CABINET

Monday 16 November 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 and Community Safety Portfolio	Councillor Saghir Alam
Waste Services, Leisure and Green Spaces Portfolio	Councillor Lynda Marshall
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy Portfolio	Councillor John Williams
Communities Portfolio	Councillor Sarah Allen

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

CABINET

Venue:	**The Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH**
Date and Time:	**Monday 16 November 2026 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 - 32)

To receive the record of proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 12 October 2026.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

There are no exempt agenda items.

DEPUTY LEADER AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

6. Rotherham SEND Reform Plan (Pages 33 - 107)

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

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the Rotherham Local SEND Reform Plan 2026–2029 and the Council's role in its delivery.

2. Endorse the strategic direction of travel towards earlier identification and intervention, stronger mainstream inclusion, increased local provision and a mature multi-agency Experts at Hand model.

3. Note the first-year delivery plan and associated performance, governance and risk-management arrangements set out within the Local SEND Reform Plan.

4. Note the financial strategy underpinning reform, including the 2026/27 Schools Block to High Needs Block transfer of 0.5%, equivalent to £1.3m, and the alignment of high-needs capital investment to mainstream accessibility, inclusion bases, specialist provision, and alternative provision.

7. Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Assurance Report (Pages 109 - 172)

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

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the contents of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Assurance Report 2025 to 2026; and

2. Notes the partnership priorities and areas requiring continued assurance for 2026 to 2027.

FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

8. September 2026-27 Financial Monitoring Report (Pages 173 - 200)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast overspend of £2.9m.

2. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.

3. Approve the capital budget variations as detailed in Section 2.17 of the report.

4. Note early payment of £3.052m grant from the Transport for City Regions (TCR) fund, as detailed in section 2.18.5 of the report.

5. Note the allocation of City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) Revenue Fund grant from South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) as detailed in 2.24 and delegate the decision to allocate and spend all future tranches to the Service Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy.

9. Medium Term Financial Strategy Update (Pages 201 - 222)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendation:

That Cabinet note the MTFS 2026/27 to 2029/30 update.

10. Maintained Schools Long Term Maintenance Plan (LTMP) (Pages 223 - 247)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the commencement of the maintained schools stock condition and asset verification survey programme, funded through existing capital budgets.

2. Note the emerging evidence that condition, compliance and lifecycle investment requirements may exceed available Department for Education School Condition Allocation funding, subject to completion and validation of the surveys.

3. Agree the proposed principles for assessing the condition survey findings

and prioritising future investment, including joint working with Children and Young People's Services on school place sufficiency, future educational demand and planned academy conversions.

4. Agree to receive a further report following completion of the stock condition surveys setting out the quantified maintenance backlog, prioritised investment requirements, proposed programme of works and associated funding requirements.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

11. Advice Services and Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure - Service Level Agreements (2027-2030) (Pages 249 - 275)

Report from the Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1) Agree to progress the arrangements for VCS Infrastructure Services in Rotherham, including:
    a) The proposed model being delivered through a standard SLA for three years commencing from 1 April 2027 and continuing to 31 March 2030, which is based on the findings of a co-design exercise.
    b) Funding of £573,000 being awarded as a grant to Voluntary Action Rotherham, in annual payments of £191,000, to deliver the three-year SLA.

2) Agree to progress the arrangements for Advice Services in Rotherham, including:
    a) The proposed model being delivered through a standard SLA for three years commencing from 1 April 2027 and continuing to 31 March 2030, which is based on the findings of a co-design exercise.
    b) Funding of £999,000 being awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Rotherham and District, in annual payments of £333,000, to deliver the three-year SLA.
    c) Utilising £93,000 of funding per annum previously allocated for pension credit advice as part of the 2025/26 Council Budget process to fund the increase to the Advice Services SLA.

TRANSPORT, JOBS AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

12. Improving Places Select Commission Scrutiny Review - School Road Safety (Pages 277 - 300)

Report from the Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement.

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet receives the recommendations listed below, as approved by the Improving Places Select Commission and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board;

   a) **Improved Cross-Directorate Working**

      i) Develop a cross-directorate map of roles and responsibilities (e.g. highways, school engagement, enforcement, crossing patrol) to establish and embed stronger partnership working across Council services, including improvements to internal reporting and decision-making systems and processes aligned across directorates.

      ii) Consider the feasibility of establishing a cross-directorate working group (that meets regularly, with clear terms of reference and a governance structure) to oversee school road safety in Rotherham. The aim of this working group would be to drive and coordinate delivery and provide increased accountability and visibility.

      iii) Any established school road safety working group should be launched as the front-facing, main point of contact for collaboration with residents, schools, Councillors, and partners related to school road safety, to ensure the Council's commitment to school road safety is both visible and accessible. Consider the creation of a dedicated section of the Council website on school road safety to support this.

      iv) Work together with ward Councillors to progress the development of ward-specific road safety plans, each to contain a section on road safety issues around local schools. These plans would inform each ward's CAP development plans.

      v) In the spirit of the new Neighbourhood Leadership Strategy, council services should endeavour to keep Councillors regularly informed on any new plans relating to transport and school road safety and/or works due to be carried out within their wards at the earliest possible opportunity.

   b) **Data, Monitoring and Strategic Alignment**

      i) Take steps to improve baseline data collection around schools (e.g traffic, parking, reported incidents, travel behaviours). Establishment of centralised, cross-directorate incident reporting and escalation processes would help to identify areas of concern and need, which in turn, would inform the prioritisation of potential projects and pilot school locations.

      ii) Develop a coordinated, borough-wide School Road Safety Strategy, to be aligned with SYMCA's regional action plans and travel

strategies – such as the new South Yorkshire Transport Strategy and the Walking, Wheeling & Cycling Strategy.

iii) Explore what regional support may be available via the Safer Roads Partnership and the Active Lives & Safer Roads teams at SYMCA, for example, access to shared data mapping tools/systems and funding opportunities.

iv) Consider the coordination of projects with neighbouring local authorities via SYMCA, which would provide opportunities for enhanced economies of scale.

c) **Funding Development**

i) Establish a defined and protected allocation for school road safety projects within wider capital transport funding to ensure longer-term funding streams that can support the shift to a more proactive and coordinated approach.

ii) Use the recommended enhanced data collection models to strengthen the evidence base to support future funding bids. Develop a clear pipeline of projects to maximise use of Transport for City Regions and Integrated Settlement Active Travel funding via SYMCA to support school road safety.

iii) Work with SYMCA to explore how Rotherham could benefit from the government's new Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy and the projected £4.5 billion of investment to be made available over the next 5 years.

iv) Develop a balanced programme of low-cost interventions (signage, markings, speed reduction measures) and targeted higher-cost schemes, using the suggested enhanced data collection models to provide evidence to inform and justify the prioritisation of certain schools and schemes.

v) Develop a funding stream to support opportunities for increased work with and support for schools across the borough (see d) School Engagement & Active Travel below).

vi) Strengthen existing work with the Planning team to ensure early identification of any potential section 106 developer funding for specific road safety improvements/schemes.

d) **School Engagement & Active Travel**

i) Urgently undertake a borough-wide survey of all schools to better understand their concerns and needs regarding school road safety.

ii) Using the results of the survey and enhanced data mapping models

(alongside existing knowledge and data), identify a priority list of schools in the borough for targeted intervention (e.g. top 10/20/30).

iii) Give consideration to the provision of additional dedicated School Engagement Officers/Active Travel Officers to strengthen trust and engagement with school leaders and governors. Such officers would be able to support enhanced engagement activities, such as assemblies, parent consultation and the promotion of Active Travel initiatives. This in turn, would help to encourage overall behaviour change from both pedestrians, drivers, and other road users around schools.

iv) Consider the creation of a borough-wide "Junior Road Safety Officer Programme" to allow schools and their pupils to lead on initiatives appropriate to their school settings. This would engage and benefit pupils in taking ownership of schemes to support their schools.

v) Conduct a full exploration of the different Active Travel schemes that are available (e.g Mode Shift Stars) and identify which schools already have an Active Travel Plan in place. Schools need support in applying for accreditation to such schemes and in implementing them, which should form part of the role of any additional School Engagement/Active Travel Officers.

vi) Identify any schools which may be suitable for the establishment of a School Streets pilot scheme, bearing in mind the fact that any School Streets scheme would need to be supported by proven prior active travel initiatives, and an engaged and committed senior leadership team and parent community.

vii) Work towards coordinating any existing initiatives (e.g Bikeability) into a single, coherent offer, introducing more child-centred, "fun first" campaigns. Invite external experts and teams from SYMCA and neighbouring local authorities to share best practice and success stories.

e) **Enforcement & Crossing Patrol**

i) Establish better cross-directorate data-sharing systems (as per a) above), to ensure that data collected by the Crossing Patrol and Parking Enforcement teams regarding incidents/near-misses and offences are monitored and used to inform decisions on priority sites and projects.

ii) Consider opportunities for the pilot use of body-cameras by crossing patrollers, giving due regard to safeguarding and data protection concerns.

iii) Conduct a detailed feasibility review into wider camera enforcement rollout of redeployable/static ANPR cameras, including a cost-benefit

analysis and identification of suitable pilot locations.

iv) Consider further investment in roaming CCTV vehicles to support compliance and enforcement for parking offences around schools. Capacity for enforcement is currently limited to one CCTV van for all 200+ schools in the borough. A lack of a regular presence leads to inconsistent and ineffective enforcement.

v) Explore the potential for increased engagement with South Yorkshire Police, including a possible joint approach to promoting local anti-parking campaigns and joint responses at problem locations.

vi) Monitor and review forthcoming government guidance on footway parking powers. Consider any opportunities to tie the local enforcement approach into any future RMBC Pavement Parking Policy.

2. That Cabinet formally considers its response to the above recommendations within two months of its receipt, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

3. That in responding to these recommendations, it is requested that Cabinet's response should identify the proposed actions, responsible officer(s), success measures and target completion dates for each recommendation.

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

To receive a report detailing the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in respect of the above items that were subject to pre-decision scrutiny on 10 November 2026.

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Monday 14 December 2026 commencing at 10.00am in Rotherham Town Hall.



John Edwards,
Chief Executive.