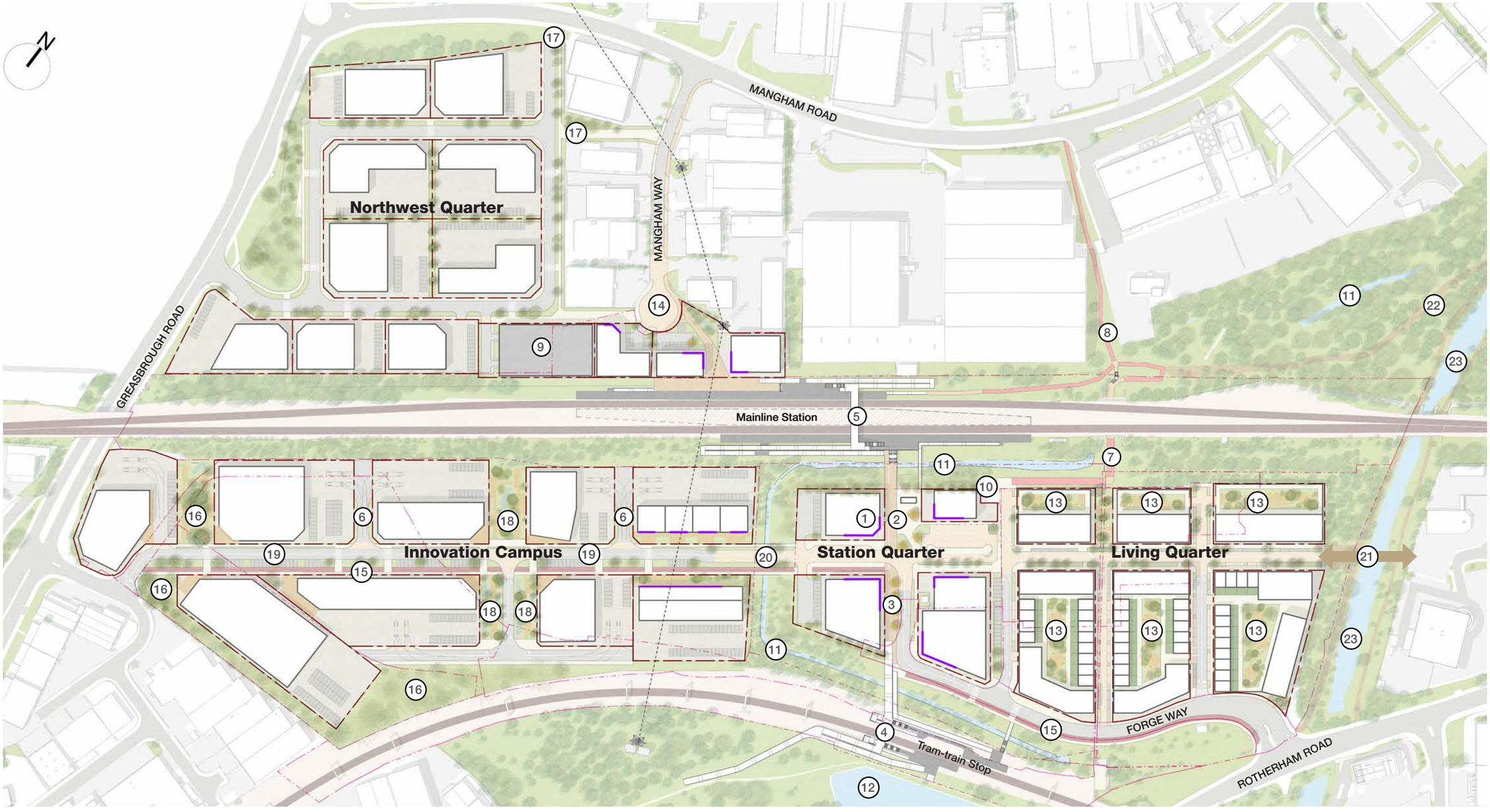


Phase 0 (If Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) condition applies)

Car Park	: 200 spaces (including 10 accessible bays & 30 short-stay bays)
PUDO/Taxi	: 10 spaces
Bus	: 2 spaces for rail replacement bus
Total plot area for development	: 1876 sqm

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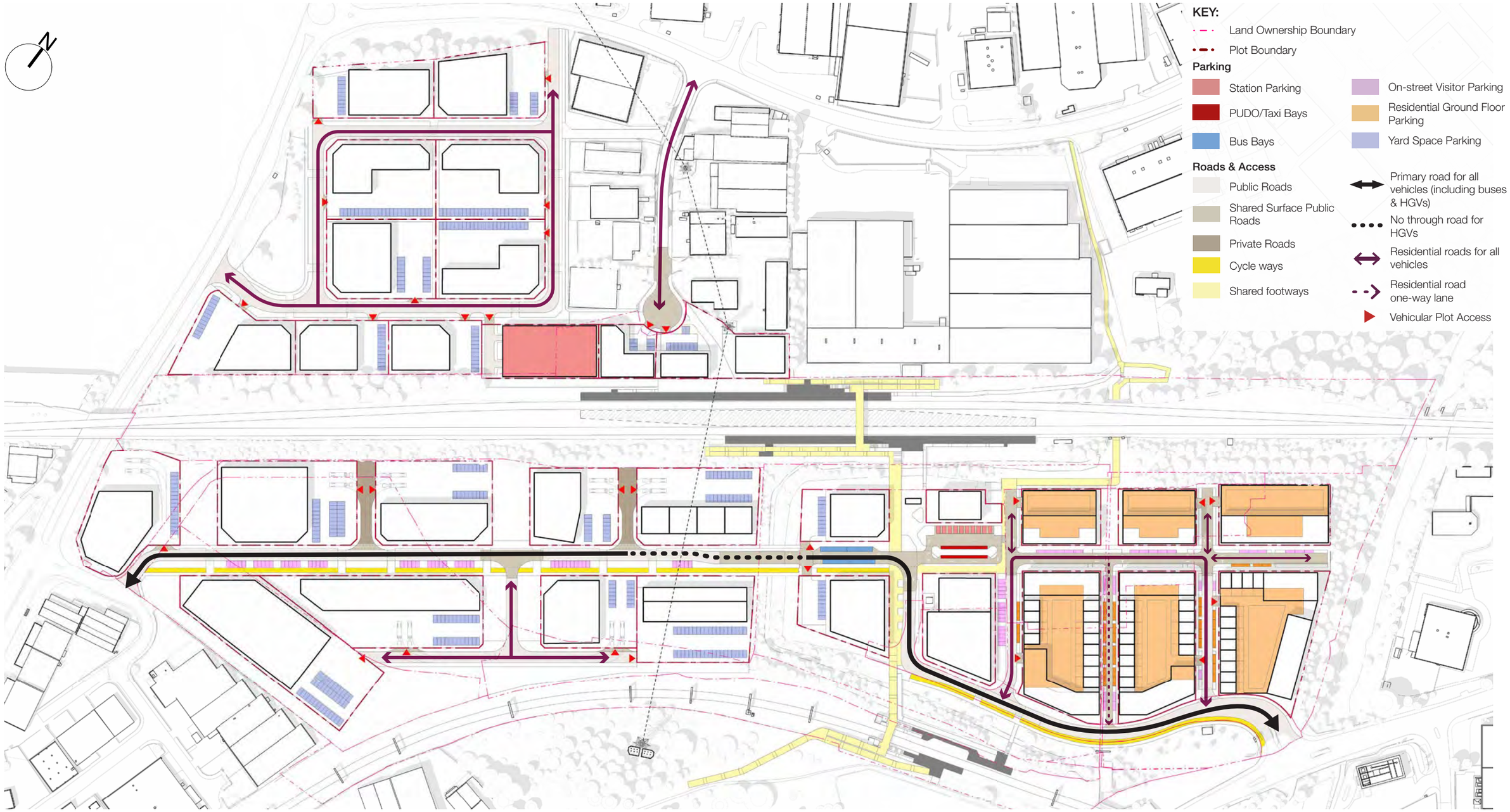
4.4 Masterplan Core Area Layout



1. Station Building
2. Station Forecourt
3. Pedestrian & Cycle Link
4. Tram-train Overbridge
5. Mainline Overbridge
6. Plot Access
7. Underpass
8. Improved PROW
9. Multi-storey Car Park (MSCP)
10. Existing Pumping Station
11. Existing Dike
12. Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation Canal
13. Raised Courtyards
14. Shared Surface Roundabout
15. Segregated Cycle Lane
16. Biodiversity Mitigation Area
17. New Pedestrian Links
18. Pocket Parks
19. On-Street Visitor Parking
20. Western Link Bridge Connection
21. Potential Future Bridge Link
22. Woodland Park Boardwalk
23. Fitzwilliam's Canal

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4.5 Movement Plans & Parking Strategy



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4.6 Station Quarter

The Station Quarter will be an active environment for transit interchange and high-quality employment whilst maintaining its industrial character. The good transport links give the development plots in the quarter a unique opportunity to become incubator spaces, that can also act as the catalyst for the Innovation Campus.

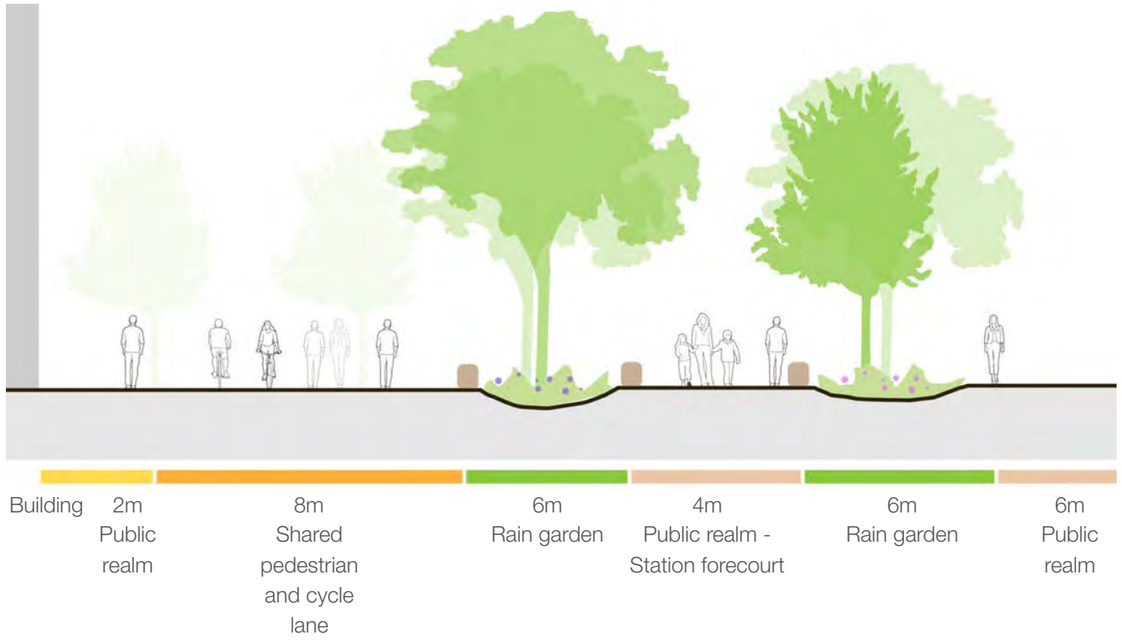
Approaching from Forge Way, visitors and passengers will be greeted by the station building on the ground floor next to an open green plaza. Visitors will also have a clear and direct pedestrian and cycle link that leads them from the mainline station to the tram-train stop, and further along the canal and into the town centre through the activated Northfield Road.

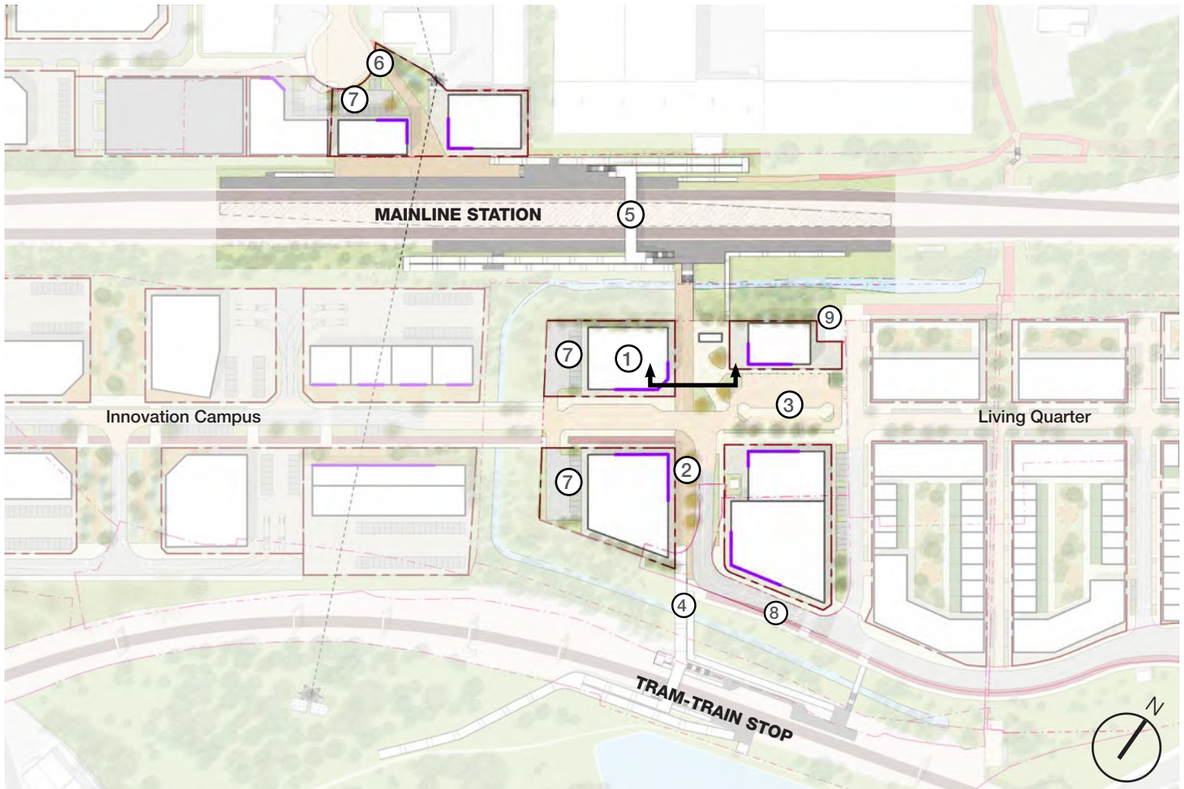
The forecourt of the mainline station provides facilities like blue-badge parking, taxi bays, pick-up and drop-off (PUDO) spaces, as well as an open plaza with covered cycle parking and lockers for storage and package delivery. The plaza is also accessible for waste management and its layout allows for the necessary vehicle manoeuvring. Space, power, water and drainage for pop-ups (13/16 amp) should be included close to the cycle parking with a new water/drainage point nearby.

The Station Quarter will provide limited car parking spaces in the long term to encourage active travel. Only a limited amount of staff parking and spaces for service vehicles are provided in individual plots within the Station Quarter.

The proposal shown adjacent illustrates the Phase 1 approach as the long term plan and would be a development of Phase 0 depending on the agreement process.

Proposed Street Character





Station Quarter Plan

1. Station building
2. Pedestrian and cycle link
3. Station forecourt
4. Tram-train overbridge
5. Mainline station overbridge
6. Northern access from Mangham Way
7. Service & staff parking
8. Segregated cycleway
9. Existing pumping station



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4.7 Innovation Campus

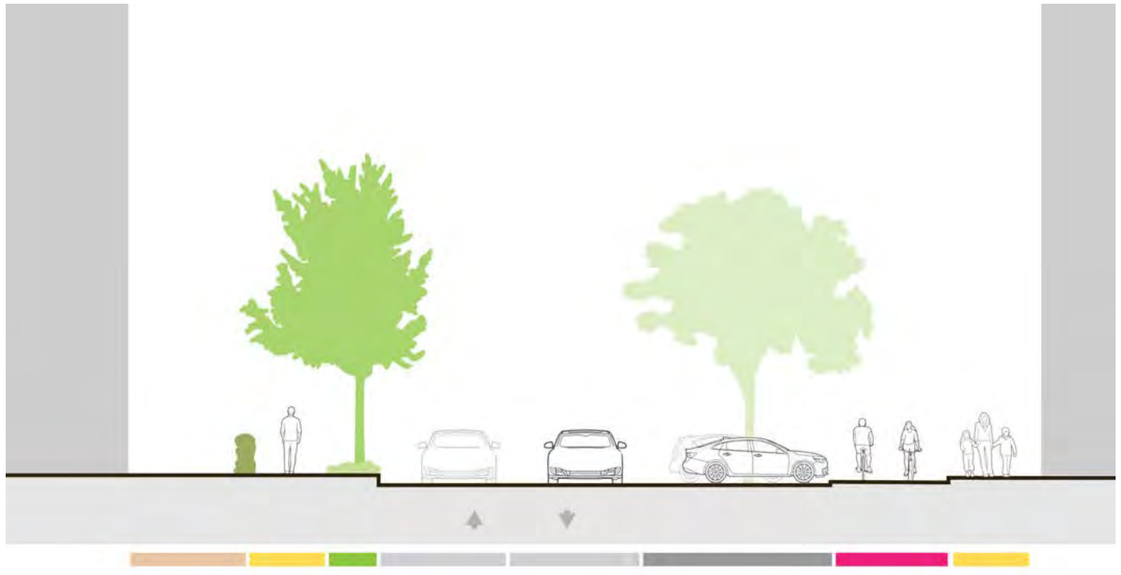
The Innovation Campus will renew the existing industrial character, turning its focus towards high-quality employment in the advanced manufacturing sector or commercial use.

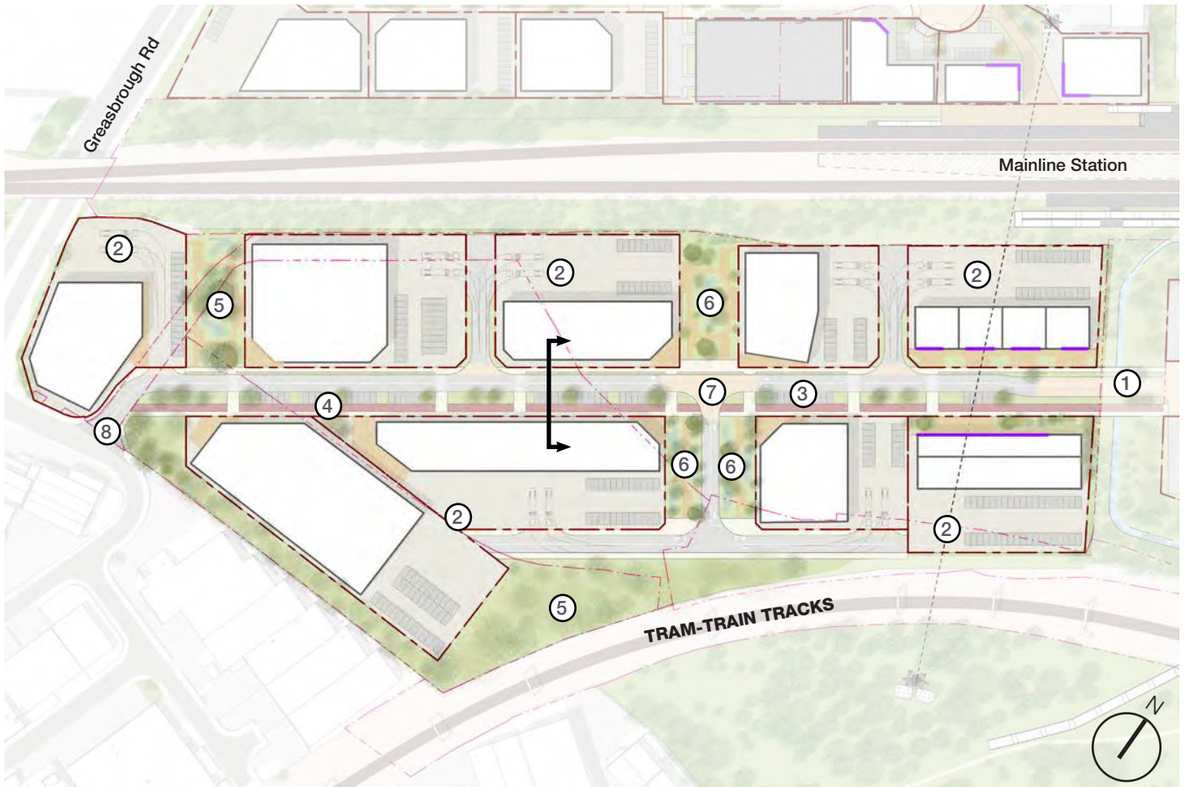
The Innovation Campus is well connected via the spine road between Greasbrough Road and the Station Quarter through to Rotherham Road, providing an opportunity for activation of the plot frontages. The spine road is the connector to the individual plots and consists of green swales and edges, a segregated cycle lane and visitor on-street parking. Yards are accessed from the back of the plots along with staff parking.

The area will provide green pocket parks and outdoor gathering spaces in front of building setbacks to allow opportunities for socialising and public amenities. The two plots closest to the Station Quarter are proposed to have active frontage with F&B or retail use to extend the experience of the Station Quarter and natural surveillance for the users and visitors. As a part of the green infrastructure strategy, large areas have also been selected as biodiversity mitigation sites to support the 10% biodiversity net gain requirement.

For the purpose of this study, all plots have buildings that are 9m tall with most providing single-storey double height space to accommodate for large manufacturing or tech equipment. However, there is flexibility based on respective needs for the tall volume space to be converted into a double-storey building or even have additional floors, so long as the maximum building height does not exceed 19m.

Proposed Street Character





Innovation Campus Plan

1. New road bridge
2. Yard and staff parking
3. Visitor parking
4. Segregated cycle lane
5. Biodiversity mitigation area
6. Pocket parks
7. Raised highway
8. Spine road



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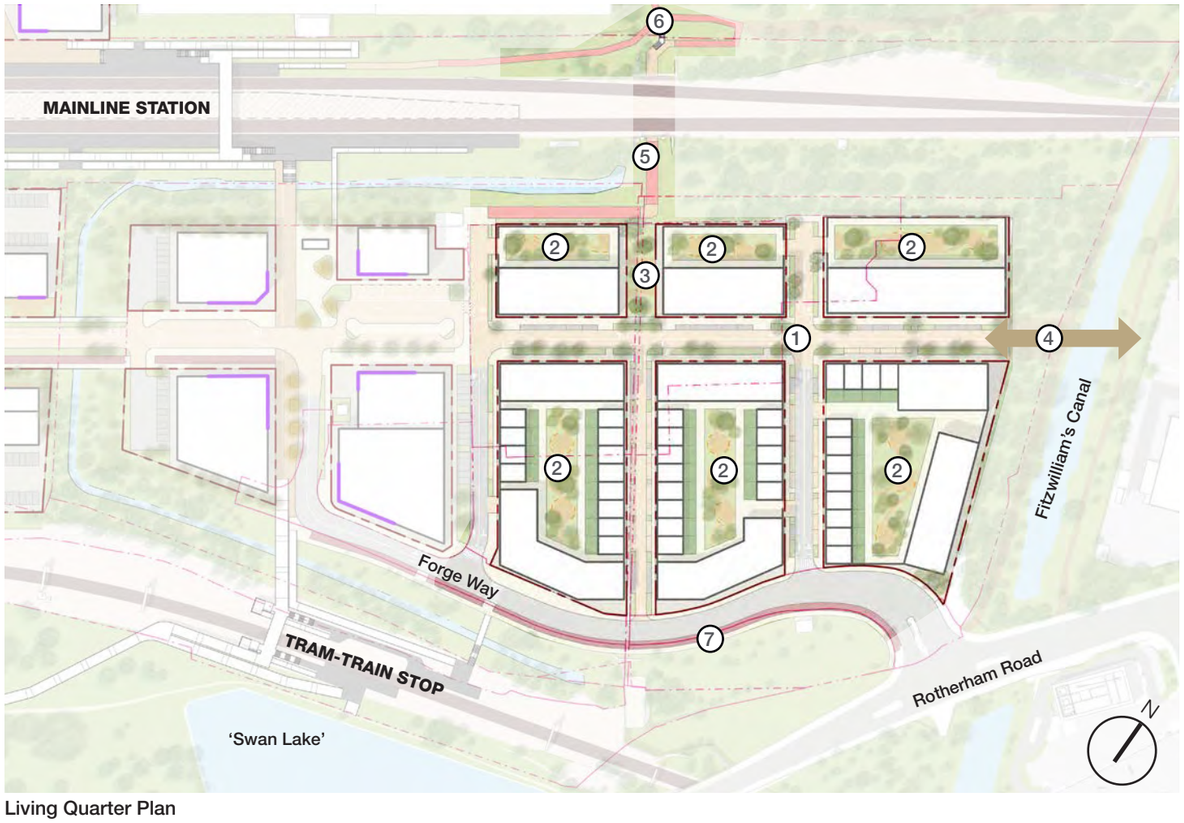
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4.8 Living Quarter

To the east of the Station Quarter, the masterplan encourages residential use and the development of a Living Quarter. This will encourage natural surveillance for the Station Quarter and could function as an extension of the Eastwood community.

Characterised by traffic-calmed streets and community courtyards, the residential developments will encourage active use of the green common areas as well as the canal side with improved public rights of way (PROW). Reduced parking provision is encouraged in the area due to good transport links. Parking is facilitated below the courtyards of residential blocks, whilst townhouses each have one on-street parking bay.

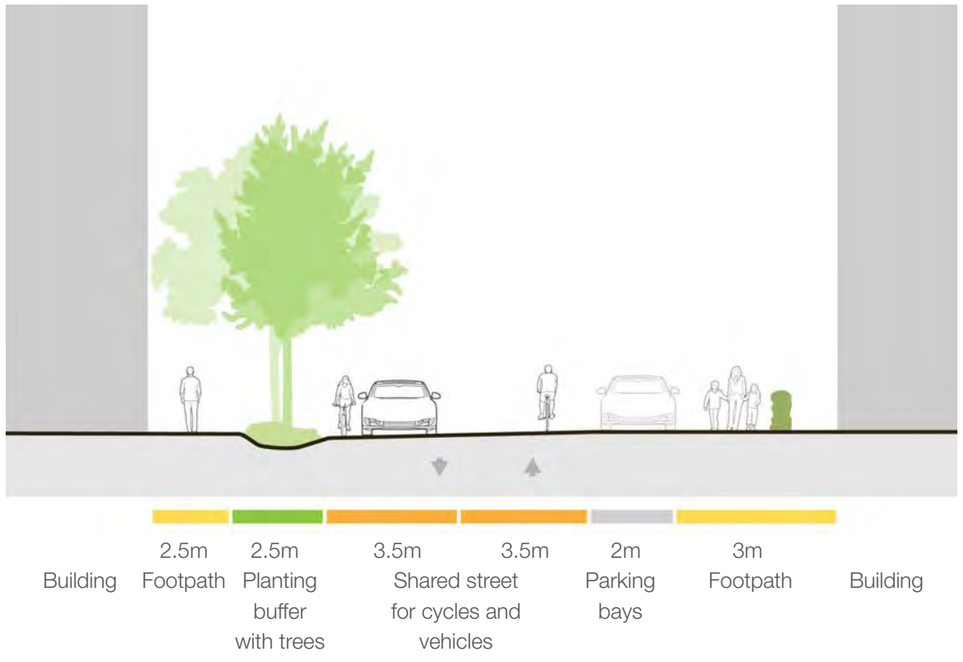
To initiate the Living Quarter it is necessary to revisit the current use class to allow for residential. All service facilities will need to be provided and aligned with existing connections.



Living Quarter Plan

1. Shared surface street
2. Raised courtyards
3. Community garden
4. Potential future bridge link
5. Underpass active travel link
6. Improved PROW
7. Segregated Cycle lane

Proposed Street Character





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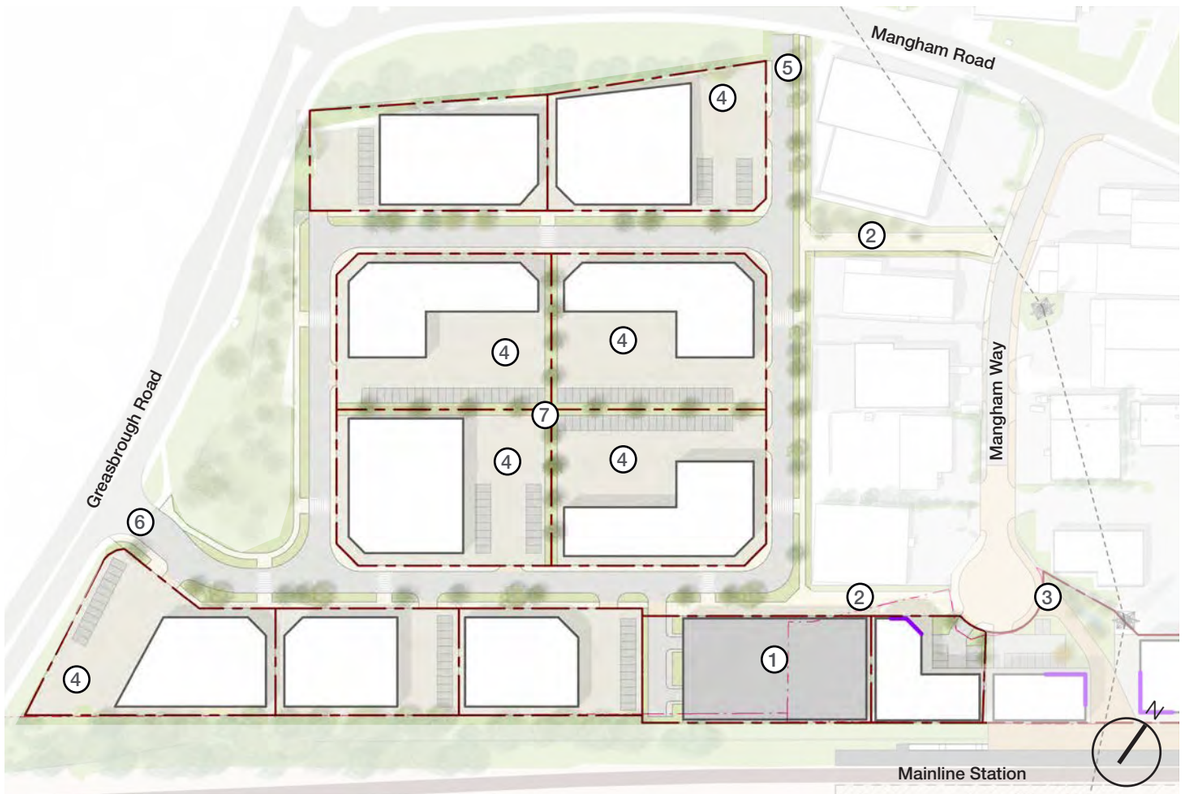
4.9 Northwest Quarter

The potential implementation of the multi-storey car park (MSCP) to the north of the mainline station will give rise to the opportunity to regenerate the Northwest (NW) Quarter. The MSCP is proposed as a typical 30m wide 2-storey facility that is still within close proximity to the mainline station. This location requires more complex land acquisition and will need to accommodate the station car park provision to allow for the plots in the Station Quarter to undergo potential development.

The large area which is currently under a single freehold of Taylor Woodhouse Holdings, presents a less complicated acquisition scenario. The interest in, and connectivity for new industrial development within this zone could be enhanced with the development of direct pedestrian access to the mainline station from the Northwest Quarter. The Northwest Quarter could be seen as part of an extension of the Innovation Campus in the long term.

The development of Northwest Quarter however would need to be further detailed and investigated with regards (but not limited) to the:

- Market appetite
- Land ownership and land acquisition
- Existing services and development restrictions
- Vehicular Access and Car park provision
- Plot layout



Station Quarter Plan

1. MSCP
2. Enhanced pedestrian access
3. Northern access to mainline station
4. Yard with staff parking
5. New pedestrian access and restricted vehicular access
6. Existing road entrance
7. New industrial plot layout





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4.10 Recommendations for Mainline Overbridge and Tram-train Overbridge

This section provides recommendations for the alignment of overbridges for the mainline station and the tram-train stop that align with the layout of the proposed masterplan.

Network Rail has been involved in confirming the final location of the bridges and access to align with requirements for the mainline station and the tram-train stop. Network Rail will further develop the design for both stations at the next stage of the project.

The images below are precedents for the materiality and design of the overbridges. Both are designs set in rural industrial settings that blend well with their context.

Pedestrian Connection between Barcelona & Montcada, Spain
Architect: Batlleiroig

Bow Riverside, London, UK

Architect: Adams & Sutherland



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4.11 Summary

Following the current and proposed site conditions, design principles and character, and viability assessment, the masterplan has been developed to meet the below stated requirements. Through this process, it is crucial to further mitigate certain risks, for future development.

Placemaking
- Small commercial activities to activate day/night economy
- Green framework to encourage outdoor use
- Indoor / Outdoor relationship
- Challenge in combining industrial use with station environs

Planning Policy
- Current policy supports industrial development
- Class use change and an amendment to the local plan are needed for residential development to progress

Development Quantum
- Refer to the tables on the right showing details of the development quantum

Deliverability
- Developing a strategy for realising comprehensive and coherent development over time
- Market making strategy
- Land assembly required
- Need for a 'patient capital' approach
- Understanding the roles of the public and private sector

Wider Benefits
- Tie in with the existing industrial character
- Celebration of Rotherham's Industry
- Employment and start-up opportunities

Key Risks
- Viability and funding challenges
- Land assembly
- Market appetite
- Activation and commercial use can be a challenge
- Local procurement processing times

WESTERN QUARTER (Stobart Site + NR site + Kniveton Site)									
Plot ID	**Plot Area (sqm)**	**Built footprint (sqm)**	**No. floors**	**Industrial GEA (sqm)**	**Commercial GEA (sqm)**	**F&B GEA (sqm)**	**Car Park Space***	**Car Park Area required (sqm)***	**Yard Area Estimation (sqm)**
W1	3,853	1,207	2	2414	0	0	24	845	1,801
W2	4,088	1,084	2	1517	0	650	37	1,290	1,714
W3	2,814	1,223	1	1234	0	0	12	432	1,159
W4	2,847	1,381	1	1381	0	0	14	483	984
W5	4,044	1,575	1	1575	0	0	16	551	1,918
W6	5,253	2,186	1	2186	0	0	22	765	2,303
W7	4,852	2,576	1	2576	0	0	26	902	1,375
W8	5,974	3,358	1	3358	0	0	34	1,175	1,441
W9	4,001	1,733	1	1733	0	0	17	607	1,661
TOTAL (sqm)	**37,725**			**16,240**	**0**	**650**			
GRAND TOTAL (sqm)				**16,890**					

* All plots have buildings that are the same height. Apart from Plot W1 and W2, all other plots are assumed to be single-storey double height space for the purpose of this study.
* Car parking is provided within plots as surface car park with additional visitor bays provided along spine road.
* Surface car park area required is calculated based on assumption of 35sqm per parking space.

STATION FLOORMAT (Shaws for Sheds + Northfield B.P. site)							
Plot ID	**Plot Area (sqm)**	**Building footprint (sqm)**	**No. floors**	**Station GEA (sqm)***	**Commercial GEA (sqm)**	**F&B GEA (sqm)**	**Car Park Space***
F1	2,910	1,195	3	0	3,584	0	10
F2	924	489	3	0	0	1,466	0
F3 (Station Plot)	1,876	934	3	467	2,336	0	10
F4	2,466	1,355	3	0	4,066	0	10
F5	2,988	2,195	2 to 3	0	5,865	0	0
TOTAL (sqm)	**11,164**			**467**	**15,852**	**1,466**	
GRAND TOTAL (sqm)				**17,784**			

*Assume half of the area on ground floor of Plot F3 to be for station use.
*Car parking is provided within each plot with minimal numbers in this area due to close proximity to station.
*Plot F2 & F5 assume to share the 15 on-street bays.

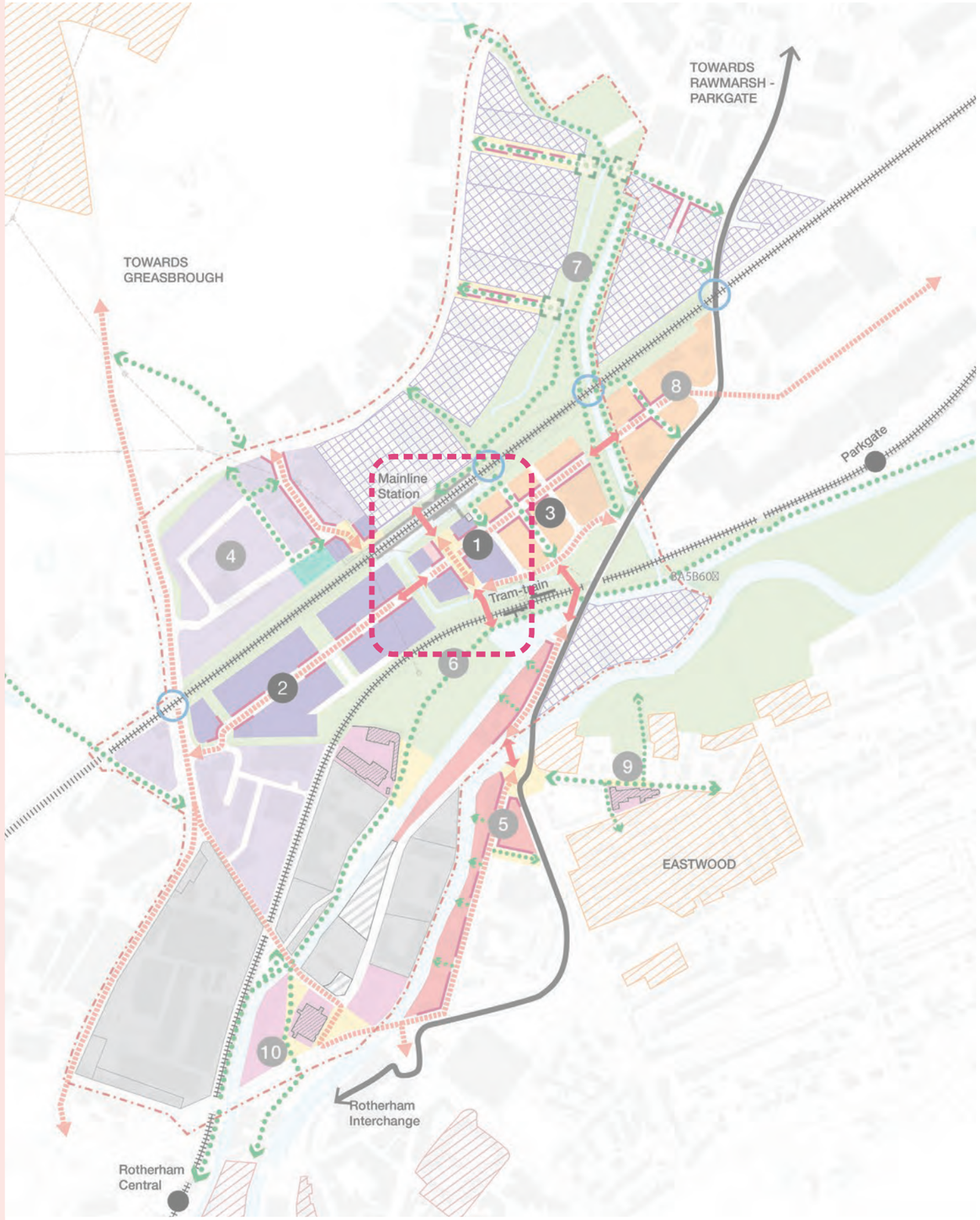
EASTERN QUARTER (Car Supermarket Site)												
Plot ID	**Plot Area (sqm)**	**Plot area (ha)**	**Total built footprint* (sqm)**	**Flat Block no. of floors**	**Total Flat GEA (sqm)**	**Total Flat GIA (sqm)**	**Total Flat NIA (sqm)**	**No. of flats***	**No. of townhouses***	**Dwellings per hectare**	**Car park area required for flats (sqm) ***	**Car park number required for flats**
E1	1,820	0.18	1,586	4	3,358	3,022	2,297	24	0	133	1,269	36
E2	1,819	0.18	1,586	4	3,358	3,022	2,297	24	0	133	1,269	36
E3	2,798	0.28	2,553	4	4,831	4,348	3,304	35	0	124	1,826	52
E4	4,534	0.45	4,178	3 or 4	5,718	5,146	3,911	41	12	117	2,161	62
E5	4,580	0.46	4,218	3 or 4	5,297	4,767	3,623	38	13	112	2,002	57
E6	4,995	0.50	4,410	4	5,860	5,274	4,008	42	12	108	2,215	63
TOTAL (sqm)	**20,545**	**2.05**			**28,422**	**25,580**	**19,441**	**205**	**37**	**118**	**10,743**	**307**

*Built footprint includes raised courtyard, townhouses and flat blocks within the plot.
*Calculated based on average NIA per unit for flats assumed to be 95 sqm
*Townhouse is assumed to be 2 storeys. GEA for each townhouse is 140sqm.
*Car parking is provided either on-street bays or on ground floor of building footprint. Car park area required is calculated based on assumption of 35sqm per parking space.

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Rotterdam Zuid
Rotterdam Stadion

5. Station Quarter Delivery



5.1 New Station Quarter Brief

A new brief was developed during Task B for the integrated station to be active travel focused and optimised for future development potential. The new brief provides minimum car park provision with room for expansion and considers the use of existing nearby provisions. The new car park requirement is determined based on case studies and comparable railway stations in terms of footfall undertaken during Task B. Car park options have been explored as part of the final task.

Assumptions for annual footfall*: 0.609 million (access)
0.584 million (egress)

*Above is based on *Rotherham Mainline Station: Strategic Outline Case* (2022) by Fore Consulting (does not include footfall for Tram-train).

The new brief for the station quarter will focus on delivering a public realm with a green environment and encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport: micro-mobility, cycling, public transport (bus and tram) and walking.

Proposed New Requirements:

- **Car park provision:** 150 spaces as a minimum of which:
  10 accessible bays
  10 short stay bays
- **Taxi ranks:** 5 bays
- **PUDO provision:** 5 bays
- **Cycle parking provision:** Storage for minimum 20 bicycles
- **Bus provision:**
  2 bus bays for rail replacement in Phase 1
  Additional 2 bus bays for the potential use of local bus services in a later phase

5.2 Land Acquisition Scenarios

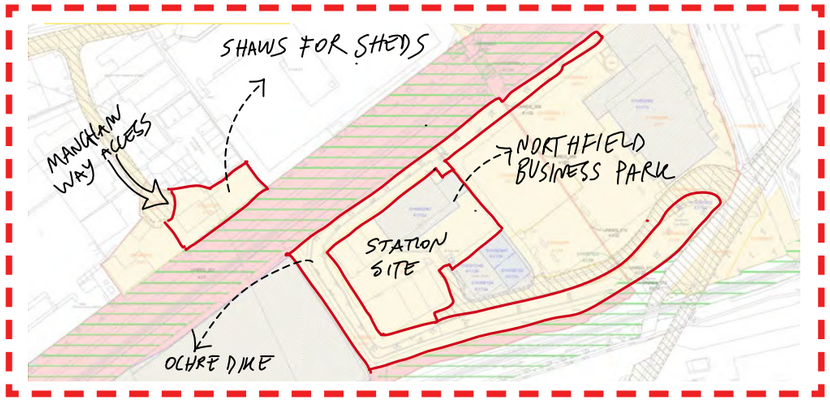
Different land acquisition scenarios were explored to identify the optimum extent of land parcels that would need to be acquired in Phase 1 to be able to deliver the requirement for the Station Quarter, as well as allowing for development plots to activate the space and the station forecourt.

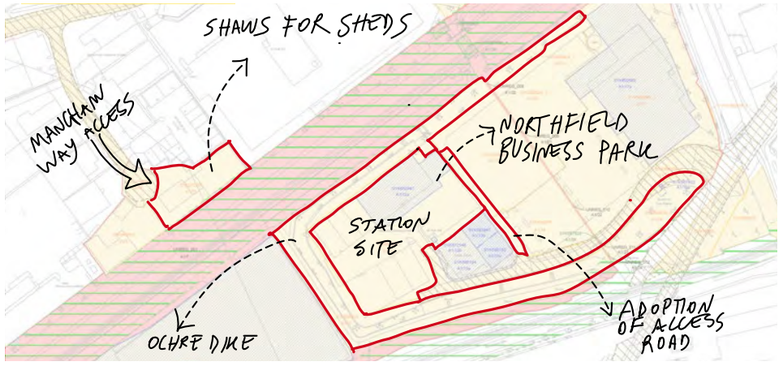
Northfield Business Park has been chosen as the preferred location for the mainline station. It is also necessary to acquire Shaws for Sheds to provide compliant access from Mangham Way.

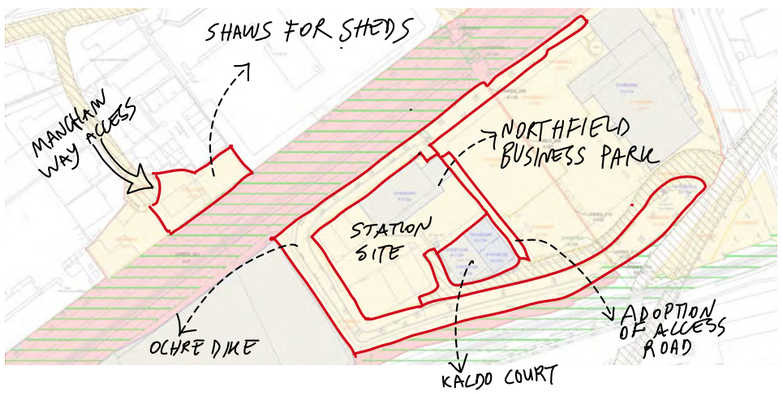
Part of the land of the Ochre Dike will be necessary to provide bridge access to the mainline station and tram-train stop as well as western access to Greasbrough Road. It is also important for active travel links to the underpass to encourage and enhance the pedestrian and cycle network around the new station.

The access road adjacent to Northfield Business Park land is optional however acquisition is recommended for better vehicle movement around the site. The Kaldo Court site is also optional but has the benefit of creating a better gateway into the Station Quarter.

The decision was made that the station floormat layout would go forward with the 'minimum' land acquisition scenario. The layout for the Station Quarter will be explained further in the following section.







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5.2.1 Final Phase Layout

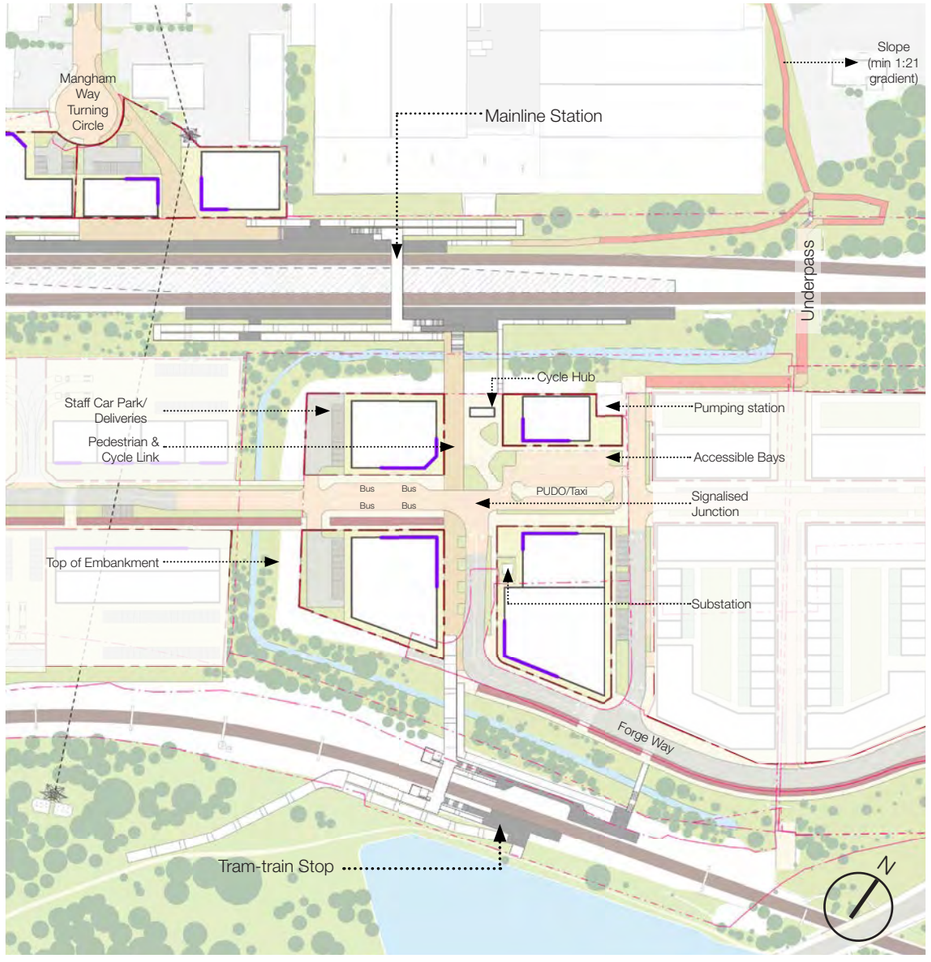
Refer to Chapter 6: Project Sequence for detailed breakdown

Car Park : 10 accessible bays (140 car park spaces to be relocated new MSCP or integrated into development)

PUDO/Taxi: 10 spaces

Bus : 4 (2 spaces on each side of the road for bus services through the site)

Total plot area for development: 11,164 sqm



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5.3 Design Principles

As per Network Rail Guidance, some basic facilities like pods for shelter or toilets should be provided on the platform, but this is dependent on Network Rail. There are 3 ways to approach the design of the station building but they should follow the principles below:



Clear Wayfinding

Station building should have visible and clear access. Its design should also aid the passengers with intuitive wayfinding to and from the Mainline station and Tram-train stop, as well as access to other facilities, i.e. PUDO, accessible parking, etc.



Strong Visual Identity

Station building should provide strong visual identity that responds to the industrial context of the site and characteristics unique to Rotherham.



Active Fronts

Station building should be designed with active fronts that help activate the public realm to create a safe environment for the users.



Green Landscape

Station building should include green landscape as part of its public realm design to enhance the station environment and contribute to the biodiversity net gain of the masterplan.

5.4 Network Rail C/D Station Requirements

Station building brief is developed for guidance only.

Station Assumptions:



Category A — National Hub
The largest stations, these are major termini or interchanges. Examples include Birmingham New Street, London King's Cross and Cardiff Central.



Category B — Regional Interchange
These stations are key hubs on the network, serving cities and major towns, or acting as interchanges. Examples include Cambridge, Derby and Clapham Junction.



Category D — Medium Staffed
These stations serve inter-urban business or a particularly high volume of urban commuting.



Category F — Small Unstaffed
These amount to almost half of the stations on the network. These stations serve local communities and can vary widely in terms of size and facilities provided. They often have a surprisingly large station building as part of a historic legacy, with a civic presence that defines the character of the immediate area.

- Category C/D Station
- Station footprint: approx. 15m x 20m.
- Station building to be managed by the SFO / NR (Network Rail).
- Part-time staffed station.
- Distance to accessible bays and cycle parking max. 50m.
- Station to incorporate accessible facilities, public seating and waiting areas.
- Incorporate F&B retail units and welfare facilities for staff.

Strategic Objective:

- Provide obstacle free fire exits/routes
- Provide a fully accessible and inclusive station for PRM (Person with Reduced Mobility)
- Constructed in parallel with the new station to minimise disruption to the operational railway*

** If constructed as per the station build programme the design will need to be outside of the rail corridor*

Asset requirements:

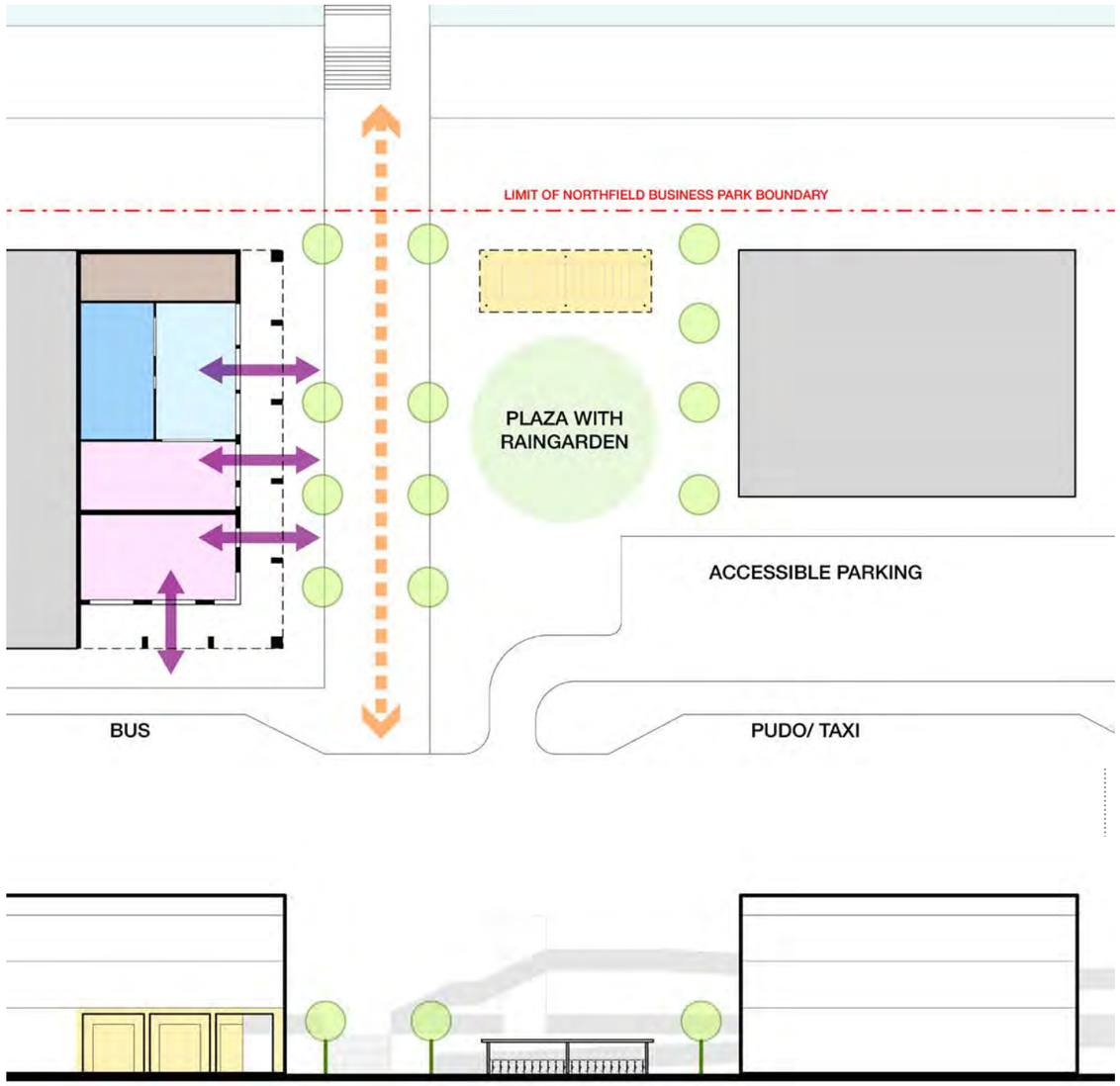
- Operation strategy
- Fire strategy
- Security assessment – safe access to stations strategy CCTV, lighting, low level landscaping etc
- Provide environmental and sustainability high level strategy.

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5.5 Preferred Building Design

There is an opportunity for the development of a new Council-owned and operated business centre, at the heart of the proposed Integrated Mainline Rail Station. A separate study will test options and whether a multi-functional building incorporating the station facilities into the business centre's ground floor is feasible and operationally desirable to key stakeholders.

	Integrated Station Building
Building footprint	Approx. 465 sqm on ground floor only with approx 60 sqm in public realm for cycle parking
Cost comparison	Medium (included with the cost of RIDO building)
Station facilities	Full list of required facilities can be accommodate within building
Staff facilities	Able to be provided (assume to be part-time staffed)
Interdependencies	Dependent on delivering RIDO building together in Phase 1
Flexibility for change	Less flexible to change Permanent structure built with development
Lettable retail/ commercial space	Yes, opportunity for F&B or retail on ground level as well as commercial use on upper levels
Landscape & Public Realm	Generous space for landscaped public realm



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6. Delivery Strategy

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6.1 Delivering the Vision

Rotherham is uniquely positioned to capitalise on its existing specialism in advanced manufacturing and technologies and its strategic location between other specialist manufacturing cities. The delivery of a new mainline station is an opportunity for an innovation campus of national significance with public-facing uses and exemplary placemaking.

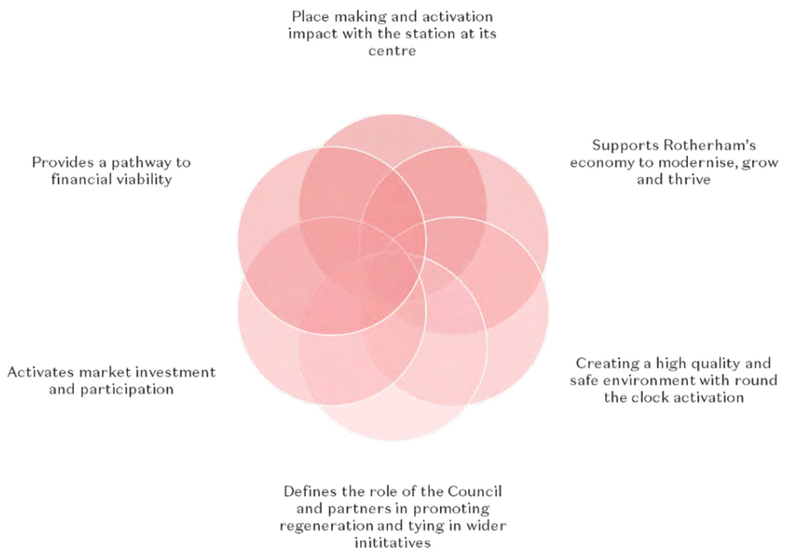
The mainline station could serve the town in a number of ways:

- The station is strategically located.
- Stitching the station back into Rotherham to deliver something for everyone.
- Long-term, it can be the catalyst for strengthening Rotherham's economic identity.
- Long-term development opportunities

6.1.1 Socio-Economic Benefits: an innovation campus for Rotherham

An employment and transport-led approach to regeneration maximises the impact of investment the Council can have through direct investment and partnering. The aim of development surrounding the station will be to:

- Create high pay jobs
- Upskill residents
- Unlocking economic activity in the town centre
- Increased housing supply



6.2 Conclusions

Early viability appraisal demonstrates that the masterplan is not viable at today's values and costs. Considering additional costs such as Section 106 and finance, the viability of the site will worsen in the short term.

However, in the short to medium term there are a number of conclusions which can be drawn from this exercise if RMBC wish to progress with the masterplan:

- The masterplan will not be delivered without substantial public sector led intervention.

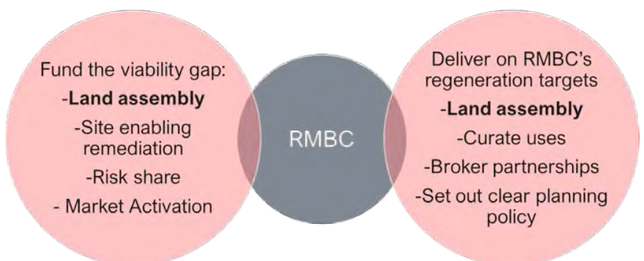
- The value of development is currently not commensurate with infrastructure cost, therefore more work must be done to optimise what is being delivered for high enabling costs.

- Land ownership will be a key component for RMBC to ensure that delivery meets the outcomes of the masterplan vision – without this, it will be challenging to drive private sector partners to deliver the type and quality of development it wants to see.

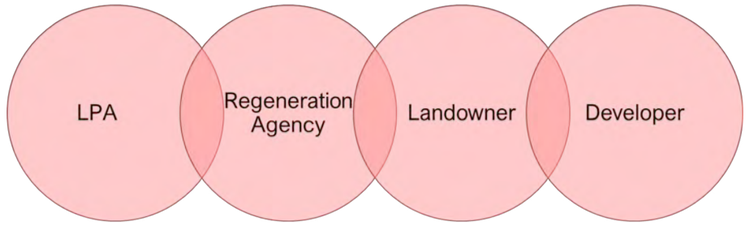
Viability appraisals can be found in the full report.

6.3 Delivery and Phasing Plan

The masterplan should fundamentally seek to maximise the opportunity for impact prompted by a potential £100m investment into a new mainline station for Rotherham. As set out in the vision developed to accompany the masterplan, the case for public sector intervention is organised around opportunities for social and economic impact, social mobility, enhanced connectivity and delivering improvement to the quality of life and well-being for residents.



The need for the public sector to market-make to deliver the vision is clear and there are necessary and fundamental roles for RMBC to play to bring forward a holistic, good quality and impactful masterplan.



6.4 Summary

In order to bring forward development, there are a number of steps which need to be taken considering the public sector vision and leadership. They are stated below.

- The case for investment must be robust, clear and have full political support.
- Undertake a review of the masterplan through the lens of potential future funders.
- Target the delivery of a single phase, align funding, and refine potential partnership approaches.
- Further developing the land acquisition and consenting strategy.
- Investigate public sector funding sources.
- Aligning Planning Policy to support delivery and integration with wider strategic priorities.

An employment and transport-led approach to regeneration maximises the impact of investment the Council can have through direct investment and partnering. The aim of development surrounding the station will be to:

- Create high pay jobs: boosting local wages and employment opportunities for new and existing residents.
- Upskill residents
- Unlock economic activity in the town centre
- Increase housing supply

Landing a station in Rotherham will bring forward better connectivity to the surrounding areas, activate the town centre, enhance mobility and generate value and placemaking through supported residential developments. A high quality public realm and creation of a greater premium on the quality of public spaces used by people has proven to benefit the built environment and uplift values. Early spending in infrastructure, local amenities and public spaces creates better places.

Note: This is an extract from the Masterplan Delivery Strategy. Refer for further details.

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7. Project Sequence

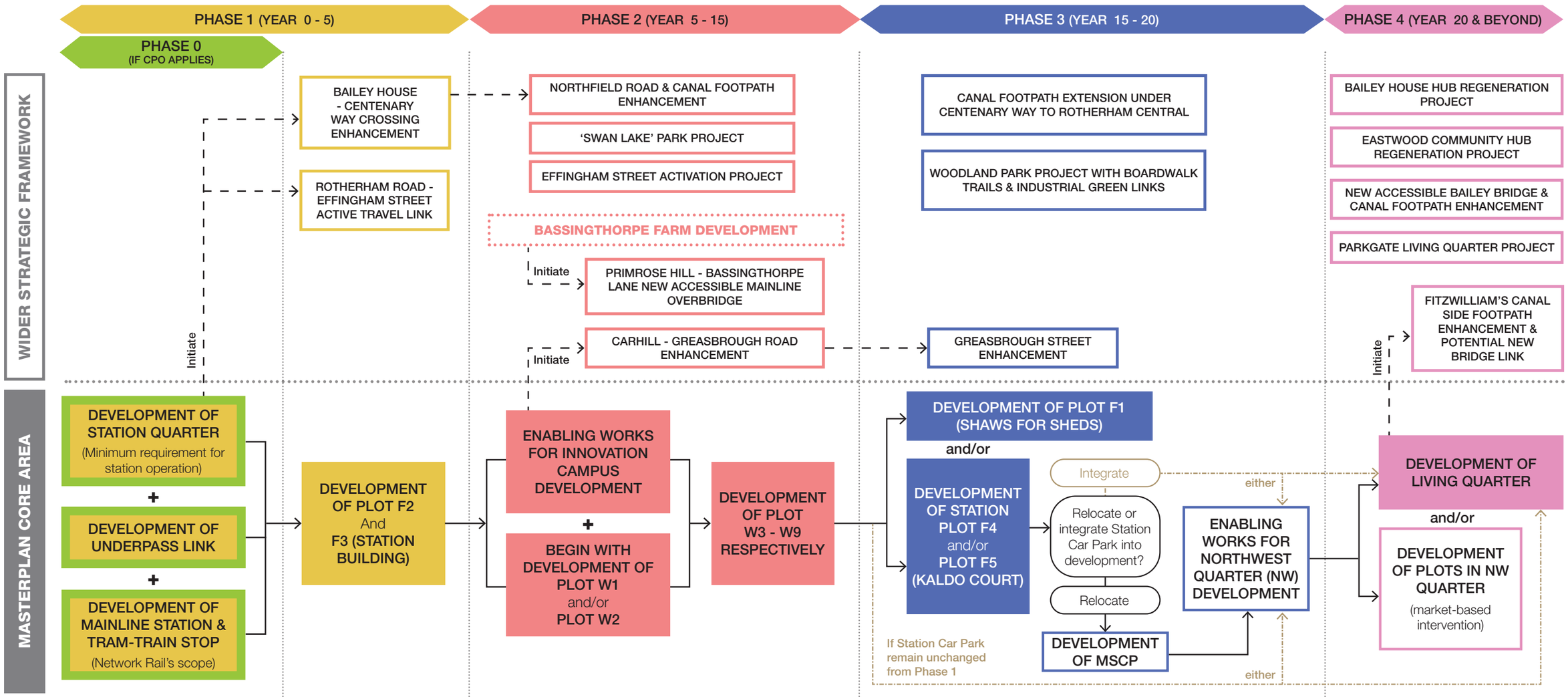
7.1 Overview of Project Sequence & Interdependencies

The diagram below shows the proposed sequence and interdependencies of the different components of the Masterplan Core Area. It also shows the components identified in the strategy for the wider area of the masterplan which includes potential street enhancement projects and potential long-term regeneration projects.

The masterplan should be seen as a dynamic and flexible framework that will evolve as new opportunities come forward and is dependent on funding opportunities and site considerations. Key to this will be ongoing conversations between project partners, the local community and wider stakeholders.

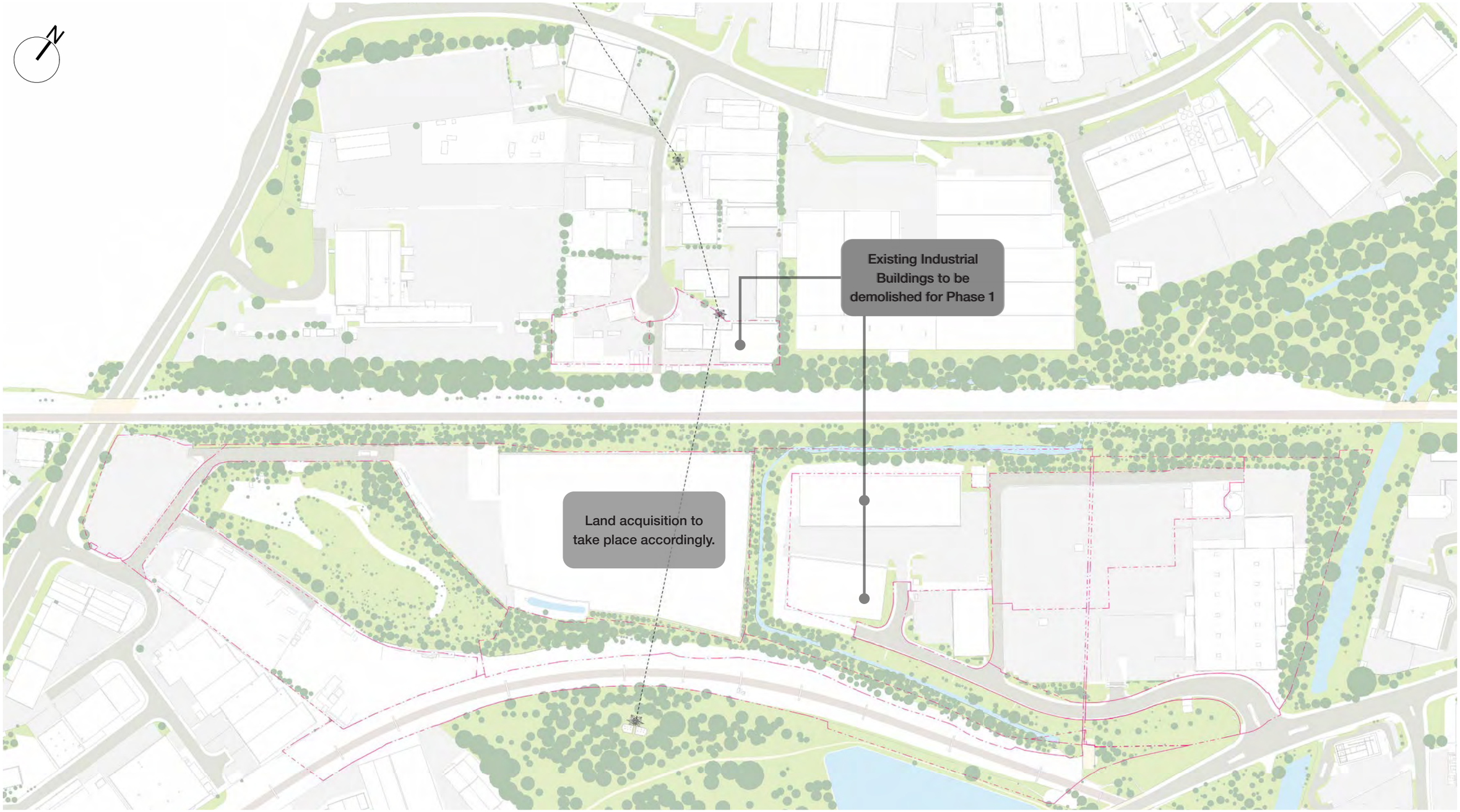


Key plan for Plot ID



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EXISTING



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PHASE 0

1 Development of Station Quarter

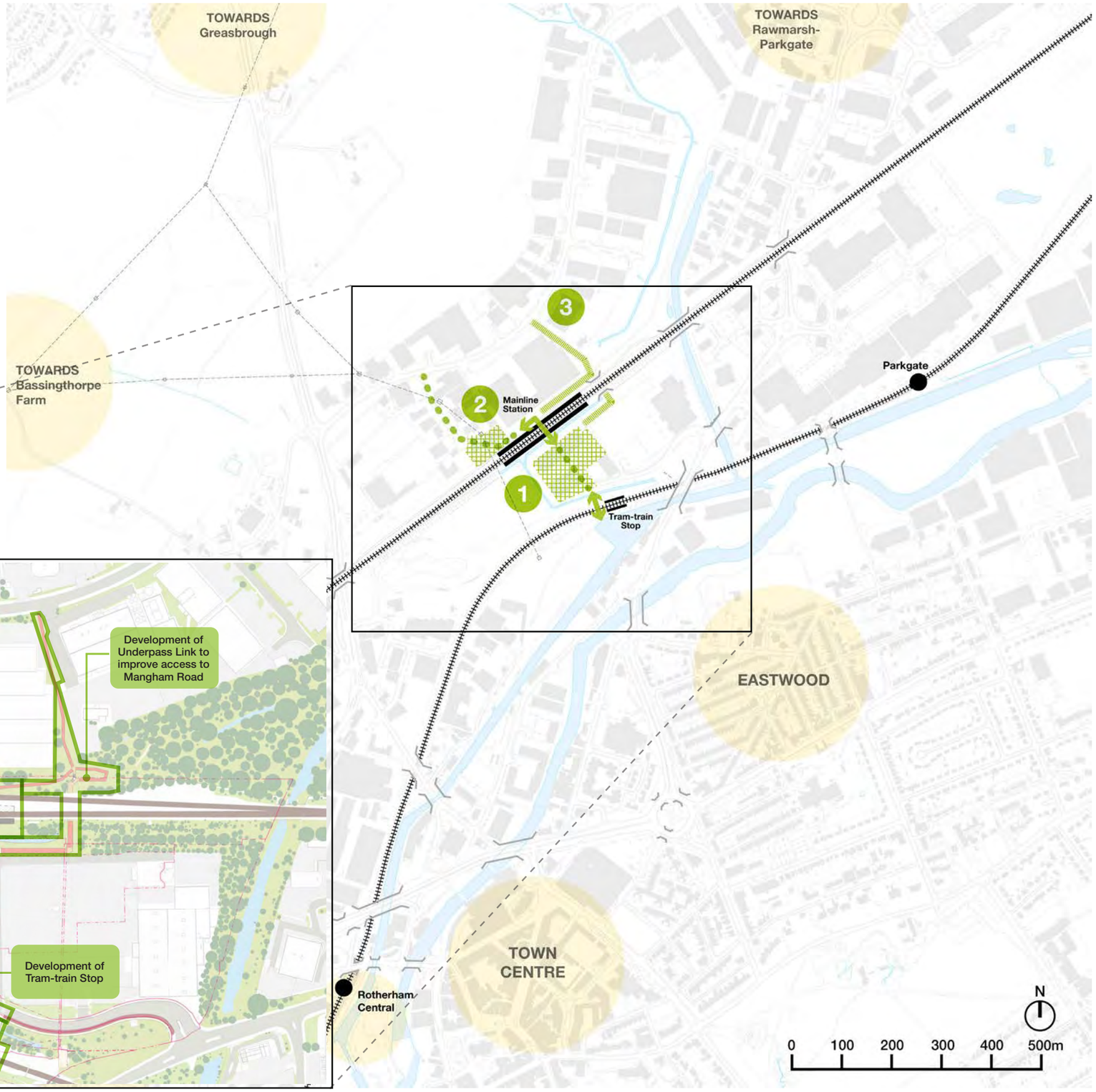
- Station Quarter and northern access via Mangham Way provide pedestrian and cycle links to the mainline station and tram-train stop.
- New quiet-way connections on Mangham Way linking to the railway stations. Interventions include resurfacing existing carriageway signage and cycle markings.
- Refer to Masterplan Core Area for details.

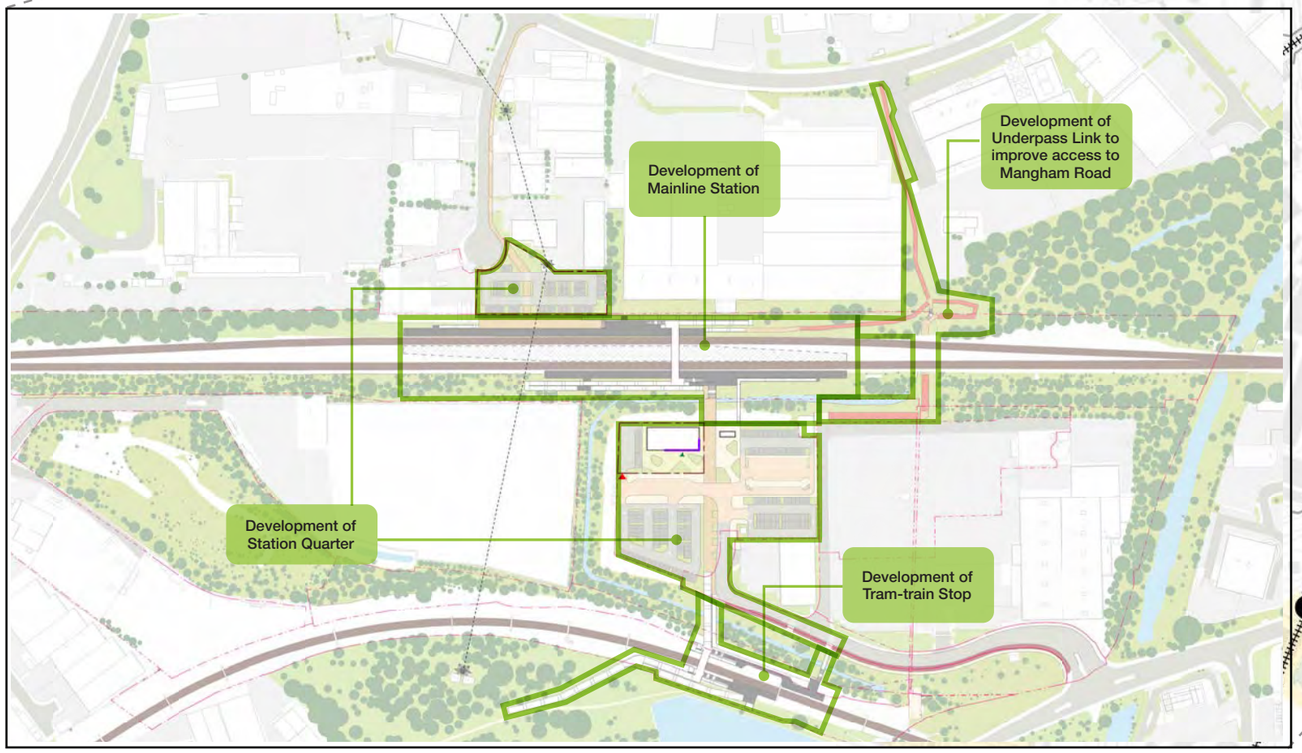
2 Development of Mainline Station & Tram-train Stop

- Development of station platforms and other technical elements for rail operations is under Network Rail's responsibility.
- Coordination on the alignment of the two overbridges that forms a key element for north-south connectivity of the site.

3 Development of Underpass Link

- Existing PROW that acts as a secondary link to Mangham Road.
- Flooding issue will need to be reviewed by the Council.





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PHASE 1 (YEAR 0-5)

1 Development of Plot F2 and F3 (Station Building)

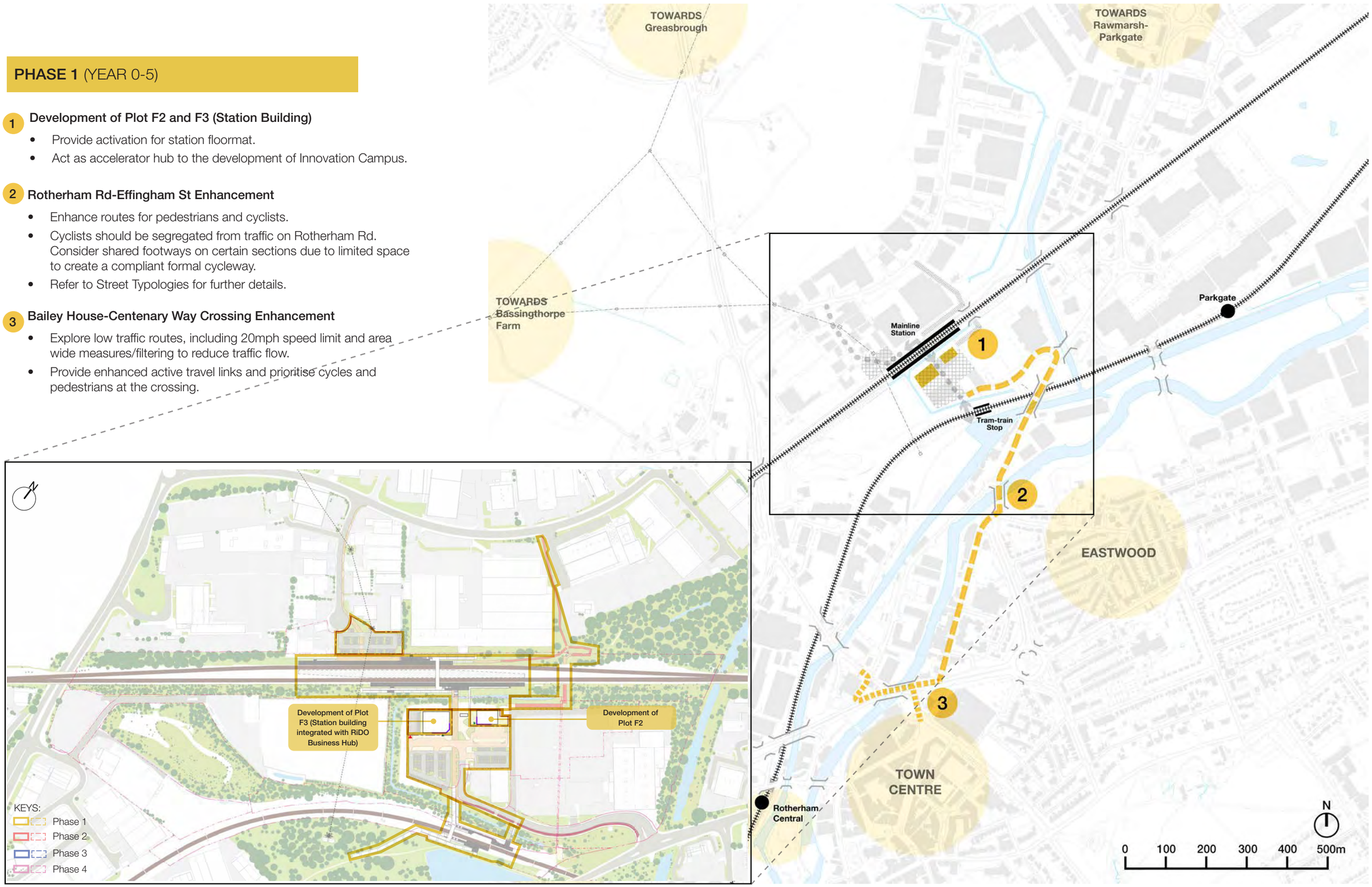
- Provide activation for station floormat.
- Act as accelerator hub to the development of Innovation Campus.

2 Rotherham Rd-Effingham St Enhancement

- Enhance routes for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Cyclists should be segregated from traffic on Rotherham Rd. Consider shared footways on certain sections due to limited space to create a compliant formal cycleway.
- Refer to Street Typologies for further details.

3 Bailey House-Centenary Way Crossing Enhancement

- Explore low traffic routes, including 20mph speed limit and area wide measures/filtering to reduce traffic flow.
- Provide enhanced active travel links and prioritise cycles and pedestrians at the crossing.



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PHASE 2 (YEAR 5-15)

1 Development of Innovation Campus

- Provide access to Greasbrough Road to create circulation and flow via the western link.
- New quiet-way connections linking to the railway stations. Street trees and planting to separate vehicles from pedestrians and cyclists.
- Refer to Masterplan Core Area for details.

2 Northfield Road & Canal Footpath Enhancement

- Focus on providing a pedestrian and cycle link along the canal (widen and resurface), as a green alternative.
- Implement a speed limit of 20mph, predicted traffic volume would provide a suitable route for cyclists as well.
- Refer to Street Typologies for further details.

3 Carhill-Greasbrough Road Enhancement

- Potential to introduce a separate two-way cycle lane, green buffers and enhanced pedestrian route.
- Refer to Street Typologies for further details.

4 'Swan Lake' Park Project

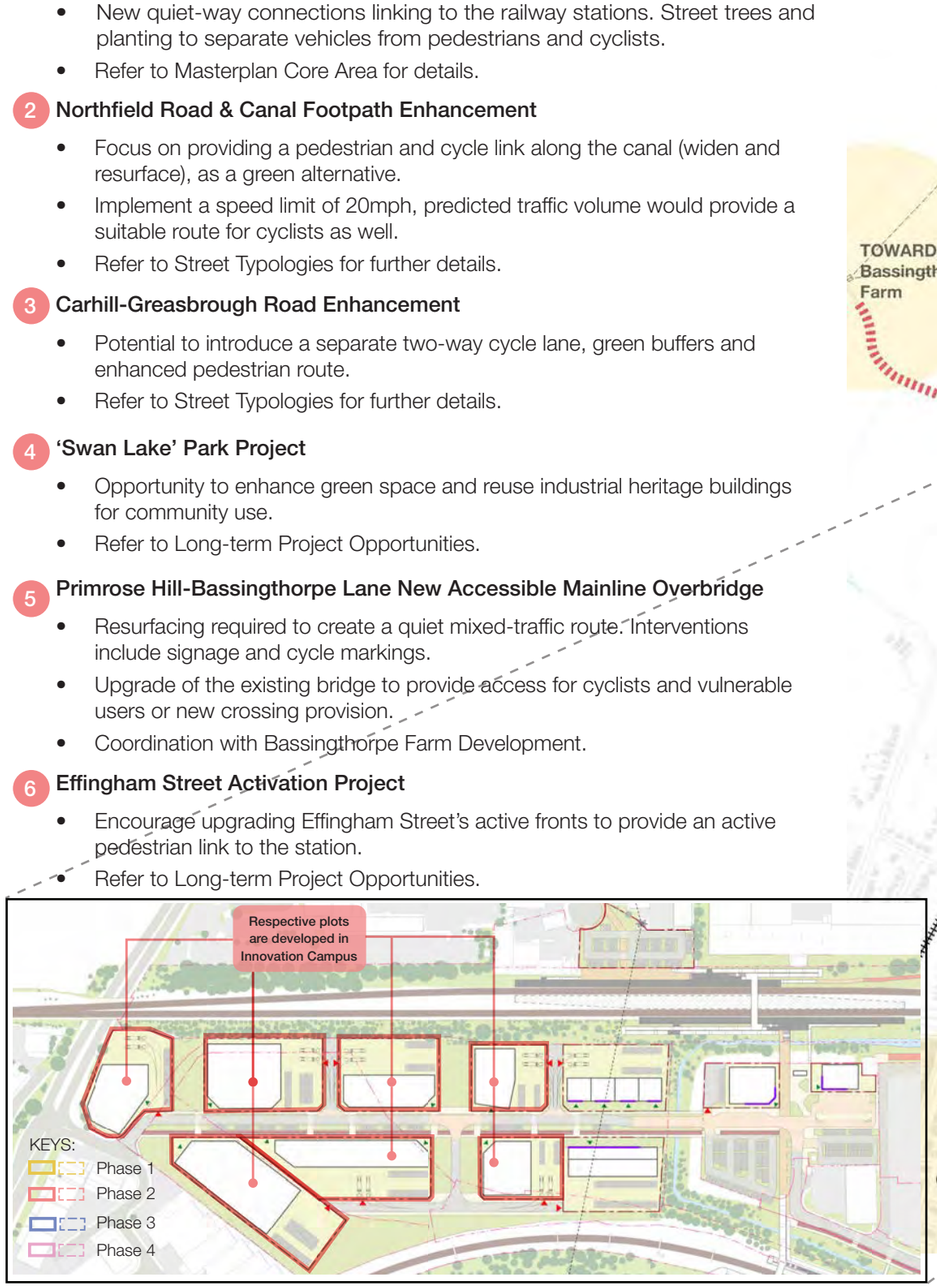
- Opportunity to enhance green space and reuse industrial heritage buildings for community use.
- Refer to Long-term Project Opportunities.

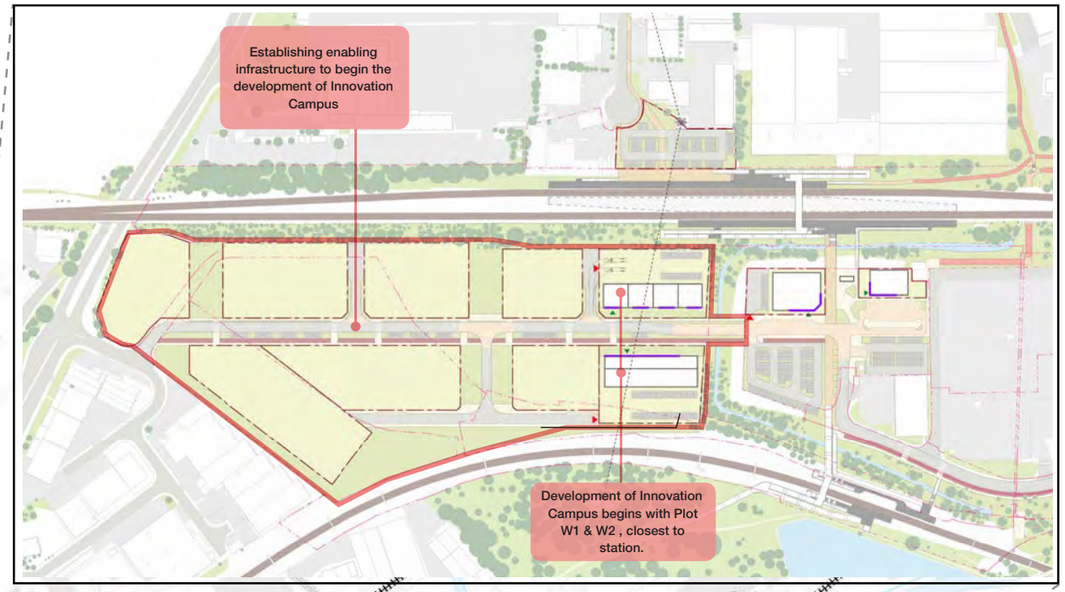
5 Primrose Hill-Bassingthorpe Lane New Accessible Mainline Overbridge

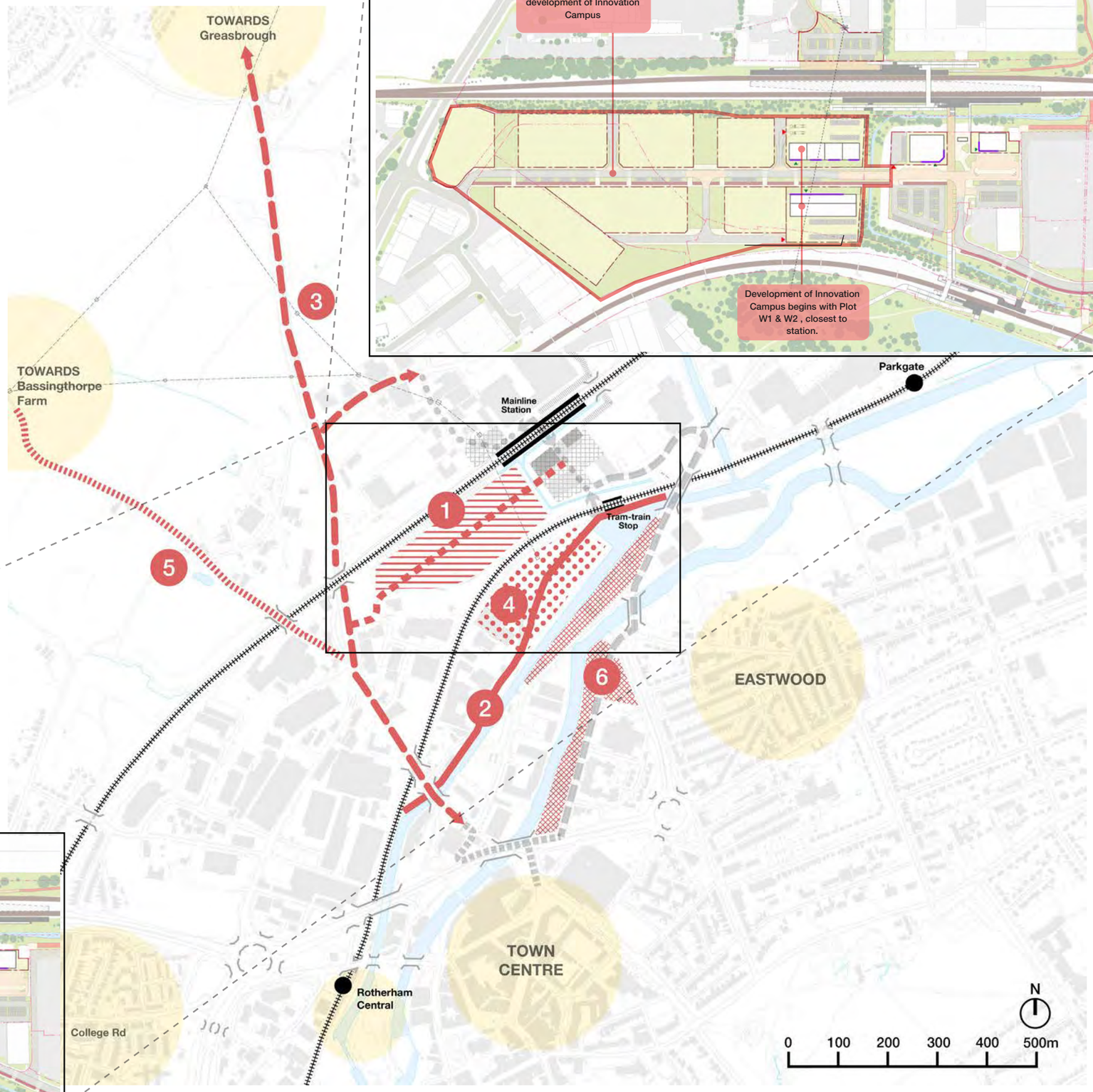
- Resurfacing required to create a quiet mixed-traffic route. Interventions include signage and cycle markings.
- Upgrade of the existing bridge to provide access for cyclists and vulnerable users or new crossing provision.
- Coordination with Bassingthorpe Farm Development.

6 Effingham Street Activation Project

- Encourage upgrading Effingham Street's active fronts to provide an active pedestrian link to the station.
- Refer to Long-term Project Opportunities.







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PHASE 3 (YEAR 15-20)

1 Development of Plot F1 (Shaws for Sheds)

- Could remain as car park or develop whenever market conditions are favourable.

2 Development of Plot F4 and/or F5 (Kaldo Court)

- Station car park would need to be relocated or integrated into the development before any development can proceed.
- Discussion with Station Operator will be needed.

3 Greasbrough Street Enhancement

- Extend cycle link from Greasbrough Road towards Rotherham Central Station.
- Refer to Street Typologies for further details.

4 Woodland Park Project with Boardwalk Trails and Industrial Green Links

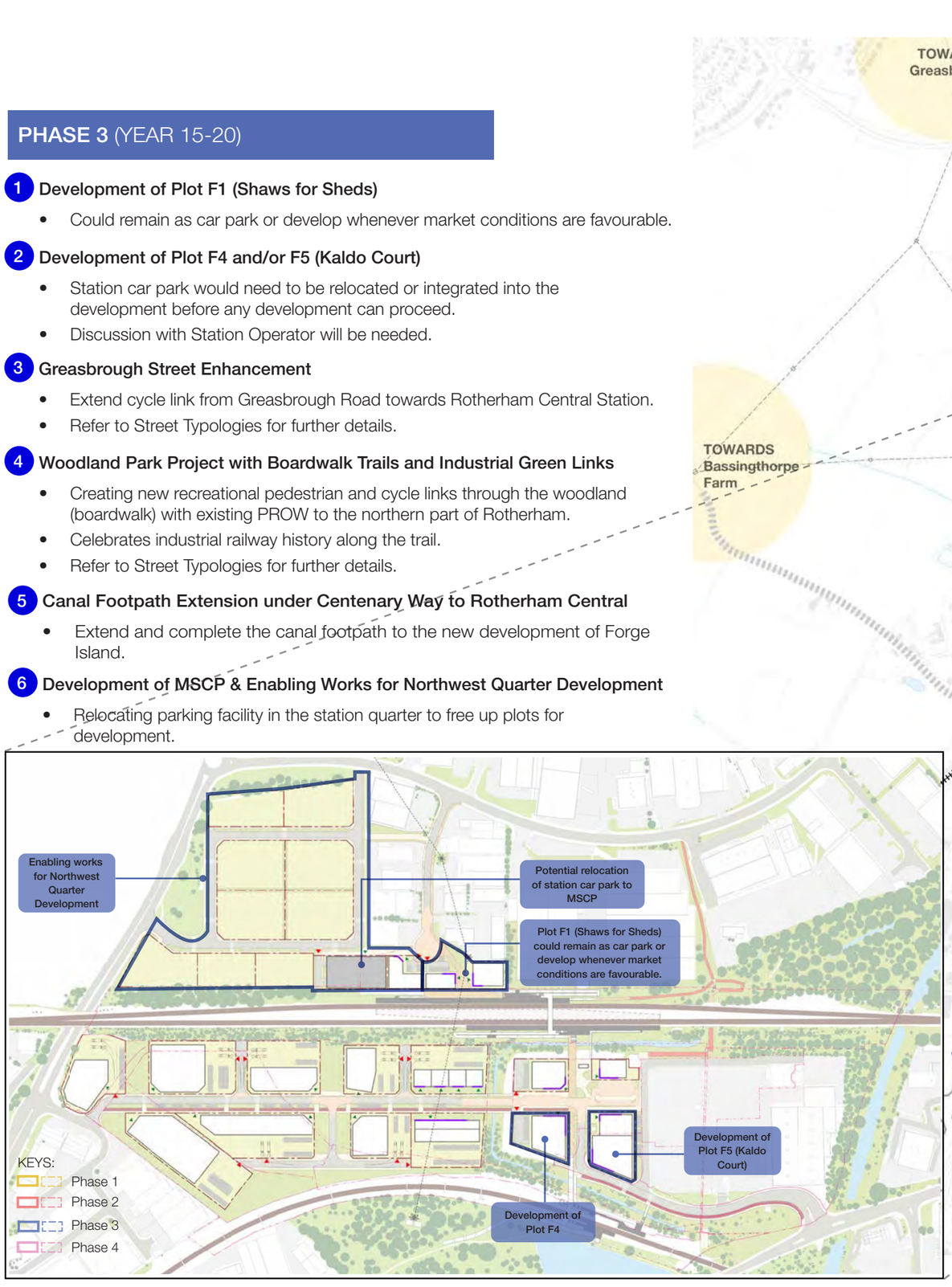
- Creating new recreational pedestrian and cycle links through the woodland (boardwalk) with existing PROW to the northern part of Rotherham.
- Celebrates industrial railway history along the trail.
- Refer to Street Typologies for further details.

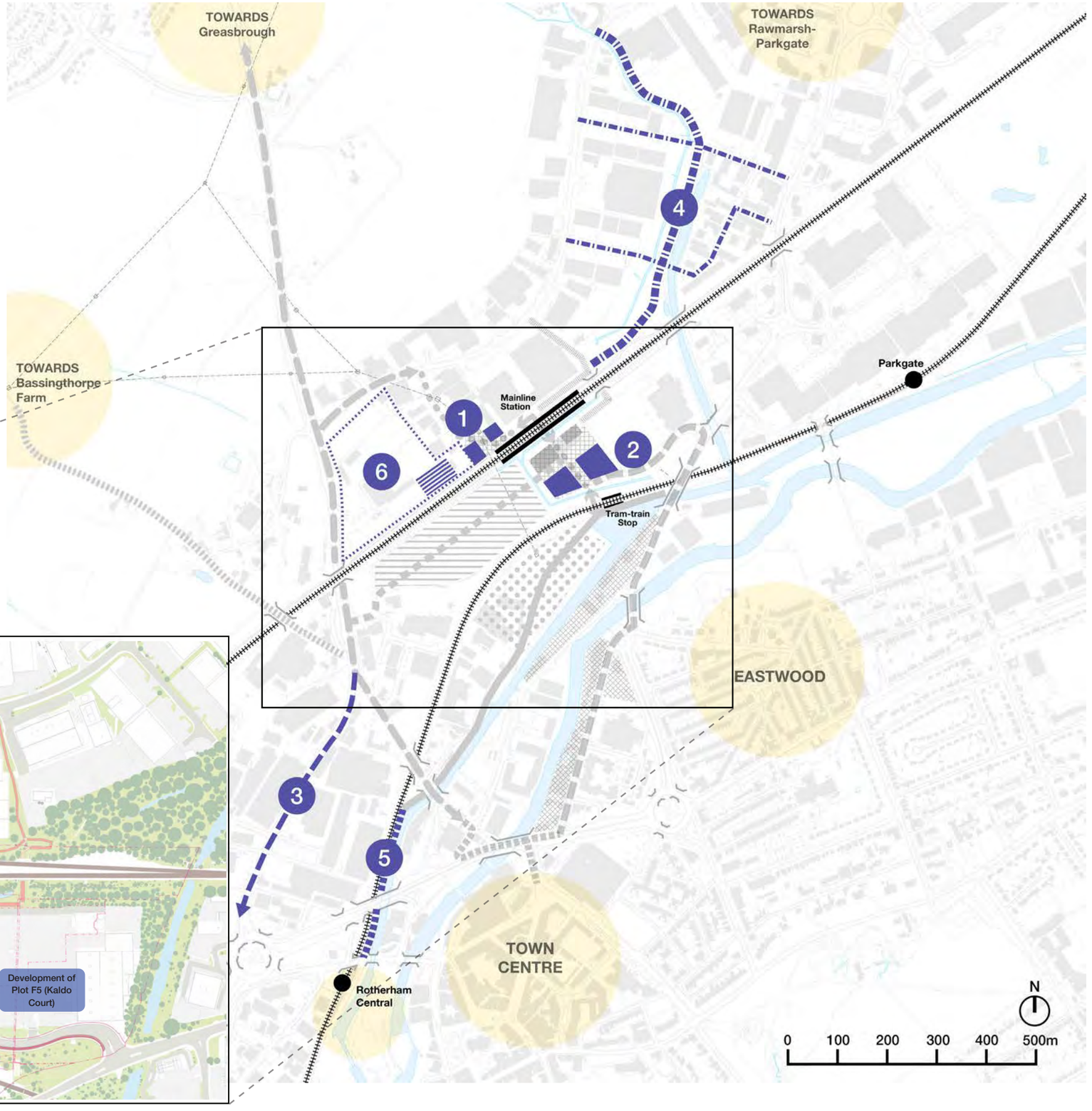
5 Canal Footpath Extension under Centenary Way to Rotherham Central

- Extend and complete the canal footpath to the new development of Forge Island.

6 Development of MSCP & Enabling Works for Northwest Quarter Development

- Relocating parking facility in the station quarter to free up plots for development.





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PHASE 4 (YEAR 20 & BEYOND)

1 Development of Living Quarter

- Residential development supports the activation of the Station Quarter.
- Reduce standard parking provision for residential development.
- Includes a possibility to reinstate the old bridge across the canal (shortcut to Rotherham Road).
- Refer to Masterplan Core Area for details.

2 Development of plots in Northwest Quarter

- Refer to the Masterplan Core Area for details.

3 Fitzwilliam's Canal side Enhancement & Potential New Bridge Link

- Active travel links across waterways and green space - minimal intervention to preserve biodiversity (boardwalks).

4 Parkgate Living Quarter Project

- Possibility for Living Quarter expansion.
- Refer to Long-term Project Opportunities.

5 New Accessible Bailey Bridge and Canal Footpath Enhancement

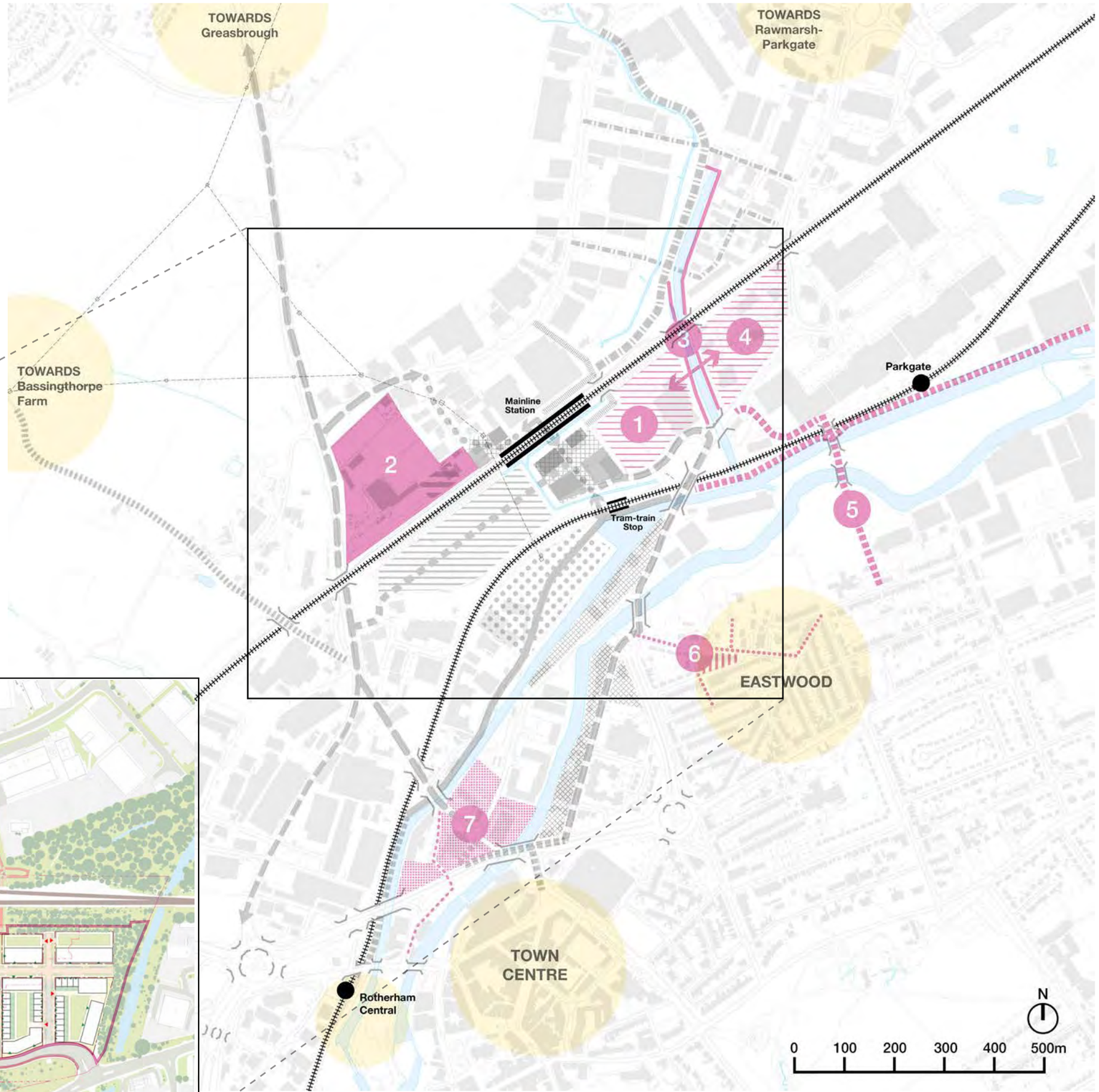
- Extend formal cycle and pedestrian link along the canal to provide an active travel link to Eastwood.
- Upgrade of existing bridges to provide access for cyclists and vulnerable users or new crossing provision.

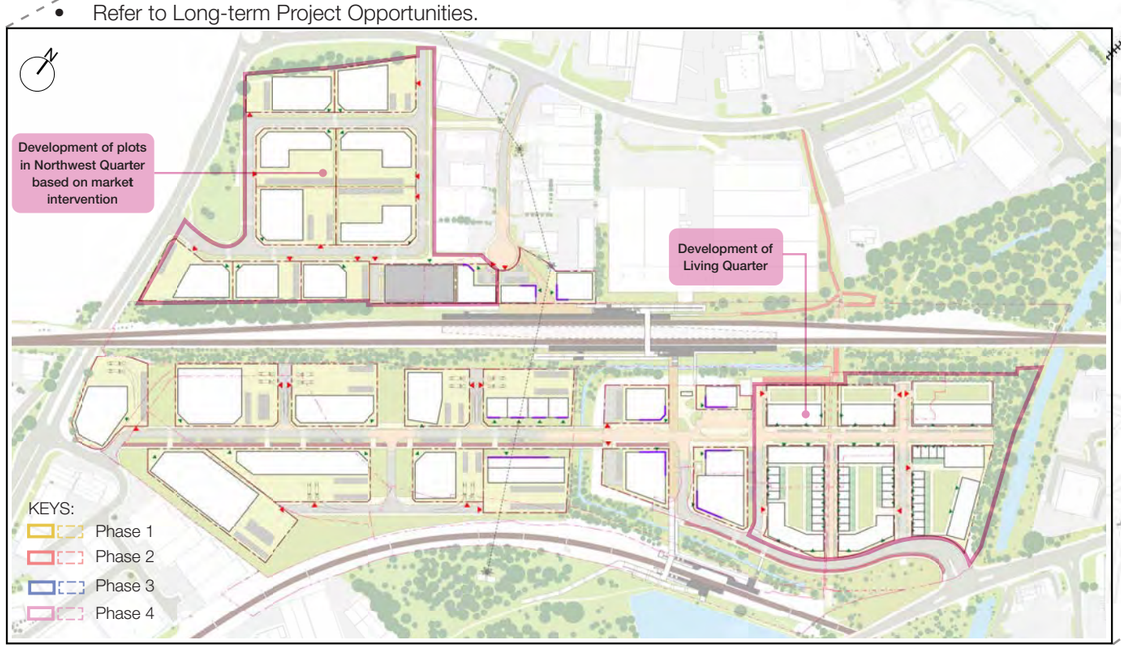
6 Eastwood Community Hub Project

- Refer to Long-term Project Opportunities.

7 Bailey House Hub Project

- Refer to Long-term Project Opportunities.





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7.2 Phased Delivery Plan Summary

The phased delivery plan sub-divides the masterplan into key stages and makes recommendations for RMBC to bring development forward.

PHASE 1 (YEAR 0 - 5)

Objective

Activating the station and introducing innovation to the area

A direct role for RMBC

Considerations

- The station works will acquire and service the land associated with the development of the first Phase on plot F4.
- The RiDO building contains a zero land and infrastructure cost.

Land Ownership

1. Network Rail Operation Land
2. Dike area (Northfields Rotherham Management Company Ltd)
3. Northfield Business Park
4. Shaw for Sheds
5. Adopted highway
6. Land which will have been acquired in Phase 1

Cash Flow and Appraisal

- Commercial office space on the station floormat with a fixed land value of £zero as the land acquisition is incorporated within the station funding envelope, therefore providing a cost saving for this early development on land.
- Basic finance cost of 5.64% applied over a two-year construction programme.
- A 5% operating void has also been built into the model and an assumed initial 12-month rent free period

Performance of the RiDO Building

Key Performance Indicator	Value
Gross Development Value	£3.2m
Profit / Loss	-£9.5m
Profit on Cost	-76%
Profit on GDV	-299%

Timescales

- Pre-construction (including planning): 18mths
- Construction: 18mths

[then capitalised upon PC]

PHASE 2 (YEAR 5 - 15)

Delivery of Innovation in the Innovation Campus

RMBC as enabler and driver of strategic partnerships

- The Eddie Stobart and Network rail site are required to progress comprehensive redevelopment aligned with the masterplan. Land should be assembled to enable to the delivery of key servicing infrastructure including a new road which supports the sub-division of serviced plots.
- The MAG Rotherham, European Asian Metal and Kniveton sites are strategically important and therefore must be also considered early in the programme.

1. Eddie Stobart – biomass storage site
2. Network Rail – vacant land
3. Kniveton Ltd – industrial
4. European Asian Metal – industrial
5. MAG Rotherham – car parking

- Indicative appraisal and cashflow against plots W1 and W2 within Phase 2 of the masterplan has been demonstrated to the level of investment required for RMBC to bring forward an early sub-phase of the project.
- The vision of the masterplan for advanced manufacturing and innovation is likely to require high fit-out costs and should also be considered in the evolution and testing of the plots.

Key Performance Indicator	Value
Gross Development Value	£5.8m
Profit / Loss	-£1.5m
Profit on Cost	-21%
Profit on GDV	-25%

Timescales

- Pre-construction (including acquisition, planning): 24mths
- Construction: 48mths
- Letting and holding: 24mths (starting 2yrs after construction starts)

[then capitalised upon PC of whole phase]

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	Objective	Considerations	Land Ownership	Cash Flow and Appraisal
PHASE 3 (YEAR 15 - 20)	Station Quarter Expansion Building and diversifying the station as an extension of the innovation campus	• The formerly car parking plots will have already been acquired as part of the station floormat area in the early stages of the masterplan with the exception of parts of Kaldo Court. • Car parking is likely to be long leased to operators and therefore negotiation will be required to surrender leases. • Utility requirements for such later phases should be considered within early works.	1. Land which will have been acquired in Phase 1 2. Kaldo Court and land which will have been acquired in Phase 1 3. Taylor Woolhouse Limited (Car Showroom site, DVLA Test Centre, Back of Taylor Woolhouse) 4. JRM Commercials Ltd 5. Limited area of Vehicle Spares Lift	**Timescales** • Pre-construction (including acquisition, planning): 24mths • Construction: 36mths • Letting and holding: 24mths (starting 1yr after construction starts) [then capitalised upon PC of whole phase]
PHASE 4 (YEAR 20 & BEYOND)	The Living Quarter Delivering homes for Rotherham	• The eastern plots in the masterplan contain complex leasehold structures, with a large freehold site containing multiple long leaseholds which currently support successful retail uses. • Land assembly in this location will be challenging, and therefore early engagement with landowners is essential to building a long-term relationship with the Council. • Most of the Living Quarter is owned by a Bailey Family Investments PLC, and therefore they are a key stakeholder.	1. Car Supermarket site 2. Land which will have been acquired in Phase 3	**Timescales** • Pre-construction (including acquisition, planning): 24mths • Construction: 30mths • Sale: 22mths (30% initial sales on PC, 5 sales per month absorption rate)

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8. Biodiversity Net Gain Considerations

8.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Considerations

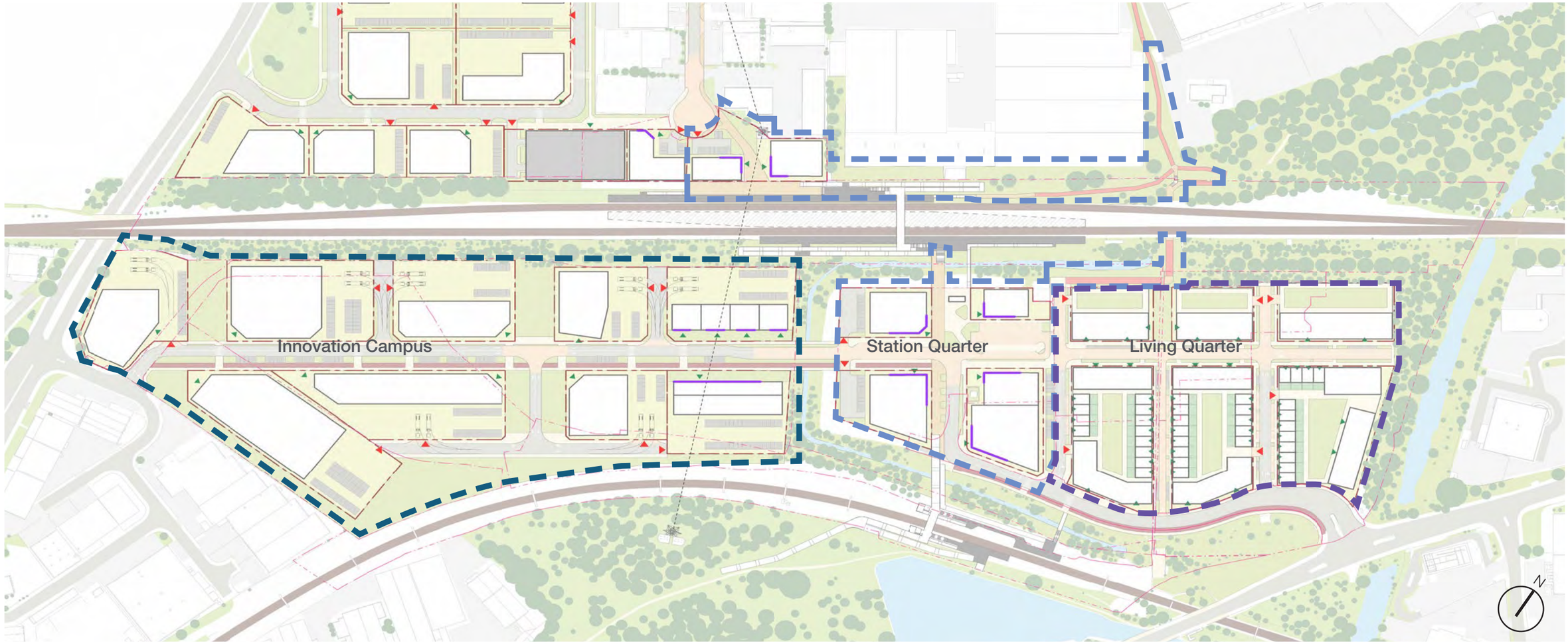
In January 2024,10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) became mandatory and legislative for the majority of new developments in the UK. BNG will ensure that developments consider existing vegetation and biodiversity and prioritise high quality landscape interventions to support local ecosystems.

This will impact on Masterplan opportunities, layout of the development, and the design of public realm.

It is proposed that the site be viewed as three larger plots to be able to accommodate the 10% BNG required.

The following points should be considered throughout the Masterplan development:

- The development will have to provide a 10% gain from existing conditions. If any planting and vegetation is removed or disturbed, similar or higher quality conditions are to be incorporated into the design of the plot.
- Due to limited space for landscape and vegetation interventions, it is recommended consideration is given to elements with high biodiversity gain such as scrub, bramble, biodiverse green roof and SuDS where possible.
- Retaining existing vegetation where possible will reduce the habitat units required.



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8.2 Existing Conditions - Station Quarter

The Station Quarter is currently defined by large areas of sealed surface which minimises the amount of additional Habitat Units required when new development are to commence on site. The area which will be most affected will be the densely vegetated area around the underpass and existing PROW.



10% BNG should be possible to obtain with careful integration of:

- SuDS,
- biodiverse green roof and street trees
- associated ground planting.

8.4 Existing Conditions - Innovation Campus

The Innovation Campus consists of large plots with sealed surfaces but also has the Network Rail owned site that has been left for vegetation to grow wild and for biodiversity to flourish. This area does provide a challenge for new development to reach 10% BNG as it will be difficult to retain large parts of the existing wild-growing vegetation along with the overgrown dike.

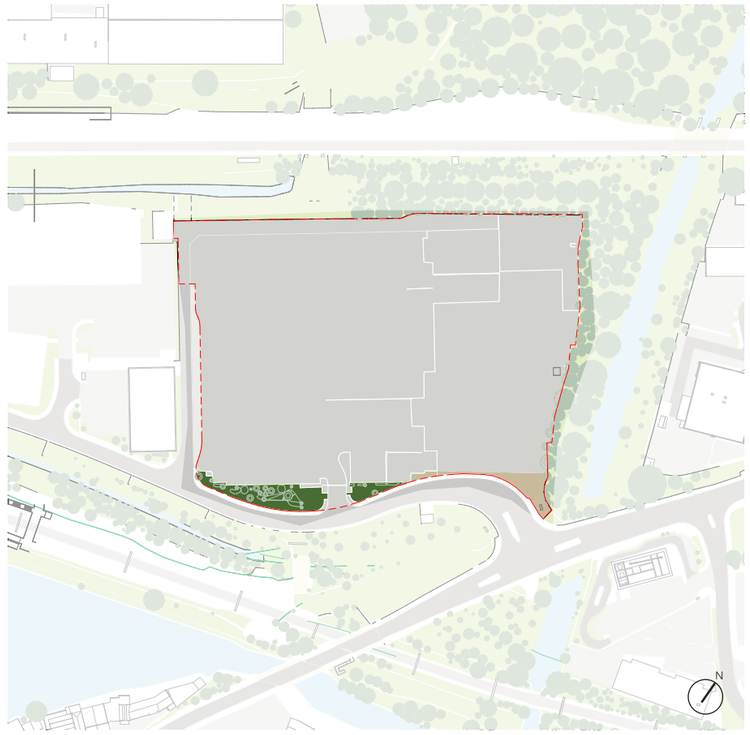


To accommodate this large increase in BNG, the following will be required:

- A mitigation site incorporating dense native scrub planting .
- A focus on incorporating landscape elements that provides a high value of Habitat Units to optimise the space used for landscape.
- Integration of SuDS and where possible biodiverse green roof.
- Leftover areas to be given back to native and local scrub and bramble planting.

8.3 Existing Conditions - Living Quarter

The Living Quarter has very limited existing planting limited to low-value biodiverse planting such as introduced shrubs and bare ground. Hence obtaining 10% BNG will be less challenging.



10% BNG will be possible on the Living Quarter by incorporating the following:

- green podium gardens,
- permeable paving,
- SuDS
- biodiverse green roof.
- street trees,
- swales,
- permanent in-ground planting.

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9. Next Steps

9.1 Next Steps

To progress the project in the immediate term, particularly with regards to the Station Quarter, the following next steps (aligned with the RIBA Plan of Works) are proposed:

OBC CONCLUSION

- Alignment of scope and programme with emerging needs arising from Fore's preparation of Outline Business Case (OBC).
- Establishment of a project organisation and governance arrangements which reconcile both masterplan and station projects (as per proposals reflected within Egis's Project Delivery Strategy).
- Detailed discussion and agreement with Network Rail on the respective operational and maintenance boundaries (and associated responsibilities) in relation to the proposed masterplan (specifically the Station Quarter).

PROCUREMENT

- Procurement of a RIBA Stage 2 Project Team, designer and/or third-party surveyors.
- Appointment of a town planning consultant to advise on a consenting strategy (TWAO and/or TCPA either outline, full or hybrid)) and align the approach with the land assembly strategy.
- Assessment of the available procurement options including the use of RMBC's existing framework contractors (whilst remaining compliant with the Public Contract Regulations as applicable).
- Agreement on the preferred contract form for the Station Quarter (e.g., NEC4 ECC Option A or similar) which is sensitive to RMBC's position on time, cost, quality and risk and which prompts a positive response from the market.
- Investigation and review of the masterplan for potential public sector funding and meaningful partnerships for phase-wise delivery.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- In accordance with the agreed consenting strategy, seeking an associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening and/or scoping opinion to determine the scale and nature of environmental scope.
- (As above) commencement of all relevant environmental surveys (particularly those which are seasonally dependent) within the Station Quarter, including, but not limited to, Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) and geotechnical.
- Updates to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessments and development of associated strategy (assessing scale of on-site vs off-site works).
- In liaison with the RMBC flood alleviation programme, development of a site wide drainage strategy and associated drainage model.

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

- Validation of project objectives and priorities/programme and agreement of RIBA Stage 1 masterplan as the prevailing design framework for the immediate development of the Station Quarter.
- Delivery of a RIBA Stage 2 design report reflecting the culmination and integration of all design workstreams, delivery strategy and updates to cost estimate, programme and risk register.
- Formal assignment of roles under Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015), submission of F10 and preparation of a Pre-Construction Information Pack (drawing on all available site information).

SURVEYS & INVESTIGATIONS

- Preparation of relevant survey specifications to support RIBA Stage 2 design and the refinement of cost estimates including (but not necessarily limited to):
  - Detailed dilapidation survey of existing electrical/mechanical/drainage assets to accurately determine the scale of works .
  - Threat and Vulnerability Risk assessment (TVRA) to assess changes to the security profile of the area through the introduction of the proposed masterplan.
  - Lux level survey (to understand the potential impact of sky glow).
  - Ground investigation including selective window samples/trial pits to determine ground strata substructure design.
  - Selective topographical/measured surveys in the affected areas.
- Updates to all transport modelling/trip generation to understand the impact on existing infrastructure and the need for further intervention.

ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- Active stakeholder consultation, potentially regularised under formal paid agreements, with passenger groups, Sustrans, Active Travel England, DNO, Natural England etc.
- In recognition of the Station Quarter's focus on car parking, preliminary consultation with EV Charge Point Operators (CPO) and car park operators to explore the viability of alternative delivery and operational models.
- Presentation of updated proposals to interested developers to explore opportunities for private investment in the Station Quarter (supporting the OBC Financial Case) and other future quarters.
- It is imperative to have a strong and detailed investment case with full political support to accelerate further development, land acquisition and integrate with wider strategic priorities.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-Train) Station Masterplan and related Strategic Acquisitions.	
Directorate: Regeneration and Environment	**Service area:** RiDO Regeneration
Lead person: Ieuan Rees	**Contact:** Ieuan.rees@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a: ☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☐ **Service / Function** ☒ **Other** **If other, please specify** Rotherham Gateway Station Masterplan – Cabinet approval.	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This screening identifies any possible impacts of the approval of the Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-train) Station Masterplan on the Borough's residents or Council employees.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*	X	
Could the proposal affect service users? *(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)*		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? *(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)*		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? *(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)*	X	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)*		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? *(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)*		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6.**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4.**

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made**.**

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

Early consultation was carried out in the preparation of the Town Investment Plan and the Levelling Up fund (now Pathfinder programme), submissions to Government and equality assessments were carried out, however further detailed consultation and communication is being planned in the run up to the Station Full Business Case.

A review of demographic data relating to the Station and the wider Borough has taken place to identify groups with protected characteristics that may be impacted by this decision and also the wider Station development.

In relation to land included in the masterplan, consultation with landowners of sites deemed essential for the development of the core station itself has already begun. And conversations are due to start with wider landowners impacted. Equalities implications will be continually considered throughout negotiations with affected landowners.

- **Key findings**

At this stage, the decision just enables the Council to explore the Station and Masterplan development in more detail including looking at land acquisition. It does not approve physical construction work or any changes in the area.

Widespread consultation and engagement with communities, including protected characteristic groups, directly informed the TIP, and equality implications were considered at this stage.

In the process of developing full business cases, equality implications will be considered in more detail and worked into the projects.

Specifically in relation to property acquisition consultation with most landowners has already begun. There are no direct equality and diversity concerns identified with this negotiation process. The use of powers will be explored in the full assessment.

The Station and wider masterplan will generally have a positive impact on groups with protected characteristics and the Borough as a whole – improving accessible transport links, Active Travel links, and access to wider employment opportunities.

- **Actions**

When concrete decisions are sought in future regarding this development a further equalities screening will be undertaken.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	April 25 onwards as projects developed.
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	Ongoing

Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Maria Coyne, Senior Project Manager

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Lorna Vertigan	Head of Regeneration	04/04/2025
Lucy Mitchell	Regeneration Manager	04/04/2025
Maria Coyne	Senior Project Manager	04/04/2025

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	31/03/25
Report title and date	**Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-train) Station Masterplan and related Strategic Acquisitions**
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Cabinet July 2025
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	15/04/2025

Appendix 4

PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
Equality Analysis title: Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-Train) Station Masterplan and related Strategic Acquisitions.	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 09/04/25	
Directorate: **Regeneration and Environment**	**Service area:** **RiDO - Regeneration**
Lead Manager: **Maria Coyne**	**Contact number:** Maria.Coyne@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a: ☐ **Strategy / Policy** ☐ **Service / Function** ☒ **Other** **If other, please specify** **Masterplan for the development of Rotherham Gateway Station (integrated Mainline and Tram-Train)**	

Appendix 4

2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance		
Name	**Organisation**	**Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)**
Laura Dryden	RIDO (Regeneration)	Project Support Officer
Ieuan Rees	RIDO (Regeneration)	Project Manager
Maria Coyne	RIDO (Regeneration)	Senior Project Manager

3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance

Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)
This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, others groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

The aim/scope of this Masterplan is to provide a framework for the development of the Rotherham Gateway Station quarter to the north of the town centre. In the long-term, this development will positively affect many of Rotherham's residents providing improved transport links and economic opportunities.

Although this decision in isolation does not trigger any impacts, there are potential future equalities impacts regarding public interest in the scheme and future implications for landowners. This may raise the need to do further consultation/monitoring to identify any equalities concerns from the public.

What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)

Rotherham Data Hub Data

Data from RMBC's Rotherham data hub indicates that

- The wards immediately adjacent to the Rotherham Gateway site are among some of the most deprived in Great Britain with Rotherham East Ward having the highest level of child poverty, in the borough and includes LSOA that rank in the 10% most deprived, by IMD in the UK
- The immediately adjacent wards (and borough as a whole) also have statistically significantly higher than the national average number of individuals out of work due to long term sickness and disability.
- In terms of Sexual and gender identity, census data shows that the cluster of MSOA's surrounding the town centre and Rotherham gateway station that has higher than borough average numbers of people who identify as other than straight or with their sex assigned at birth.

- The urban core of the borough that is most likely to be affected by the station development is also home to the highest concentration of individuals who identify as religious.
- Rotherham's urban core also has a significantly higher number of individuals from one or multiple ethnic minority backgrounds.
- Rotherham's urban core is also significantly younger than the rest of the borough.

Town investment Plan (previous engagement on this topic)
It was highlighted in the consultation for the TIP that the Eastwood area of Rotherham town, which corresponds to LSOA's and MSAO's that are flagged above, particular disability, Multiple Index of Deprivation and age, currently suffers from a lack of connectivity, given the areas proximity to the Rotherham gateway development both positive and short-term negative impacts will be monitored and consultation will be undertaken where appropriate.

Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?

There are no gaps relevant to this decision that we are aware of. However, the service will continue to monitor and investigate any gaps that arise as they become apparent and or salient. Equality and Diversity will continue to be monitored as the project progresses.

What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?

Field Consulting have been appointed to manage the narrative and feedback for the Mainline Station. Public consultation and engagement have taken place through events and online activities. Consultation with stakeholders such as emergency services, utilities (Northern PowerGrid) has also taken place which will help inform construction/operational plans. Engagement with stakeholders including representatives from local business, education and community partners has also taken place via internal and external Boards – eg Town Deal Board. In the coming months, we will continue to work with stakeholders to obtain feedback before work starts on the Full Business Case and future stages of development.

Consultation on the scheme will take place undertaken in an open and transparent way, encouraging all to express their views and opinions on the redevelopment plans. Individual conversations have taken place with those business owners and landowners that will be directly impacted by the scheme. The Council has already made good progress in negotiations with landowners for the Station site. Surveyors will be appointed to open discussions with landowners affected by the wider Masterplan. Initially, this will raise awareness of the scheme and direct owner to sources of further information or advice should they require it.

Should acquisition by negotiation not be possible, the Council will explore the use of Statutory powers. During this process due regard will be given to the landowners and tenants rights under the ECHR/ Human Rights act 1998 as well as under the Equalities act 2010, to this end landowners and tenants will be included in the consultation process.

Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and	Town investment plan and levelling up (now Pathfinder) funding consultation- Residents Surveyed across the town centre and Eastwood areas strongly agreed or

group(s) consulted and key findings)	agreed with the broader town plan with 86% of town centre residents strongly agreeing with the proposals and 70% of Eastwood residents agreeing/ strongly agreeing with the proposals set out in the TIP. Surveys conducted in 2020 and published in January 2021. Relevant feedback from the virtual exhibition showed that there was demand for improved connectivity from Eastwood residents, and more broadly that 'A mainline station is key to the success of Rotherham' no equalities issues were highlighted during this process. Consultation and engagement with stakeholders, such as local business, education and community partners via internal and external boards. Consultation has also taken place with partners, including Network Rail and TfN. Feedback has been broadly positive, further consultation with stakeholders will be carried out as the scheme progresses. In relation to land included in the masterplan, consultation with landowners of sites deemed essential for the development of the core station itself has been ongoing since 2021. Consultation with landowners affected by the masterplan is currently being planned, and findings will be analysed when fully known.
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	The draft Masterplan was circulated with internal teams for feedback. This included colleagues in Planning to explore possible implications for the long-term vision of the Masterplan. No equalities issues were explicitly highlighted during this process, feedback directed master planners to consider the quality impact of building and infrastructure design.

4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)
How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups? (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance) The development of a new Station in Rotherham will enhance accessibility for all protected characteristic groups under the UK's Equalities Act. Improved transport links will facilitate easier travel for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and those with young children.

Additionally, the station will promote economic growth, creating job opportunities for diverse communities, including ethnic minorities and women. Enhanced safety measures and inclusive design will ensure a welcoming environment for all, fostering social inclusion and reducing barriers to mobility.

There is a risk of public concern regarding this policy, specifically with regard to location as this has not been explicitly confirmed to date. There could also be an impact on individuals who immediately neighbour the site or have property interests within it.

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?

The development of a new Station and wider master planning in Rotherham could present barriers to protected groups. At the construction phase, associated noise and disruption may impact individuals with disabilities, older adults, and those with health conditions. At this stage a more detailed Equalities impact assessment that will analysis any problems or barriers that this may pose will be completed

Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?

The Station and Masterplan in Rotherham will improve accessible transport links for a wide range of individuals with protected characteristics as well as improving the economic wellbeing of the town and borough over the long-term offering accessible employment opportunities around the Station site and further afield.

In an initial assessment the wider masterplan is considered to have a positive impact on groups with protected characteristics and the Borough as a whole. These benefits stem from the improvement to local public transport increasing accessibility to services, leisure and the job market for many with protected characteristics e.g. disabled people who are unable to drive, those accessing maternity and other health services. In addition, the Rotherham gateway development will provide direct national rail links which will open opportunities for those with protected characteristics to access a broader range of employment leisure and service opportunities throughout the region that previously may have been unavailable to them.

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

The development of a new mainline train station in Rotherham could significantly enhance community relations by improving connectivity and access to services, benefiting social inclusion. It will also stimulate long term local economic growth, creating job opportunities locally and increasing accessibility to regional and national labour market for residents. However, construction disruptions and property concerns could strain relations,

particularly if not managed sensitively – this will be monitored carefully, and CEMP plans will be put in place.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

Title of analysis: Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-train) Station Masterplan
Directorate and service area: Regeneration
Lead Manager: Lorna Vertigan
Summary of findings:
The development of a new Station at Rotherham will benefit the Borough, including those with protected characteristics. Further consultation with local groups and communities will identify potential access needs and this will be incorporated into the next phases of design work. A detailed EIA is being prepared for the Outline Business Case and will be shared with colleagues once it is complete. Further work will take place at each stage of development. There is a risk that construction work could possibly have negative impacts on those with protected characteristics, but this will be monitored and controlled by a CEMP plan.

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Complete full assessment as part of the OBC appendices.	**All**	**May 2025**
Allocate responsibilities, resources and timescales to ensure each action is carried out in a timely manner.	**All**	**August 2025**
Conduct further equality impact assessments as station and masterplan progress	**All**	**Ongoing**

***A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Andrew Bramidge	Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment	09/04/2025
Cllr Robert Taylor	Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy	09/04/2025

7. Publishing	
The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report. A copy should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.	
Date Equality Analysis completed	04/04/2025
Report title and date	Rotherham Gateway (Integrated Mainline and Tram-Train) Station Masterplan and related Strategic Acquisitions.
Date report sent for publication	
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	04/04/2025

Will the decision/proposal impact…	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified:			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across the Borough as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from transport?	Increase	Potential of council staff and land surveyors undertaking site surveys. This would be minimal impact.	Possible emissions from transport from surveying professionals visiting site to carry out land valuations.	Valuations of land that could possibly be completed without visiting site to mitigate transport emissions. Land surveyors to share transport to reduce emissions.	N/A
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	N/A	There will not be an impact on emissions as the current building users will remain as tenants in situ for the foreseeable future so waste levels will remain the same	N/A	N/A
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	There is currently no housing on the site. This CIA is for the progression of the Masterplan only; therefore, no further emissions are expected.	N/A	N/A

Emissions from construction and/or development?	None	N/A	No construction will be taking place on the site at this time.	N/A	N/A
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Decrease	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

N/A

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

Extreme weather event mitigation/ CC resilience. The Rotherham Gateway Masterplan includes plans for the attenuation of flood water from extreme rainfall events, it also includes the removal of some impenetrable hard standing, replacing it with rain scaping. Furthermore, this site was specifically chosen as large parts of the station floormat whilst they appear to be in flood zone two (1 in 100-year event) the land has in reality been raised to mitigate this risk by the previous developer of the site. In terms of mitigating the risks from extreme heat events the masterplan also includes the planting of street trees and biodiverse rain scaping: both these nature-based solutions will mitigate the 'urban heat island effect' by providing shade and limiting the amount of heat retaining hard standing such as concrete and tarmac, which would otherwise contribute to the urban heat island effect.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

Embodied Carbon and Construction Impact: The construction phase of the new station will involve significant embodied carbon, which includes emissions from the production and transportation of building materials, as well as the energy used during construction. Additionally, increased rail traffic will contribute to carbon emissions, although rail is proven to be a more carbon efficient mode of transport compared to the use of the private car.
Long-term Benefits: over its lifetime, Rotherham Gateway station is expected to significantly increase the use of public transit, reducing the local reliance on private cars. As previously stated, Rail and Tram use emits far fewer greenhouse gases (GHG) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) per

passenger kilometre compared to private vehicles. Increased public transport connectivity and use via Rotherham will therefore contribute to lower overall emissions in the Borough.
Active Travel Routes: The development of Active Travel routes as part of the Rotherham Gateway will both support reduction in overall carbon emissions for shorter journeys/decrease private car use and also improve the health and wellbeing of the Borough's residents.
Conclusion
The approval of the Masterplan document is a crucial step towards improving sustainable transportation infrastructure provision in Rotherham. While the decision to approve the masterplan has minimal carbon impact, the subsequent development will involve careful assessment and mitigation of carbon emissions. The long-term benefits of increased public transport use for regional (tram-train) and national (mainline) journeys and active travel routes will contribute to lower Borough wide emissions and improve the boroughs overall economic resilience and wellbeing.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Ieuan Rees Project Manager Regeneration Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	N/A
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	Not applicable at this stage.
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 447 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

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