



# CABINET

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**Monday 16 March 2026**

**10.00 a.m.**

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

**Cabinet Members:-**

Leader of the Council

Deputy Leader & Children and Young People Portfolio

Adult Social Care and Health Portfolio

Housing Portfolio

Finance & Community Safety Portfolio

Street Scene and Green Spaces Portfolio

Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy Portfolio

Councillor Chris Read

Councillor Victoria Cusworth

Councillor Joanna Baker-Rogers

Councillor Linda Beresford

Councillor Saghir Alam OBE

Councillor Lynda Marshall

Councillor John Williams

**Rotherham**  
**Metropolitan**  
**Borough Council** 

## CABINET

- Venue:** The Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.  
S60 2TH
- Date and Time:** Monday 16 March 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 11 - 28)

To receive the record of proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 February 2026.

### 5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

There are no exempt items to consider.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH**

### **6. Public Health Grants for 2026/27 (Pages 29 - 60)**

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

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the changes in the Government's approach to the allocation of Public Health Grant;
2. Approve spending plans for Rotherham's Public Health Grant outlined in the Report;
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to recommission the Drug and Alcohol contract with the protected Drug and Alcohol budget;
4. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Health (within the protected stop smoking budgets in the public health grant) to commission services designed to enable the Council to make progress in achieving a smoke free generation in line with the plans from central government.

### **7. Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Access to Contraception (Pages 61 - 320)**

Report from the Interim Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Receives the recommendations listed below along with the wider ambitions as listed in Paragraph 2.12 of the report, as approved by Health Select Commission:

#### **a. Commissioning and Service Delivery**

- i. That the relevant Council Services consider and review the feasibility of mobile outreach clinics or rotating sexual health outreach services where contraception, including LARC can be accessed in rural and underserved areas.
- ii. That the relevant Council Services and relevant partners consider Including sexual health services, specifically including contraceptive advice guidance and provision, in the new town centre health hub, ensuring flexible, reliable and discreet 'drop-in' access and reduced stigma.

## **b. Education, Public Awareness and Messaging**

- i. That the relevant Council Services work in collaboration with appropriate partners to strengthen and extend the reach of a borough-wide, sex-positive public health campaign promoting safe, consensual, and informed sexual activity that makes effective use of the contraceptive and sexual health services available in Rotherham. The Commission particularly advocates the use of modern messaging strategies that harness the power of local 'influencers' via social media platforms (e.g. TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram) wherever possible to reach younger demographics with engaging, accurate contraception and sexual health messaging that reaches them directly in places they naturally frequent and counteracts disinformation.
- ii. That the relevant Council Services encourage schools to deliver consistent, comprehensive PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education), including ongoing practical contraceptive education and awareness of confidentiality rights and works with them to improve parental engagement and understanding of the benefits of making informed contraceptive and sexual health choices.

## **c. Digital Access and Information**

- i. That the relevant Council Services work to improve Council public health websites to deliver youth-friendly information on contraception and sexual health services and providing/signposting to relevant sources of information, advice and guidance aimed at assisting that demographic to make informed choices.
- ii. That the relevant Council Services work to develop a centralised digital resource or landing page consolidating sexual health information, service locations, and confidentiality guidance, with links to age group/demographic specific issues and information.

## **d. Youth Access and Confidentiality**

- i. That the relevant Council Services consider how, ideally in collaboration with relevant partners such as schools and NHS services, to raise awareness of Fraser guidelines and NHS app privacy settings to reassure young people about confidentiality when accessing contraception.
- ii. That the relevant Council Services work with MESMAC

and other relevant youth services to expand outreach and ensure visibility and borough wide accessibility of services, particularly for LGBTQ+ and vulnerable groups.

**e. Data, Monitoring and Strategic Alignment**

- i. That the relevant Council Services include the location of sexual health clinics, drop-in centres, and pharmacies providing emergency contraception on the Rotherham mapping system (where grit salt bin locations, planning applications etc. can be found), or create a standalone map resource to allow Rotherham residents to easily identify all locations in the borough where they can access contraception.
  - ii. That relevant Council Services review local data on terminations and teenage pregnancies to assess emerging trends, identify the root causes and facilitate the formulation and implementation of targeted interventions that address their drivers.
  - iii. That relevant Council Services ensure that the recommendations, observations and broad ambitions from this review are considered in the next commissioning cycle in 2027, and in the development/revision of the borough's sexual health strategy and action plan.
2. Formally considers its response and responds to the above recommendations by May 2026, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.
  3. Agrees that following submission to Cabinet, those recommendations within the control and influence of external bodies, are shared with relevant health partners and commissioners for consideration and response.

**DEPUTY LEADER & CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

**8. Families First Partnership Programme (Pages 321 - 354)**

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

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the progress made since the last update on 17 November 2025.
2. Note the Children's Social Care Prevention Grant spend since the last update on 17 November 2025.

**9. Best Start Plan 2026-2029 (Pages 355 - 428)**

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

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the activity to date to improve early years outcomes and tackle inequalities.
2. Approve the Best Start Local Plan for implementation from April 2026.

**10. South Yorkshire Regional Adoption Agency (Pages 429 - 444)**

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

**Recommendation:**

That Cabinet approve a further 5-year partnership arrangement with Barnsley, Doncaster, and Sheffield to deliver adoption services as part of a Regional Adoption Agency (OASY).

**FINANCE & COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**11. Modern Slavery Transparency Statement - Annual Refresh (Pages 445 - 479)**

Report from the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment.

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the progress made to date.
2. Approve the Modern Slavery Transparency Statement 2026/27 and its publication on the Council's website.

**HOUSING**

**12. Housing Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30 (Pages 481 - 525)**

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

**Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the four-year outline Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30 with total planned investment of £312.6m broken down into the following areas of investment:

- Improving homes and estates £198.6m
- Aids and adaptations to Council homes £13.4m
- Housing Delivery Programme £98.5m
- IT and digital transformation £2.1m

2. Approve the detailed 2026/27 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme with total planned investment of £76.8m broken down into the following areas of investment:

- Improving homes and estates £43.2m
- Aids and adaptations to Council homes £3.4m
- Housing Delivery Programme £29.8m
- IT and digital transformation £0.4m

### **LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

#### **13. Local Growth Fund 2026/27 allocation (Pages 527 - 554)**

Report from the Interim Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Endorse the projects for submission to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority for award of LGF for 2026/27 as follows:

a. Local Business Support

- £946,845 (£464,915 revenue and £481,930 capital) for sub-regional business support supporting three strands of Launchpad (start-up support), Productivity and Low Carbon.
- £666,655 (£110,000 revenue and £556,655 capital) for Shop Unit Grants.
- £60,000 to support Rotherham Town Centre Markets.
- £36,559 for Social Value to increase opportunities for local businesses.

b. People and Skills

- £441,203 for a skills programme incorporating Ambition (children and young people), Core Skills (community-delivered basic skills training) and Advance (support to progress in work.)

ii. £300,781 for Young People's Skills Development.

c. Communities and Place

i. £424,219 for Events, delivering a wide-ranging programme of civic and cultural events and festivals.

2. Agrees to delegate authority to the Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to determine revised and final allocations for the Local Growth Fund. This is to include provision for other eligible actions within the use of the fund should it not be possible to achieve full spend of the grant through the allocations above.

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

### **14. Transport Capital Programme 2026/27 (Pages 555 - 572)**

Report from the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment.

#### **Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the schemes and allocations of funding, as set out in paragraph 2.3, subject to approval of the Council Budget on 4 March 2026.
2. Approves the schemes and allocations of funding outlined in Section 2 of this report, including the reallocation of savings made on capital projects delivered within budget as described in paragraph 1.6.
3. Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy, to determine the schemes to be delivered in 2026-27 through to 2029-30 with the Minor Works allocation, subject to approval of the Council Budget in March 2026.
4. Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy, to determine the schemes to be delivered in 2026-27 with the School Crossing Patrol Improvements allocation referred to in paragraph 2.2.6.
5. Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy, to determine the use of any underspends across the Transport Capital Programme to fund the delivery of other approved transport programmes, or the progression of designs for potential future projects.

**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 11 March 2026.

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

The next meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Monday 13 April 2026 commencing at 10.00am in Rotherham Town Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Edwards', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**John Edwards,**  
Chief Executive.