



# CABINET

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**Monday 9 February 2026  
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 OBE
Street Scene and Green Spaces Portfolio	Councillor Lynda Marshall
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy Portfolio	Councillor John Williams

## CABINET

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

**Date and Time:** Monday 9 February 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

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

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

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

### A G E N D A

**1. Apologies for Absence**

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

**2. Declarations of Interest**

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

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

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

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

Councillors may also ask questions under this agenda item.

**4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 9 - 20)**

To receive the record of proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 19 January 2026.

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

There are no exempt items.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH**

### **6. Local Authority Better Care Fund 2025/26 - Discharge Grant Commitments (Pages 21 - 40)**

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

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the permanent funding of the schemes that were previously part of the Discharge Grant commitments for 2026/27 and recurrently from 2027/28.
2. Note the cost of extending the schemes will be £838k in 2026/27, reducing to £624k on a recurrent basis from 2027/28. Funding has been made available as part of the Council budget and provision has been made in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## **DEPUTY LEADER AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **7. Rotherham Baby Packs: Outcomes and Future Commissioning (Pages 41 - 88)**

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

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the high level of satisfaction with the baby packs, particularly in relation to the quality and usefulness of the items provided.
2. Approve an open procurement exercise to ensure continuity of registering and delivery of baby packs to Rotherham families.

### **8. Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND) Sufficiency Strategy 2026-2029 (Pages 89 - 139)**

Report from the Executive Director of Children and Young People's Services.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the performance and progress to date on SEND Sufficiency in line with the commitments within the Safety Valve Agreement.

2. Approve the SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2026-2029 (Appendix 1) for implementation from April 2026.
9. **Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report (Pages 141 - 182)**

Report from the Executive Director of Children and Young People's Services.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Cabinet note the contents of the Rotherham SCP Annual Assurance Report 2024/25.

**FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY**

10. **Inclusion Strategy and Annual Report (Pages 183 - 277)**

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the Inclusion Strategy 2026-30.
2. Approve the action plan for February 2026 to March 2027.
3. Note the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report 2024-2025.

11. **Business Rates Discretionary Relief Renewals in 2026/27 (Pages 279 - 304)**

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Cabinet approve the applications for Discretionary Business Rate Relief for the organisations listed in Appendix 1 of this report and in accordance with the details set out in Section 6 to this report, for the 2026/27 financial year.

12. **December 2025/26 Financial Monitoring Report (Pages 305 - 330)**

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast overspend of £3.4m.
2. Note the projected overspend and that whilst the Council aims to manage this pressure, should that not be possible use of reserves will be required to balance the 2025/26 financial position.
3. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.
4. Approve the capital budget variations as detailed in section 2.17 of the report.
5. Delegate authority to the Service Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Service Director of Financial Services and Cabinet member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy, to approve the specific allocations of the Gainshare Feasibility Grant and any variations required through its delivery, as detailed in section 2.20.1 of the report.
6. Approve the Council being the recipient of Department for Education grant funding as part of the Strategic School Improvement Capital Budget (SSICB) and the Council take over responsibility for delivery of the Newman School project.

## **LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

### **13. Budget and Council Tax Report 2026-27 (Pages 331 - 659)**

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet recommend to Council:

1. Approval of the Budget and Financial Strategy for 2026/27 as set out in the report and appendices, including a basic Council Tax increase of 1.95% and an Adult Social Care precept increase of 2%.
2. Approval of the extension to the Local Council Tax Support Top Up Scheme, that will provide up to £131.44 of additional support to low income households accessing the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme. It will support those most financially vulnerable to rising household costs, through reduced Council Tax bills as described in Section 2.5.15
3. Approval of the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2028/29, as described within Section 2.6.
4. Approval of the Reserves Strategy as set out in Section 2.8 noting that the

final determination of Reserves will be approved as part of reporting the financial outturn for 2025/26.

5. To delegate authority to the Service Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Service Director of Financial Services and Cabinet member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy, to approve the specific detailed allocations and use of the Local Plan Reserve.
6. To note and accept the comments and advice of the Executive Director of Corporate Services (Section 151 Officer), provided in compliance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, as to the robustness of the estimates included in the Budget and the adequacy of Reserves for which the Budget provides as set out in Section 2.14.
7. To note the feedback from the public and partners following the public consultation on the Council's budget for 2026/27 which took place from 28 November 2025 to 9 January 2026, attached as Appendix 5.
8. Approval of the proposed increases in Adult Social Care provider contracts and for Direct Payments as set out in Section 2.4.
9. Approval of the proposed approach and increases in Children's Social Care costs as set out in Section 2.4.23.
10. Approval of the revenue investment proposals set out in Section 2.7 and Appendix 2.
11. Approval of the proposed revenue savings set out in Section 2.7 and Appendix 4.
12. Approval of the Council Fees and Charges for 2026/27 attached as Appendix 7.
13. Application of the Business Rates Reliefs as set out in Section 2.10, in line with Government guidance.
14. Approval of the proposed Capital Strategy and Capital Programme as presented in Section 2.12 and Appendices 3A to 3F.
15. Approval of the Treasury Management matters for 2026/27 as set out in Appendix 9 of this report including the Prudential Indicators, the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Investment Strategy.
16. Approval that any changes resulting from the Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2026/27 be reflected in the Budget and Council Tax Report to Council on 4 March.
17. Continuation of the principles and measures adopted since April 2020 to make faster payments to suppliers on receipt of goods, works and services

following a fully reconciled invoice as described in Section 2.11.

18. Approval of the procedure for Budget allocations for the Community Leadership Fund as set out in Section 2.9.
19. Approval that the Capital Programme Budget continues to be managed in line with the following key principles:
  - (i) Any underspends on the existing approved Capital Programme in respect of 2025/26 be rolled forward into future years, subject to an individual review of each carry forward to be set out within the Financial Outturn 2025/26 report to Cabinet.
  - (ii) In line with Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules 7.7 to 7.11 and 8.12, any successful grant applications in respect of capital projects will be added to the Council's approved Capital Programme on an ongoing basis.
  - (iii) Capitalisation opportunities and capital receipts flexibilities will be maximised, with capital receipts earmarked to minimise revenue costs.

## **TRANSPORT, JOBS AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY**

### **14. Rotherham Gateway Progress to Full Business Case (Pages 661 - 676)**

Report from the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Accepts the £11.35 million CRSTS funding from SYMCA to progress the Full Business Case for Rotherham Gateway Station.
2. Grants approval to consult as necessary on the outputs of the Full Business Case as they are developed with the public and scheme stakeholders.
3. Grants approval to allocate the funding as required within the CRSTS allocation.
4. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Regeneration and Environment in consultation with S151 Officer and the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy to prepare the Full Business Case, undertake any actions as necessary including procurement, and then submit to SYMCA for assurance and approval.
5. Delegates authority to the Service Director Property & Facilities Services (Property Officer) in consultation with the Service Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport, Service Director, Legal Services, and Cabinet

Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy to make an order (if required) via compulsory purchase (Town and Country Planning Act or the Transport and Works Act) to acquire the necessary property interests for the Station.

6. Delegates authority to the Service Director Property & Facilities Services (Property Officer) in consultation with the Service Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport, Service Director Legal Services and Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy to take all steps, and enter into all documentation on behalf of the Council in connection with the making, confirmation, submission, and implementation of the above order, including in respect of any public inquiry, appeal or legal challenge concerning the same.

**15. 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 3 and 4 February.

**16. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Monday 16 March 2026 commencing at 10.00am in Rotherham Town Hall.



**John Edwards,**  
Chief Executive.