OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Date and Time:- **Wednesday 1 July 2026 at 10.00 a.m.**

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

Membership:- **Councillors Steele (Chair), Bacon (Vice-Chair), Baggaley, Blackham, A. Carter, Keenan, McKiernan, Monk, Sutton, Tinsley and Yasseen.**

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.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

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

2. Minutes of meeting Wednesday 3 June 2026 of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (Pages 7 - 29)

To consider the minutes of the previous meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 3 June 2026 and to approve them as a true and correct record of the proceedings and to be signed by the Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

4. Questions from Members of the Public and the Press

To receive questions relating to items of business on the agenda from members of the public or press who are present at the meeting.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

Items for Pre-Decision Scrutiny

In accordance with the outcome of the Governance Review in 2016, the following items are submitted for pre-scrutiny ahead of the Cabinet meeting on Monday 6 July 2026. Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board are invited to comment and make recommendations on the proposals contained within the report.

6. Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update (Pages 31 - 226)

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

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 the updates on the Council Plan long term measures of success.

4. Note that future progress reports will be presented to Cabinet in January and July 2027.

For Discussion/Decision:

7. Question and Answer session with the Leader of the Council

A Question-and-Answer session with the Leader of the Council regarding matters within the scope of their portfolio.

Items for Pre-Decision Scrutiny

8. Draft Street Trading Policy (Pages 227 - 270)

Report from the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Approve consultation to determine whether the Council should adopt Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

2. Approve consultation on the draft Street Trading Policy, as outlined in the report.

3. Note that, following consultation, a future report will be presented to Cabinet in late 2026, outlining the final recommendations with regard to the adoption of Schedule 4 and the introduction of a Borough-wide Street Trading Policy.

9. Financial Outturn 2025-26 (Pages 271 - 318)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the revenue outturn position for 2025/26.

2. Note the required transfer from HRA reserves decreased by £4.3m following the revenue and capital outturn position.

3. Note the carry forward of the combined surplus schools balance of £2.395m in accordance with the Department for Education regulations.

4. Note the reserves position set out in paragraphs 2.15 to 2.16.

5. Note the capital outturn, funding position and programme variations as set out in paragraphs 2.17 to 2.25.

10. May 2026-27 Financial Monitoring Report (Pages 319 - 338)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast overspend of £4.6m.

2. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.

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

11. Treasury Management Outturn 2025-26 (Pages 339 - 358)

Report from the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

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

For Discussion/Decision:

12. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2025-2026 (Pages 359 - 378)

To consider the annual update ahead of its presentation to Council on the activities and outcomes achieved in respect of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2025-2026 municipal year.

For Information/Monitoring:-

13. Work Programme (Pages 379 - 381)

To consider the Board's Work Programme.

14. Work in Progress - Select Commissions (Pages 383 - 389)

To receive updates from the Chairs of the Select Commission on work undertaken and planned for the future:

- Health Select Commission
- Improving Lives Select Commission
- Improving Places Select Commission

15. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

To review and identify items for pre-decision scrutiny from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

Link to: Browse plans - Forward Plan of Key Decisions, 2025 - Rotherham Council

16. South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

As part of their role the Chair and Vice Chair of OSMB are appointed to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Chair of OSMB is the Vice Chair on this committee.

This committee holds the MCA to account and ensure that all aspects of the decision-making process are transparent, inclusive and fair. The Committee are responsible for checking that the MCA is delivering its objectives and that the decisions made in policies, strategies and plans have been made in the best interests of the residents and workers of South Yorkshire.

The published agenda packs and minutes can be accessed via: South

Yorkshire MCA.

Members who have comments and queries regarding any item on any agenda should refer this to the Chair of OSMB and the Governance Manager at the earliest opportunity to ensure they're reflected in debate during the relevant public meeting.

17. Call-in Issues

To consider any issues referred for call-in from recent Cabinet meetings.

18. Urgent Business

To determine any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will be held on Tuesday 8 September 2026 commencing at 10.00 a.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.

John Edwards,
Chief Executive.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday 3 June 2026

Present: Councillor Steele (in the Chair); Councillors Bacon, Baggaley, Blackham, A. Carter, Harper, Keenan, McKiernan, Sutton, Tinsley and Yasseen.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Lelliott and Monk.

Cabinet Members in attendance:

- Councillor Cusworth, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
- Councillor Alam OBE, Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety
- Councillor Beresford, Cabinet Member for Housing

Council Officers in attendance:

- John Edwards, Chief Executive
- Andrew Bramidge, Executive Director, Regeneration and Environment
- Chris Paddock, Director, Policy, Strategy and Engagement
- Sam Barstow, Service Director, Community Safety and Street Scene
- Rob Mahon, Service Director, Financial Services
- Gilly Brenner, Public Health Consultant, Adult Care, Housing & Public Health
- Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services
- Barbel Gale, Governance Manager
- Kerry Grinsill-Clinton, Governance Advisor
- Kristianne Thorogood, Governance Advisor

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-
https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home

1. MINUTES OF MEETING WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2026 OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Reference was made by Councillor Blackham to page 19 of the agenda pack (page 15 of the minutes, paragraph 3), Minute Reference 146, which stated that it had been confirmed a review would be commissioned. It was noted that, on pages 25–26, the Chief Executive had outlined that there would be two reports, one relating to the library, its current state, and how the situation had arisen, and a second separate report, creating an apparent inconsistency.

It was suggested that the first paragraph be amended to include a cross-reference to the later section to clarify that two reports had been indicated, as otherwise it could be interpreted that only one report was intended.

For clarity, the Chief Executive confirmed that there would be two separate pieces of work: an investigation into the specifics of the markets and library project, and a review into the wider approach to delivering large regeneration projects. It was agreed that the record should reflect this distinction.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 6 May 2026 be approved as a true record subject to Minute Reference 146 being amended to reflect there would be two separate pieces of work: an investigation into the specifics of the markets and library project, and a review into the wider approach to delivering large regeneration projects.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

No questions were received.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no reasons to exclude the press or public.

5. RENTERS RIGHTS ACT POLICY CONSULTATION

At the Chair's invitation, Councillor Beresford, Cabinet Member for Housing, introduced the report explaining that the Renters Rights Act and associated statutory guidance was published in November 2025. This introduced significant changes to local authority enforcement powers, including expanded civil penalties, statutory starting points for financial penalties, and additional investigative powers.

It was noted that, as these powers fall outside the Regulators' Code, a revised Private Sector Enforcement Policy and civil penalty calculation mechanism was required. Approval would be sought from Cabinet to undertake a six-week consultation commencing in late June, in order to comply with national legislation and establish a transparent and evidence-based framework for applying civil penalties.

The importance of ensuring proportionate and robust enforcement against non-compliance was highlighted, alongside the need to maintain fairness for compliant landlords and to reflect local housing market conditions and enforcement priorities.

It was reported that, although the Act increased civil penalties to a maximum of £40,000 and introduced a two-penalty tier system (with a lower tier of £7,000), a local reduction factor of 46.6% was proposed to ensure proportionality and recoverability in the local context. Statutory starting points would be applied, with provision for a 15% early payment discount and officer discretion of up to 20% either way based on mitigating or aggravating factors, as detailed in the appendices.

It was noted that the policy would be subject to annual review and that landlords would retain the right to challenge civil penalties through the First-tier Tribunal. Subject to Cabinet approval, a further report outlining consultation outcomes and any revised policy would be presented in November 2026, with findings to be reported back to the Board.

The Chair invited members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) to raise questions, with Councillor Blackham expressing concern that the six-week consultation period, while meeting the statutory minimum, coincided with the summer holidays when engagement might be reduced. It was noted that the proposals were complex, involving detailed information and multiple legislative references, raising concerns about achieving meaningful engagement within the timeframe.

Sam Barstow, Service Director for Community Safety and Street Scene, acknowledged the complexity and advised that consultation materials would be simplified, focusing on key principles rather than detailed financial calculations. He confirmed the six-week period met statutory requirements and was considered sufficient, with prompt communication and reminders planned to support participation.

The Chair noted that similar concerns about summer consultations had been raised previously, suggesting these should take place before the holiday period or extend into September to maximise engagement. It was proposed that this concern be included in the Board’s recommendations.

Councillor Tinsley raised concern over the lack of a clear consultation plan, noting that previous exercises, such as selective licensing, had struggled to secure meaningful engagement. Clarification was sought on how the Council would effectively engage private sector landlords, including methods to reach the sector, promote participation, and raise awareness of the Renters’ Rights Act among those not yet informed.

It was acknowledged that, despite concerns about the consultation period, the Council was in a relatively strong position. The recent selective licensing consultation had generated a significant number of responses and established a substantial contact base, which would be used to inform and engage participants in the new consultation.

Concern was reiterated that reliance on existing data may not fully capture the wider private rented sector, particularly landlords not previously engaged with licensing schemes. In response, it was noted that earlier consultations and ongoing enforcement activity had brought the Council into contact with a broad range of landlords, alongside established links with landlord representative bodies, which would support further engagement.

It was also highlighted that the consultation and subsequent policy development provided an opportunity to educate and support landlords in meeting their responsibilities under the Renters' Rights Act, with the Council's approach focused on promoting compliance and using enforcement as a last resort where necessary.

Councillor Yasseen, building on earlier concerns about the consultation period, compared the proposal with the selective licensing consultation, which had covered only part of the borough yet had run for a longer period, including an extension. On this basis, the six-week consultation was considered insufficient, and support was expressed for this concern to be reflected in the Board's recommendations.

Support was also expressed for aspects of the Renters' Rights provisions, including a borough-wide approach, although concern remained regarding the Council's overall approach and timing.

Further clarification was sought on the proposed 46.6% reduction factor applied to civil penalties, with concern that it could significantly reduce fines even in serious cases, including those involving vulnerable individuals. Questions were raised about how fairness and proportionality would be maintained, particularly in distinguishing between minor and major offences and between individual landlords and larger corporate operators.

In response, it was explained that the legislation already differentiated between minor and major offences through different penalty starting points, ensuring more serious breaches attracted higher fines. The proposed reduction factor reflected the difference between national and local rental levels and aimed to align penalties with local market conditions; it was emphasised that this remained subject to consultation.

It was further explained that discretion would be applied through mitigating and aggravating factors, enabling higher penalties in cases involving corporate landlords or large portfolios, while allowing reductions for less experienced landlords, such as those with a single property. This approach aimed to ensure penalties remained fair, proportionate, and responsive to individual circumstances.

Councillor Yasseen acknowledged that further detail would be considered through the consultation process and sought clarification on how the proposed reduction factor had been calculated, including how it would interact with any uplifts applied to different categories of landlord.

Further questions were raised regarding the baseline data informing the proposals. It was noted that, while selective licensing had provided some insight into property types and tenure, it did not present a complete picture. Concern was expressed that the report lacked a clear baseline of the private rented sector and clarification was sought on the data underpinning the Council's approach.

In response, it was confirmed that a comprehensive baseline was not currently available, although the Renters' Rights Act included provision for a national database intended to address this. It was also noted that implementation of the Act would be phased, with the private rented sector database expected in late 2026, which was anticipated to support the development of a more complete baseline at both borough and national level.

The Chair asked about the extent of benchmarking with neighbouring authorities on their approaches to civil penalties. It was confirmed that benchmarking had been undertaken as far as possible, although all authorities faced similar limitations due to the absence of a requirement for private rented sector landlord registration, which restricted comparable data.

It was noted that benchmarking would continue to develop alongside national changes, particularly as more reliable data became available. The Council was also reported to work closely with regional partners, sharing approaches to implementation and maintaining a collective commitment to collaboration to improve understanding and ensure consistency where appropriate.

The Chair asked how the Council would ensure that vulnerable or underrepresented private tenants, particularly those with limited digital access, were made aware of the consultation. It was confirmed that the Council would not rely solely on digital engagement. Drawing on the Selective Licensing consultation, it was noted that some respondents had preferred written submissions, and arrangements had been made to support this.

Paper-based consultation materials would be made available in community venues, supported by ward councillors, community networks, and local organisations. Frontline services and partner agencies would also be used to engage vulnerable groups through day-to-day contact.

It was further noted that trusted community networks and leaders would help raise awareness, with tailored assistance provided where needed to support participation, including for those who were digitally excluded or unable to complete written responses independently.

The Chair asked how the Council would maximise engagement with private landlords, communities, and letting agencies during the consultation. It was advised that this would build on existing engagement channels, including established networks, landlord representative bodies, and community organisations. The Council's regular day-to-day contact with stakeholders across the sector would also be utilised, alongside trusted community networks, to support broad awareness and participation.

Councillor Harper asked about the Council's preparedness to enforce the new provisions, including whether sufficient staffing and resources were in place given the scale of change and the incomplete understanding of the private rented sector. Reference was also made to previous staffing arrangements between phases of selective licensing.

It was noted that the legislation represented a significant shift in regulation, requiring changes to working practices. The Council would receive approximately £149,000 in new burdens funding, supplemented by existing investment, including a Private Sector Housing Manager post. These resources were considered sufficient for initial implementation, including establishing policies and procedures, although some uncertainty remained regarding future enforcement demand as levels of non-compliance became clearer.

It was further noted that civil penalties, ring-fenced for reinvestment in enforcement activity, could provide additional funding over time, with ongoing monitoring of capacity and demand expected as implementation progressed.

In a supplementary question, Councillor Harper asked whether headcount had increased to support the new responsibilities. It was confirmed that recruitment for a Private Sector Housing Manager was underway following the Council’s March budget decision, with the application phase recently closed. Plans for the use of new burdens funding were also in development, including consideration of additional officer resources. It was emphasised that, despite the new requirements, the Council already had an established regulatory function for private sector housing, with experienced officers in place to support implementation and enforcement of the legislation.

The Chair asked how the new burdens funding of approximately £149,000 would be used, including whether it would support training or additional staffing.

It was advised that the funding would likely be used for a combination of purposes, with initial priority given to training officers on the requirements of the Renters’ Rights Act and the practicalities of enforcement. It was further noted that decisions on allocation, including any additional staffing, would be developed in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and colleagues across the organisation, and refined as implementation progressed and service demand became clearer.

Councillor Blackham asked whether specific legal advice had been obtained in relation to the policy and its drafting, particularly to support simplification and minimise potential challenge. It was confirmed that legal advice had been sought, with the report having undergone standard internal consultation, including review by legal and finance officers, before being presented to Cabinet. In a supplementary question Councillor Blackham sought clarification regarding the origin of the statutory starting points for civil penalties. In response, it was confirmed that these were derived from the legislation, supplemented by accompanying statutory guidance.

Councillor Yasseen raised concern about the sufficiency of the £149,000 new burdens funding and whether existing resources, particularly from selective licensing, would be used to support borough-wide implementation of the Renters' Rights provisions. It was confirmed that selective licensing income was legally ring-fenced and could only be used within designated areas and therefore could not subsidise wider enforcement activity. It was further explained that additional investment, including enforcement and engagement posts within selective licensing areas, had been agreed through the budget-setting process in response to consultation feedback. The Private Sector Housing Manager role was the only post with a broader remit linked to the Renters' Rights Act, funded through separate Council investment rather than selective licensing income.

Councillor Bacon raised broader concerns about the potential impact of the legislation on the private rented sector, noting it could increase pressure in an already competitive market. A question was asked about the level of discretion available in applying the proposed local reduction factor, including whether alternative evidence or greater reductions could be considered, or if the legislation required the use of specific data such as that from the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

It was confirmed that some discretion was available, but any adjustment would need to be supported by a robust evidence base. National data, including ONS figures, was cited as providing a reliable benchmark for the proposed reduction. It was emphasised that this was an initial position, with the consultation intended to invite feedback and alternative approaches. It was further explained that the Council aimed to implement the legislation in a balanced and proportionate way, addressing non-compliance while recognising the potential impact of significant penalties on housing supply. The approach would focus on supporting landlord compliance, with enforcement used where necessary.

In response to a follow-up, it was confirmed that the consultation would be a genuine and open process. While any changes would need to remain evidence-based and within legislative requirements, feedback from stakeholders could inform revisions to the reduction factor, with all responses considered in developing the final policy.

The Chair asked about resilience planning should enforcement volumes exceed expectations. It was advised that resilience existed within the Community Protection and Environmental Health function, supported by ongoing upskilling and multi-skilling of officers. Roles had evolved from being narrowly defined to more flexible, enabling officers to undertake a wider range of enforcement functions and respond in a more coordinated way. This approach was noted to improve the customer experience by reducing the need for multiple officers and allowing resources to be directed to areas of highest demand. It was further explained that any short-term increase in enforcement demand could be managed within existing capacity, while, over time, income from ring-fenced civil penalties could be reinvested to support additional resources if required.

The Chair asked how the Council would obtain intelligence on private landlords and identify non-compliant operators in the absence of a comprehensive database. It was acknowledged that this was a national challenge, with a private rented sector database not expected until late 2026. In the interim, the Council would rely on a multi-source approach, including information sharing across internal services such as council tax, benefits, and licensing, alongside collaboration with external partners including the police, fire service, health services, and voluntary organisations.

Tenant complaints would remain a key source of intelligence, supported by targeted work in higher-risk areas and information from selective licensing schemes. While the lack of a registration requirement presented challenges, it was emphasised that the new powers would enable the Council to respond effectively using available intelligence while preparing for the national database.

Councillor Yasseen questioned the timing of the equality analysis, noting it was scheduled to be completed after the consultation, and raised concern that it had not been undertaken earlier to inform the consultation design, drawing on lessons from previous processes such as selective licensing. In response, it was advised that the equality analysis would be conducted once the policy was finalised to ensure its full implications were assessed. However, it was noted that standard Council consultation processes already incorporated consideration of equality and accessibility from the outset, with assurance given that the consultation would be designed to be inclusive and accessible, supported by appropriate measures to enable participation from all groups.

Councillor Yasseen queried the climate impact assessment, noting it indicated no impact, despite the report referencing enforcement of the Decent Homes Standard, which would support emissions reduction and improved energy efficiency. Concern was raised over this apparent inconsistency, particularly in light of the Council's climate emergency declaration. In response, it was acknowledged that the Decent Homes Standard would contribute to carbon reduction and energy efficiency in the private rented sector. However, it was explained that these provisions were part of a later phase of the Renters' Rights Act, not expected until around 2030, and therefore had not been reflected in the current policy or appendices.

Councillor Blackham noted, for information, that Saville's recent review found a 14% drop in private rented properties in New York over the past two years, prompting consideration of the outlook for the next three years. It was stated that the council adopts a balanced approach to regulation, as set out in the policy, and this was provided as the response to Council.

The Chair asked what governance arrangements would ensure consistent decision-making and whether officers' use of discretionary powers would be recorded and monitored for fairness. It was confirmed this would be in place, with management oversight supporting officers and legal advice sought where necessary. Consistency would be monitored through key performance indicators and team data. The importance of sharing knowledge with neighbouring authorities was noted, given landlords often operate across multiple areas. Achieving both local and regional consistency was recognised as a priority, supported through regional enforcement networks, professional forums, and guidance from the Association of Chief Environmental Health Officers, with alignment to emerging national standards where possible.

The Chair asked what key risks might arise during the transition period when both the old and new policies could apply, and how these would be managed.

It was noted that the new policy incorporates previous Housing Act offences and will provide a single approach to housing enforcement once fully implemented, although risks during the interim period were acknowledged. Officers would manage this through clear transitional arrangements and defined cut-off points, with a detailed implementation timeline to be set out following consultation and Cabinet approval. Clear communication with stakeholders was highlighted, alongside the importance of staff guidance and training to support consistency. Ongoing support from legal services would also ensure that the transition period was managed appropriately.

The Vice-Chair asked how the Council would balance supporting the viability of the private rented sector with protecting tenants from non-compliance, particularly given concerns about landlords exiting the market, and whether the impact of increased enforcement on housing supply would be monitored. It was noted that monitoring landlord exits would take place where information was available, though there is currently no accurate baseline. The planned national database is expected to provide a more reliable basis for future monitoring. It was confirmed that the policy sets out a proportionate and balanced enforcement approach, including local adjustments to reflect rental values. The consultation process was highlighted as key to gathering feedback on whether this balance is appropriate or requires adjustment.

The Chair asked what key performance indicators (KPIs) would be used to measure the success of the enforcement policy, including compliance rates, appeal outcomes, and tenant impacts.
It was confirmed that a balanced suite of indicators would be used at multiple levels within the service. Performance information would be reviewed across the management structure, including at Head of Service and Director level. KPIs would include compliance rates, reduction and prevalence of repeat offences, and outcomes of enforcement cases.

Monitoring would also cover appeals and tribunal outcomes, including both successful Council cases and successful appeals by appellants. Tenant outcomes would be assessed, particularly in relation to improvements in housing conditions, safety, and quality. Timeliness would also be measured, including response times and end-to-end case durations. It was noted that this performance information would be available for scrutiny, which may take an ongoing interest in these measures.

Councillor Yasseen noted support for the recommendation but stated that six weeks was insufficient and should be extended. It was highlighted that the scope of the work and the size of the market were unclear, with significant unknowns, and that more time was required to complete the work thoroughly and fairly. Concern was raised that conducting the work over the six-week summer period, including August, would be ineffective due to reduced availability. It was further noted that the Council had previously agreed not to consult residents during holiday periods, and proceeding in this way would be inconsistent with that position.

The Chair asked what the latest consultation end date could be to enable the report to return to Cabinet in November, noting a reluctance to debate the matter in Cabinet. In response, the Service Director for Community Safety and Street Scene advised that they could not provide an answer without further consideration, due to the risk of giving incorrect information. It was explained that the timing would need to take into account key factors, such as obtaining appropriate legal advice on the final draft of the policy, and that this would require consultation with legal colleagues to determine a suitable timeframe.

The Service Director for Community Safety and Street Scene further stated that extending the consultation period would be challenging while still being able to deliver a robust report that had been properly engaged across the organisation. While acknowledging that scrutiny could make its own recommendations, it was maintained that a six-week consultation complied with statutory requirements and expressed confidence that an effective consultation could be delivered within that period, enabling a legally sound decision by the Council.

A Member suggested that, given no action would occur until 27 April, consultation could run from September to November, allowing four months for completion. It was reiterated that the ambition remained to return the final policy to Cabinet in November and that further delay would be difficult, although it was acknowledged that previous reports had been delayed. Concern was expressed by the Board regarding consultation taking place during holiday periods, reflecting longstanding practice.

Members emphasised that determining consultation timeframes was the role of scrutiny and proposed recommending an extended consultation period running from September to mid-November, with the final report presented to Cabinet in December. It was noted that Cabinet may choose not to accept this recommendation, but the Committee's views would be formally put forward.

RESOLVED: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board supported the recommendations that Cabinet:

1. Approve consultation on the draft:
   a. Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy, derived from the Association of Chief Environmental Health Officers (ACEHO) National Model Enforcement Policy; and
   b. Civil Penalty Calculation Mechanism, including local market adjustment.
2. Note that a future report with the outcome of the consultation and revised policy documents will be presented to Cabinet in November 2026.

Additional recommendations to Cabinet from OSMB were that:

3. That Cabinet extend the consultation period into September to provide an adequate timeframe for responses.

Further actions that arose from discussions were:

- That service report to OSMB prior to presentation of the final policy to Cabinet, to demonstrate how feedback from the public consultation process has been incorporated into the final Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy.

6. FINANCE UPDATE JUNE 2026

At the Chair's invitation Councillor Alam OBE, Cabinet Member for Finance and Community Safety introduced the report which provided Cabinet with an update on financial matters. It was presented as an interim update on the Council's 2025-26 financial outturn, ahead of a more detailed report scheduled for July 2026.

The Council's projected position improved from a £3.4 million overspend reported in December to £0.3 million. This £3.1 million improvement had previously been reported to Cabinet in February. Headline details of these improvements were included in the report. The directorate forecasts indicated a positive trajectory for the Council's finances. Strong financial management was noted as essential in addressing future budget pressures and external uncertainties.

The improved position meant that reserves remained stronger than originally projected when setting the budget, supporting the Council's overall financial standing during a period of economic uncertainty. Spending in line with the approved budget remained critical. Continued scrutiny of income and expenditure across all services, alongside robust budget monitoring, was identified as a priority to ensure delivery of annual and medium-term financial plans while maintaining financial resilience.

The Service Director, Financial Services, Rob Mahon noted the position was identified in the 2026-27 budget papers as under financial monitoring, with ongoing work with directors to reduce the overspend and align it with budget.

The December overspend was less than 1% of the Council's net revenue budget and not considered significant. Actions had further reduced it, strengthening the financial position. The Council was entering 2026-27 in a more robust position, as reflected in the approved budget and council tax report, though some underlying outturn challenges remain and would require further discussion. A detailed outturn report would be presented to Cabinet in July, and potentially to Scrutiny, providing early analysis of revenue and capital positions while year-end processes were finalised.

The Chair invited questions from OSMB, with Councillor Yasseen welcoming the reduced overspend and noting it as a significant improvement. Support for crisis measures in the budget was welcomed, including free school meal vouchers (c.141,000 rising to 142,000), £413,000 for energy support, household fuel assistance, £90,000 for care leavers, and council tax subsidies. Clarification was sought on continuation of this support into 2026.

It was confirmed that the 2025–26 Household Support Fund figures reflected final outturn delivery, including total vouchers issued, value of energy support, and households supported.

Councillor Yasseen commended the scale of delivery and improving financial trajectory but raised concern over £6.2m of service pressures, particularly in Children's Services, and sought assurance on further mitigating actions.

It was reiterated that there was no single solution to CYPS placement pressures. Actions had included reviewing placements and delivering prior savings, improving the position. The 2026–27 budget included a £2.8m uplift and £2m for inflation, though pressures were expected to exceed assumptions. Grant funding had provided additional support, but completion of savings plans remained critical, particularly the in-house residential programme (four placements across two properties in 2026–27) to reduce reliance on high-cost external provision.

Forecasting remained challenging due to demand volatility, but the position was considered manageable within 2026–27. While pressures persisted, many had been mitigated through the budget, with further work ongoing, including increased use of independent fostering. It was noted that pressures reflected a national trend, though benchmarking showed the Council performing comparatively well with an improving trajectory.

The Chair raised a question regarding lessons learned from the variance between the Quarter 3 forecast and the final position. It was noted that an improvement in the forecast position was typically observed in Quarter 4. Close working arrangements were in place with directorates across all levels of financial management to ensure forecasts were as accurate and transparent as possible throughout the year. However, it was acknowledged that forecasting remained challenging, and some movement in Quarter 4 was expected in both local authority and wider organisational contexts.

It was reported that efforts to minimise this variance had improved year on year, although further learning was ongoing. In particular, increased confidence in newer income streams was identified as an area for development. Reference was made to improved performance within country parks, where income targets had historically been difficult to achieve but were now being met due to service improvements.

A cautious approach to forecasting these income streams had been taken to ensure sustainability rather than short-term gains. This approach would continue into 2026-27, with a focus on confirming that income growth was stable and not solely driven by initial changes or new facilities. It was confirmed that finance teams would continue to work closely with services to strengthen forecasting accuracy.

A further point was raised regarding how the ongoing success and sustainability of income generation at country parks would be ensured beyond any initial uplift. Andrew Bramidge, Executive Director, Regeneration and Environment noted that this also related to performance at Thrybergh. Strong income performance had been seen in the initial months at both Rother Valley and Thrybergh, with income at the Thrybergh café reported to have doubled following the opening of the new facility. This had provided increased confidence in income forecasts for the following year, although a cautious approach was being maintained to ensure that the uplift was sustainable rather than driven by an initial surge in demand. Ongoing monitoring throughout the year was confirmed, with it noted that confidence in income projections was higher than in previous years.

Councillor McKiernan asked whether the increase in the IT capital budget for data backup storage and hardware provisioning reflected inflationary pressures or an expansion in equipment. It was explained that the ICT capital reprofile reflected a combination of both inflationary pressures and updated service requirements. The reprofile aimed to present a more realistic assessment of what the service could deliver over the coming years. It was noted that the ICT capital programme had historically been flat-profiled, which often resulted in in-year adjustments, including slippage and savings. The ICT management team had taken a proactive approach in reviewing budgets, identifying achievable savings, and returning these to the wider capital programme. Overall, the revised profile was intended to better align investment with delivery capacity, while incorporating anticipated demand and inflation over the next three financial years.

In response to a follow up question, it was explained that the position reflected a combination of factors. ICT senior officers had undertaken a review of the Council's infrastructure needs and capacity, including engagement with services to understand current and future requirements. It was noted that there was an increasing shift towards cloud-based and externally hosted systems, reducing the need for some on-premises server infrastructure. However, server requirements continued to be assessed to ensure they aligned with service needs and supplier requirements. Overall, the approach reflected both evolving technology trends and a reassessment of what equipment was necessary to support the Council's ICT systems effectively.

A further question was raised regarding whether the shift from capital investment to subscription-based ICT services had resulted in increased revenue expenditure. It was confirmed that, while ICT contracts had experienced inflationary increases year on year, no additional pressure had been transferred into revenue budgets. It was also noted that the ICT capital programme had generated underspends through re-profiling and, over recent years, had returned savings to the capital contingency.

Councillor Baggaley requested a breakdown of the £2.4m improvement within CYPS and asked whether vacancies and turnover were impacting service delivery. It was confirmed that vacancies were not adversely affecting services, with recruitment managed to avoid any detriment. Savings were largely attributable to normal staff turnover. It was explained that most of the £2.4m improvement related to grant maximisation, including the use of additional external funding aligned to government priorities. The remainder reflected smaller savings from staff turnover and vacancies, alongside anticipated placements that had not occurred later in the financial year.

The Chair asked whether the £5.7m directorate overspend, offset by a £5.4m underspend in central services, was sustainable. It was explained that a central contingency had been set in 2025-26 to support social care pressures and had not initially been allocated to CYPS to maintain focus on savings delivery and transformation. Following review during budget setting, assurance had been gained, and a proportion was redistributed in 2026-27, including £2.8m to CYPS and £2m for inflation. It was noted that central services would continue to hold budgets for inflation and risk to manage uncertainty, but delivering large underspends year on year was not intended. The 2026–27 approach reflected a shift towards allocating funding to directorates based on confidence in delivery and need.

Councillor McKiernan raised concern that £1m had been allocated for ash dieback mitigation, with only £21k spent, and sought clarification. The Executive Director, Regeneration and Environment explained that the funding had been set aside based on anticipated impact, which proved lower than expected over the past two years, with fewer affected trees. It was noted that other tree diseases had since emerged, and the original allocation had been too specific; a broader provision would have been more appropriate.

Clarification was sought on whether a clear plan was now in place to utilise the allocated funding, particularly in relation to tree replacement and wider planting initiatives. It was confirmed that a more structured approach had been introduced, including a systematic programme of tree inspections. This proactive regime would identify trees requiring removal or replacement, ensuring that funding was directed appropriately. It was noted that this level of planned inspection and management had not been in place previously.

The Chair raised concerns about the risk of demand for the LCTS top-up scheme exceeding the £1.7m-£1.9m budget and how its impact on financial hardship would be measured. It was explained that a reserve, largely funded through the Crisis Resilience Fund, had been identified to support the scheme. While demand could exceed the budget due to its demand-led nature, the risk was considered low, although cost-of-living pressures could increase uptake in line with the scheme's purpose. It was noted that the reserve was expected to support the scheme over three years within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, though use in 2026-27 could reduce sustainability in later years, potentially requiring alternative funding. This risk was acknowledged but not considered likely at this stage. The scheme was described as means-tested and open year-round to support a wide range of residents experiencing hardship. Monitoring arrangements were in place, with data reported across the Council, and further enhancements were being developed to improve understanding of impacts and target support effectively.

Councillor Yasseen raised a query regarding the Public Health underspend used to offset Adult Social Care pressures and its potential impact on prevention and health inequalities, particularly in the context of ICB changes.

It was noted that further detail would be provided in the July outturn report to Cabinet, with Directorate representation to address the issue in depth. It was confirmed that the underspend was relatively small and not expected to significantly impact public health outcomes. Ongoing work was also noted to review arrangements with the ICB and maximise the use of increased Public Health grant funding in 2025-26 and 2026-27.

The Chair raised a question regarding how anticipated changes in legislation, particularly in relation to electric vehicle infrastructure, would be accounted for in future projects. It was acknowledged that predicting changes in national policy remained challenging. While local policy could be more readily planned for, national legislative changes could arise during the lifecycle of projects and impact both capital and revenue budgets. It was explained that such risks were considered as part of project and budget risk management, with policy changes included within risk registers for both major and minor capital schemes, as well as within revenue planning processes. However, it was noted that some changes could not be fully anticipated. Reference was made to the electric vehicle infrastructure project as an example, where policy changes during a delivery period of approximately five to six years had required additional works that were not originally planned. It was also noted that, due to earlier budget pressures, elements such as car parks at Rother Valley had been value engineered out of the scheme but later reinstated as a result of subsequent policy changes.

Councillor Baggaley asked whether the flood resilience funding was new or additional. It was confirmed that the funding related to an existing programme established following previous flooding, with schemes delivered in phases by the drainage team. Costs had exceeded initial estimates following detailed assessment, reflecting a needs-led approach. The funding was already included in the Council’s budget and did not represent additional resource. It was clarified that, while the works would not fully prevent future flooding, they were intended to improve property resilience and reduce impact, with delivery ongoing.

The Chair asked about the Council’s resilience to current global economic and market pressures. It was reported that the Council was in a robust position to manage external challenges. While global factors continued to present difficulties for budget and treasury management, these were not unprecedented, and the Council had successfully managed similar pressures in recent years, including COVID-19, high inflation, the cost-of-living crisis, and wider geopolitical events. It was noted that this reflected strong financial management, supported by a robust budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy, alongside maintained and strengthened reserves. Overall, confidence was expressed that the Council was well placed to manage ongoing economic uncertainty.

Councillor Baggaley queried the outstanding R&E variance, including route optimisation, the contamination pilot, and responsible waste grants, and sought a progress update. It was confirmed that the main element of route optimisation, the service restructure, had been completed and delivered the primary savings. However, routes had not yet operated for a full financial year, and late 2025-26 operational challenges had impacted delivery. It was reported that performance was nearing stabilisation, with further work continuing into 2026-27 to fully realise planned savings, including route optimisation and removal of two routes. Progress had been made, but delivery was not yet complete and would be closely monitored.

It was confirmed that, if full delivery was not achieved, updates would be provided to Cabinet with alternative options. An update on the contamination pilot and responsible waste grants would be provided separately.

Councillor Baggaley queried the extent to which treasury underspends were due to delays in capital programme delivery and whether this reflected deferred work. It was explained that around £2.5m of the underspend related to capital slippage, which, while not desirable, was common. The Council adopted a prudent approach by providing revenue cover at approval stage, creating in-year flexibility where slippage occurred and resulting in central underspends. It was emphasised that, while this supported the overall position, the priority remained timely delivery of the capital programme in line with strategic objectives.

Councillor Bacon asked whether the capital programme variations set out in section 2.4 included the recently approved changes relating to the Markets and Libraries project. It was confirmed that these variations were not included in section 2.4, as they had already been reported to and approved by Cabinet. As a result, those changes had already been incorporated into the Council’s capital programme and were not reflected again within that section.

RESOLVED: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board supported the recommendations that Cabinet:

1. Note the update on the revenue budget financial outturn 2025/26.

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

3. Note the update to the Household Support Fund for 2025-26.

4. Approve the capital budget variations as detailed in section 2.4 of the report.

7. MENOPAUSE REVIEW

The Chair and Members received a Spotlight Review on Menopause presented by Councillor Keenan on behalf of the Health Select Commission. Although originally commissioned as a workshop, the high level of engagement demonstrated the importance of the issue and the need for action; it was therefore progressed as a formal review to ensure contributions informed meaningful change.

The review identified menopause as a significant public health issue for Rotherham. Evidence indicated that up to 113,000 residents would experience symptoms during their lifetime, with around 35,000 experiencing severe impacts on daily life. These effects extended beyond physical health to mental wellbeing, family relationships and economic participation, affecting individuals, households, workplaces and communities across the borough.

It was consistently reported that awareness remained low and that information, advice and guidance were inconsistent and fragmented. As a result, many individuals did not recognise symptoms or know where to seek support, leading to delays and avoidable distress. Experiences of primary care varied, with inconsistencies in diagnosis, advice and treatment, and the link between menopause and mental health was not always recognised or addressed. Gaps in community provision and outreach were identified, particularly for underserved groups, alongside the importance of peer support. In the workplace, stigma and limited support were reported, with some individuals leaving employment. While examples of good practice were noted, activity was not yet sufficiently coordinated, consistent or visible to address the impacts of menopause and perimenopause.

The Commission developed recommendations to improve awareness, strengthen primary care, integrate mental health support, expand community provision and support employers. It also highlighted the need for stronger system leadership through a coordinated multi-agency approach, with the ambition of establishing Rotherham as a menopause-friendly borough.

The proposals aligned with the Council Plan by supporting residents to live well, promoting stability for children and young people, and contributing to an inclusive economy by reducing barriers to employment. The intended impact was both individual and systemic, improving quality of life while strengthening communities and economic resilience. Members were advised to note that a reference to paragraph 5 should instead refer to the recommendations section of the report.

The report was presented as a practical roadmap for change, reflecting the experiences of residents and partner commitment, and setting out how coordinated leadership and sustained effort could improve understanding and support for menopause. The report was commended to the Board.

The Governance Advisor, Kerry Grinsill-Clinton, endorsed the comments made by Councillor Keenan and formally noted sincere appreciation for the strong engagement from partners, including the voluntary and community sector, in the preparation of the report.

Councillor Yasseen expressed thanks to the Chair of the Health Select Commission for the significant work undertaken, noting that it remained an area requiring further attention. It was highlighted that women’s health continued to be overlooked, and that the focus on aspects of older women’s health was overdue. The report was welcomed; however, concern was raised regarding the limited ability of the review process to drive action, beyond setting out the case. It was suggested that greater urgency was needed in responding to the findings, and consideration was sought as to whether the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board could add value and provide additional support to help progress the outcomes identified in the report.

The Chair clarified that the report would be considered by Cabinet and Full Council, providing an opportunity for further influence. Thanks were extended to the Health Select Commission for its work, noting that the review demonstrated the effectiveness of scrutiny. It was emphasised that appropriate representation at Cabinet should be ensured so that the Board's views were clearly conveyed, and that Members should also represent these views when the matter was considered at Full Council.

RESOLVED: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) endorsed the following recommendations:

1. That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) noted the report.

2. That the recommendations listed below as approved by Health Select Commission, be submitted to Cabinet for consideration and response

Public Awareness and Information, Including Engaging Men and Young People:

a) That the Council seeks to improve public awareness of perimenopause and menopause through:
   i) The establishment of a single, well-promoted online menopause resource on the RotherHive or another appropriate online medium, supported by printed information that can be accessed via relevant community settings accessible to the digitally excluded.
   ii) That bespoke targeted content aimed at men, young people and employers is included in that resource to ensure a holistic and borough wide approach to raising awareness.
   iii) That the Council works with education providers including schools and colleges to ensure that young people receive age-appropriate advice and guidance regarding the effects of the menopause and how to seek support if they or their loved ones are affected.

Primary Care Improvement:

b) That the Council seeks to support Primary Care Improvement in relation to perimenopause and menopause through:
   i) Encouraging the adoption of a 'Menopause Champion' in every GP Practice in Rotherham and sharing information regarding GPs Menopause Champions once achieved.
   ii) Encouraging, via the 'Menopause Champion' GP network and in conjunction with the NHS Healthcare in the Community Agenda, Development of the Town Centre Health Hub and through collaborative work with TRFT, RDaSH and South Yorkshire ICB, the establishment of a clear and consistent menopause pathway, including consistent assessment tools and referral guidance.
   iii) Encouraging, through the 'Menopause Champion' GP network and collaborative work with TRFT, RDaSH and South Yorkshire ICB, the expansion of GP and practice staff training through Protected Learning Time and online modules to further support

service delivery, consistency and capability to provide perimenopause and menopause care in Primary Care settings.

Mental Health Support:

c) That the Council seeks to improve Mental Health Support during perimenopause and menopause by:
   iv) Encouraging health partners, including GPs to embed menopause screening questions within Talking Therapies and other mental health pathways.
   v) Increase the visibility of mental health support options within all menopause information, advice and guidance materials.

Community Support and Engagement:

d) That the Council seeks to improve Community Support and Engagement during perimenopause and menopause by:
   i) Working with relevant Council Services, Health Partners and the Voluntary and Community Sector to expand menopause cafés and community information sessions across more venues.
   ii) Working with relevant Council Services, Health Partners and the Voluntary and Community Sector to further develop outreach support to minority ethnic communities, faith groups and groups with language barriers.

Workplace Health:

e) That the Council seeks to improve Workplace Health in the context of perimenopause and menopause by:
   i) Producing and promoting a bespoke ‘Rotherham Menopause Workplace Toolkit’ setting out best practice, reasonable adjustments and support options for adoption by the Council and which can in be shared with employers across the borough to support ‘menopause positivity’, creating space for open conversations and contributing to reducing the number of women affected by perimenopause and menopause who leave the workforce.
   ii) Promoting workplace ‘Menopause Champions’ in local organisations and businesses, starting with RMBC as an exemplar employer

System Leadership:

f) That the Council seeks to improve System Leadership in the context of perimenopause and menopause by:
   i) Utilising the connectivity of the Rotherham Women’s Health Network to support the drive for better perimenopause and menopause awareness and care across the borough.
   ii) Inviting partners who work with the Council as part of the Health

and Wellbeing Board and Safer Rotherham partners, who comprise of some of the borough's largest employers, to adopt workplace 'Menopause Champions' and to support a broader agenda of working towards making Rotherham a 'Menopause Friendly Borough'.

iii) Developing a shared muti-agency action plan with measurable outcomes in support of that aim, including considering inclusion of improvements in menopause information, advice and support in the Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

iv) Working with relevant Council Services, Health Partners and the Voluntary and Community Sector to explore opportunities to secure sustainable long-term funding for menopause initiatives across Rotherham Place.

3. Following submission to Cabinet, that those recommendations within the control and influence of external bodies, are shared with relevant health partners and commissioners for consideration and response.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

The Governance Manager presented the Work Programme for 2026–27 for consideration.

An update was provided on the review into lighting columns - Cut unnecessary red tape. It was noted that the review group would be meeting later that day to consider policies of other authorities, the Council's interim position, and the results of a survey of parish councils.

The survey had opened on 28 May and was due to close on 30 June. As of the previous afternoon, 18 responses had been received, comprising 10 from parish clerks, 3 from chairs or vice-chairs, and 5 from parish councillors. Responses would continue to be monitored and analysed following closure, with findings to be reported back to the review group.

Councillor Baggaley queried whether a date had been set for the Children's Takeover Challenge, noting the importance of scheduling it in advance, particularly to ensure Cabinet Members were able to attend. The Governance Manager reported that work was ongoing with relevant officers regarding the Children's Takeover Challenge. It was noted that the event was being planned for September; however, a topic for scrutiny had not yet been confirmed. Further engagement would take place to progress this and to secure a suitable date. It was indicated that the event would most likely take place on a Wednesday evening to align with the usual Youth Cabinet meeting arrangements, with a typical start time of 5.00 pm.

The Chair advised that all Elected Members had been invited to submit suggestions for the work programme, with a deadline of the following Friday, 12 June 2026, for responses. It was noted that submitted ideas would be reviewed by the Chair and Vice-Chair against agreed criteria and a prioritisation matrix, with the Board making final decisions on those to be progressed. Select Commissions would also be able to engage with officers on appropriate next steps where relevant. Members were reminded to submit any suggestions by the deadline and to copy relevant officers to ensure they were recorded.

Councillor Baggaley sought an update on the item relating to street bin collections scheduled for June/July. It was reported that officers were currently collating the required information following previous discussions, with an update to be circulated to Members in due course. Councillor Baggaley emphasised the importance of the item being considered prior to the summer period, highlighting the need for timely progress.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be approved.

9. WORK IN PROGRESS - SELECT COMMISSIONS

Update from Health Select Commission:

This update was noted as presented within the agenda pack.

Update from Improving Lives Select Commission:

This update was noted as presented within the agenda pack.

Update from Improving Places Select Commission:

This update was noted as presented within the agenda pack.

10. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

The Chair presented the Forward Plan of key decisions, noting that several items were on the agenda. It was proposed that the Health Hub Phase 2 item would not be considered as this was due to be considered by the Health Select Commission in September 2026. It was also proposed to remove the Children and Young People Services School Capital Programme item.

It was noted that the three finance reports would be included on the agenda as separate items but would be considered collectively as a single item, with questions taken across all three as required. Members noted that limited discussion was expected on the financial monitoring report due to the short reporting period.

RESOLVED: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed that the following items would be added to the July agenda as part of OSMB's pre-decision scrutiny work:

- Council Plan 2025 - 2028 & New Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Pre-decision
- Leader Q&A - to be scheduled after Council plan on the agenda.

- Financial Outturn 2025-26 - Pre-decision scrutiny
- Treasury Management Outturn 2025-26 - Pre-decision scrutiny
- Financial Monitoring for May - Pre-decision scrutiny
- Draft Street Trading Policy – Pre-decision scrutiny

11. SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Chair noted that no meetings had taken place since the last update. However, further meetings had been scheduled for June.

12. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no call-in issues.

13. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items.

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Agenda Item 6

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 06 July 2026

Report Title
Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress 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
Chris Paddock, Interim Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement

Report Author(s)
Katie Stead, Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager
Katie.stead@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

In May 2025, the Council adopted a new Council Plan for 2025-30. 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 priorities, a Year Ahead Delivery Plan was developed, which set out the key activities to be delivered over the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2025-26 (and the associated Council Plan performance measures) was approved by Cabinet on 19 May 2025. In line with the previous Council Plan, it was agreed that there would be two monitoring reports published over the year.

Cabinet received the first progress update on 19 January 2026. The second progress report for 2025-26 is attached at Appendix 1. It includes progress on Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions up to 15 June 2026, performance measures at Quarter 4 (January to March 2026), and the year-end overview of the long-term measures of success.

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 the updates on the Council Plan long term measures of success.

4. Note that future progress reports will be presented to Cabinet in January and July 2027.

List of Appendices Included
Appendix 1 – Council Plan Progress Report – Year End Report for 2025/26 (Quarter 4 performance data and progress on Year Ahead Delivery Plan 2025/26).
Appendix 2 – Summary Council Plan Progress Report – Year End Report for 2025/26 (Quarter 4 performance data and progress on Year Ahead Delivery Plan 2025/26).
Appendix 3 – Equality Analysis.
Appendix 4 – Climate Impact Assessment.

Background Papers

Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update considered by Cabinet on 19 January 2026.

Year-End Report on Council Plan 2022-25 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress for 2024-2025 considered by Cabinet on 7 July 2025.

Council Plan 2025-30 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan approved by Full Council on 19 May 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 2025-30 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.

1.2 To enable the Council to work towards the Council Plan outcomes and achieve the commitments, a Year Ahead Delivery Plan is produced annually which sets out the key activities to be delivered and associated performance metrics. The Plan also includes a suite of long-term measures of success which are reported at year end.

1.3 The Council Plan 2025-30 was adopted by Council in May 2025. The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2025/26 is the first of the new Council Plan and was approved by Cabinet on 19 May 2025.

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. This Framework is currently being reviewed to ensure it aligns with the Council Plan 2025-30.

1.5 To ensure that the delivery of actions and their impact is assessed, formal performance reports will be presented at Cabinet meetings twice a year, as agreed. The Council's scrutiny process can consider the reports in line with the Council's normal processes, consistent with previous performance reports.

1.6 Service plans have been produced for Council services, 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 sets out medium-term priorities and actions to make improvements for local people and places. The Plan is framed around the following five outcomes:

- Places are thriving, safe, and clean
- An economy that works for everyone
- Children and young people achieve
- Residents live well
- One Council that listens and learns

2.2 The Council Plan identified 17 priorities to be delivered across the 5 strategic outcomes, including defined differences that will be seen between 2025 and 2030. The Plan also included a suite of 30 long-term measures of success to be reported annually in the year-end progress report. The 2025-26 Year Ahead

Delivery Plan includes 116 priority actions, 27 of which are performance measures, alongside a further 12 social care measures.

2.3 The year-end progress report for 2025/26 (Appendix 1) focuses on the progress made across all Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities to deliver the Council Plan's five strategic outcomes 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.

2.4 The targets for Council Plan performance measures relate to the financial year 2025/26 and are reported here for Quarter 4 (January to March 2026). Data on the long-term measures of success is provided, where available. Appendix 1 includes full details of performance against these measures.

2.5 The year-end progress report (Appendix 1) includes a high-level overview and is then presented by Council Plan outcome, with each thematic section including: achievements and challenges, Year Ahead Delivery Plan trackers, performance scorecards and updates on the associated long-term measures of success. The report also includes wider information, key facts and intelligence, specific case studies and a timeline of key achievements / activities, summarising activity during the second half of the year.

2.6 Consistent with the mid-year progress report provided in January, an additional appendix (Appendix 2) has been prepared to provide a summary of the Council Plan progress report. This is in line with a recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board during its consideration of the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Report in July 2025.

2.7 The Year Ahead Delivery Plan milestone trackers (included in Appendix 1) outline progress against the 89 actions within the Year Ahead Plan. Each action has been rated as follows:

Status	Definition
Complete	The action is fully complete and/or operational.
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.

2.8 As of 15 June 2026, the activities within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan are rated as follows:

- 82% (73) complete
- 2% (2) are delayed by less than 3 months
- 16% (14) will not be met within 3 months of original target date.

2.9 The Year Ahead Delivery Plan also includes a performance tracker (included in Appendix 1), which provides an analysis of the Council's performance against the 27 performance measures and 12 social care measures.

Each of the measures are rated as follows:

Status	Definition
	Measure cannot be assessed this quarter (i.e. annual measure or awaiting publication of data). This will be shown as status N/A when reporting the performance measure status.
	Performance has achieved year-end target.
	Performance is on or above target (social care measures only).
	Performance is not currently on target. High risk that year-end target will not be achieved.
No target.	Information measure targets not applicable (i.e. volume/demand measures where 'good' is neither high or low)

2.10 For the report covering Quarter 4, the status of the performance measures is set out below:

Progress against targets

- Performance has met target – 22 measures (81%)
- Performance has not met target – 5 measures (19%)

2.11 For the report covering Quarter 4, the status of the 12 social care measures is set out below:

Progress against targets

- Performance is on or above target – 7 measures (58%)
- Target cannot be assessed this quarter (i.e. Annual measure or awaiting publication of data) – 2 measures (17%)
- Information measure targets not applicable (i.e. Volume/Demand measures where 'good' is neither high or low) – 3 measures (25%)

2.12 For the report covering Quarter 4, the status of the long-term measures of success is set out below:

Progress against baseline 2024/25

- 22 measures have improved since the baseline (58%)
- 10 measures have not improved since the baseline (26%)
- 6 measures are N/A - do not have data for current reporting period (16%)

2.13 To ensure that the Council Plan continues to be managed effectively, six-monthly progress reports will be produced for Cabinet and made publicly available. The reports will include progress in relation to the actions in the Year Ahead Delivery Plan, performance data relating to associated performance measures and case studies. The year end progress report will also incorporate the annual update on the long-term measures of success. Consistent with the approach used in 2025/26, it is proposed that the 2026/27 mid-year progress report, covering the period April 2026 to September 2026, is reported to Cabinet in January 2027.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 The Council Plan 2025-30 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 reporting publicly on its progress.

3.2 It is recommended that Cabinet notes the overall position in relation to the Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities for 2025-26, performance measures to 31 March 2026 and the long-term measures of success. It is also recommended that Cabinet receives future progress updates in January and July 2027.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 A programme of public consultation and engagement to support the development of the Council Plan 2025-2030 took place between September and November 2024. This included online and postal surveys, focus groups (internal and external), and a series of short interactions and engagement activity at a number of locations across the borough. There were 214 online and postal surveys returned and over 1,960 interactions in total across all methods of engagement.

4.2 The consultation and engagement activity included speaking with voluntary and community groups, which represent protected characteristic groups, as well as attendance at the Parish Council Network, direct engagement with the public and a session 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 Inclusion Strategy.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 This progress report follows the previous report brought to Cabinet in January 2026; together they cover the performance over the whole of the 2025-26 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 Council.

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 to 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. Through this process, clear consideration and application of social value in accordance with the Council's Social Value Policy, the Real Living Wage and other ethical factors will also be required.

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 As this is a progress report there are no specific legal implications arising from this report. However, an effective and embedded Council Plan is a key part of the Council's commitment to ongoing improvement and this requires effective monitoring as to progress.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resource (HR) implications arising specifically from this report. However, successful delivery of the Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan is dependent on maintaining a workforce with the appropriate capacity, skills and capability to deliver the Council's priorities. The Council Plan's focus on being 'One Council that listens and learns' highlights the importance of an engaged, diverse and high-performing workforce, supported through effective workforce planning and the embedding of modern, flexible ways of working.

8.2 Delivery of the Plan will be underpinned by the Council's Workforce Plan, with HR and organisational development (OD) playing a key role in supporting recruitment, retention, skills and leadership development, and addressing workforce pressures in key service areas. HR and OD will also support organisational resilience through employee engagement, wellbeing and equality, diversity and inclusion activity, ensuring the Council is well positioned to adapt to future challenges and deliver its strategic objectives.

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 outcomes of the plan, particularly ‘children and young people achieve’ and ‘residents live well’.

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 Three cross cutting policy drivers run throughout the 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, so no one is left behind. All outcomes aim to meet residents’ and communities’ differentiated needs.

10.3 In addition, the ‘One Council that listens and learns’ outcome includes ‘better customer experience’ which ensures different needs are met. The Council’s commitment to place all customers at the heart of service delivery includes a clear commitment to working with local communities.

10.4 A detailed Equality Analysis is attached at Appendix 3.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 The ‘One Council that listens and learns’ outcome has a focus on reducing harmful levels of carbon emissions to limit the impacts on the climate and the environment. Actions within this outcome encompass plans for the reduction of emissions. The ‘places are thriving, safe and clean’ outcome also includes actions focussed on flood alleviation projects and flood resilience measures for communities in the worst-affected areas of the borough.

11.2 Given that this is a progress report, and implies no direct recommendations or decisions, there are no relevant direct emission impacts to consider. Where progress on certain actions has implied a specific definable impact on emissions, this has been included indicatively and an overall likely impact provided. The majority of larger schemes will have had separate climate impact assessments undertaken as part of their approval process.

11.3 A Climate Impact Assessment is attached at Appendix 4.

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 outcomes 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 The Rotherham Together Partnership's Rotherham Plan 2026-2036 was endorsed by Cabinet on 11 May 2026 and serves as the new overarching partnership plan for the borough. The Rotherham Plan has been designed in a manner that aligns with and complements the Council Plan, setting out partners' joint ambitions to improve outcomes for local people. In June 2026, the plan was launched at a Partnership showcase event at Magna Science and Adventure Centre, which saw around 150 partners and guests in attendance.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The Corporate Strategic Risk Register is aligned to the new Council Plan outcomes and the process of updating and identifying strategic risks is designed to manage risks connected 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 risk registers and the Corporate Strategic Risk Register.

14. Accountable Officers

Fiona Boden, Head of Policy, Performance and Intelligence
Policy, Strategy and Engagement Directorate
Fiona.boden@rotherham.gov.uk

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	John Edwards	19/6/26
Executive Director, Corporate Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	18/06/26
Service Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	18/06/26

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This report is published on the Council's website.

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Appendix 1

COUNCIL PLAN 2025/30 AND YEAR AHEAD DELIVERY PLAN

Year-End Progress Report

Period: Quarter 4 2025-26 performance data and progress on the Year Ahead Delivery Plan

www.rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Contents

1. Introduction

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.

Three cross-cutting policy drivers run through the plan, informing the Council's way of working and helping to achieve better outcomes:

Expanding opportunities for all

We will target the most help at those who need it, as we open up new oportuntities, so no one is left behind.

Recognising and building on our strengths to make positive change

We will harness the knowledge and skills of community groups and local residents and make the best use of local assets, including buildings, parks and public spaces.

Focussing on prevention

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.

Informed by a programme of public and stakeholder engagement, the Council Plan is framed around five strategic outcomes:

To ensure delivery of the Council Plan, annual Year Ahead Delivery Plans are produced. The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for the 2025/26 financial year covers the first year of the Council Plan 2025-30.

This is the year-end progress report for 2025/26. The report focuses on progress made in delivering the 89 priority actions and meeting the 27 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan that best demonstrate progress in achieving the five strategic outcomes

within the Council Plan. It 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. The report has been designed to ensure that progress on the Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions is as up to date as possible at the time of publication, whilst performance measures information relates to Quarter 4 (January to March 2026),

This year-end report also incorporates measures relating to the Council's long-term success. These indicators will be tracked annually over the five-year duration of the Council Plan and provide a broader view of progress beyond short-term performance cycles. Long-term measures are important as they help to demonstrate the impact of policies and interventions and ensure that the Council remains focused on outcomes that improve the quality of life for residents in a sustainable and meaningful way.

2. Status definitions

Year Ahead Delivery Plan definitions for actions at year end

Status	Definition
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

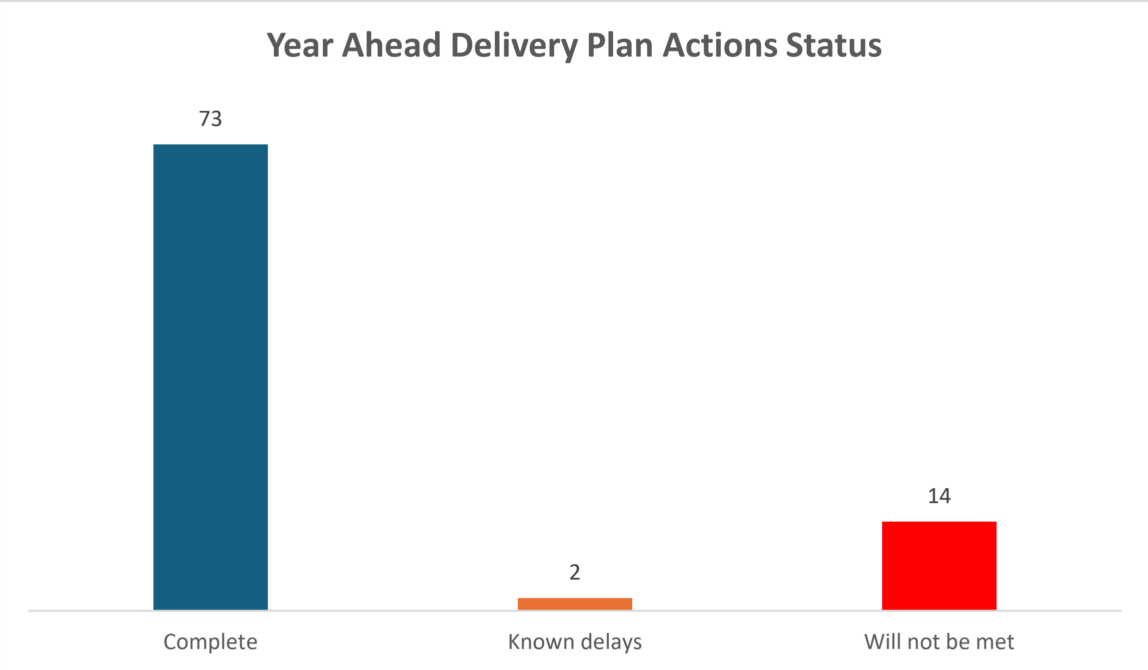
Year Ahead Delivery Plan definitions for performance measures at year end

Status	Definition
	Measure cannot be assessed this quarter (i.e. annual measure or awaiting publication of data). This will be shown as status N/A when reporting the performance measure status.
	Performance is on or above target (social care measures only).
	Performance has achieved year-end target.
	Performance is not currently on target. The year-end target has not been achieved.
No target.	Information measure targets not applicable (i.e. volume/demand measures where ‘good’ is neither high or low)

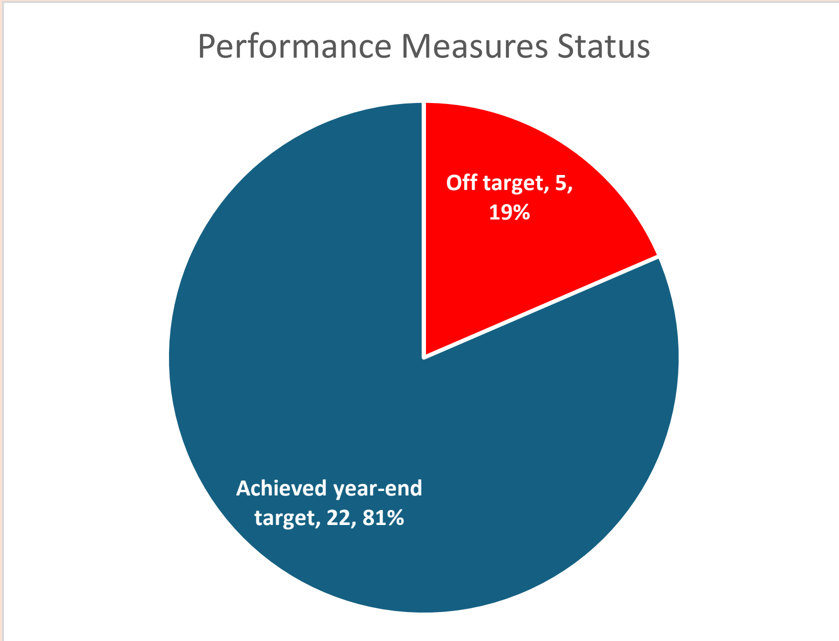
3. Overview of performance and progress

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.

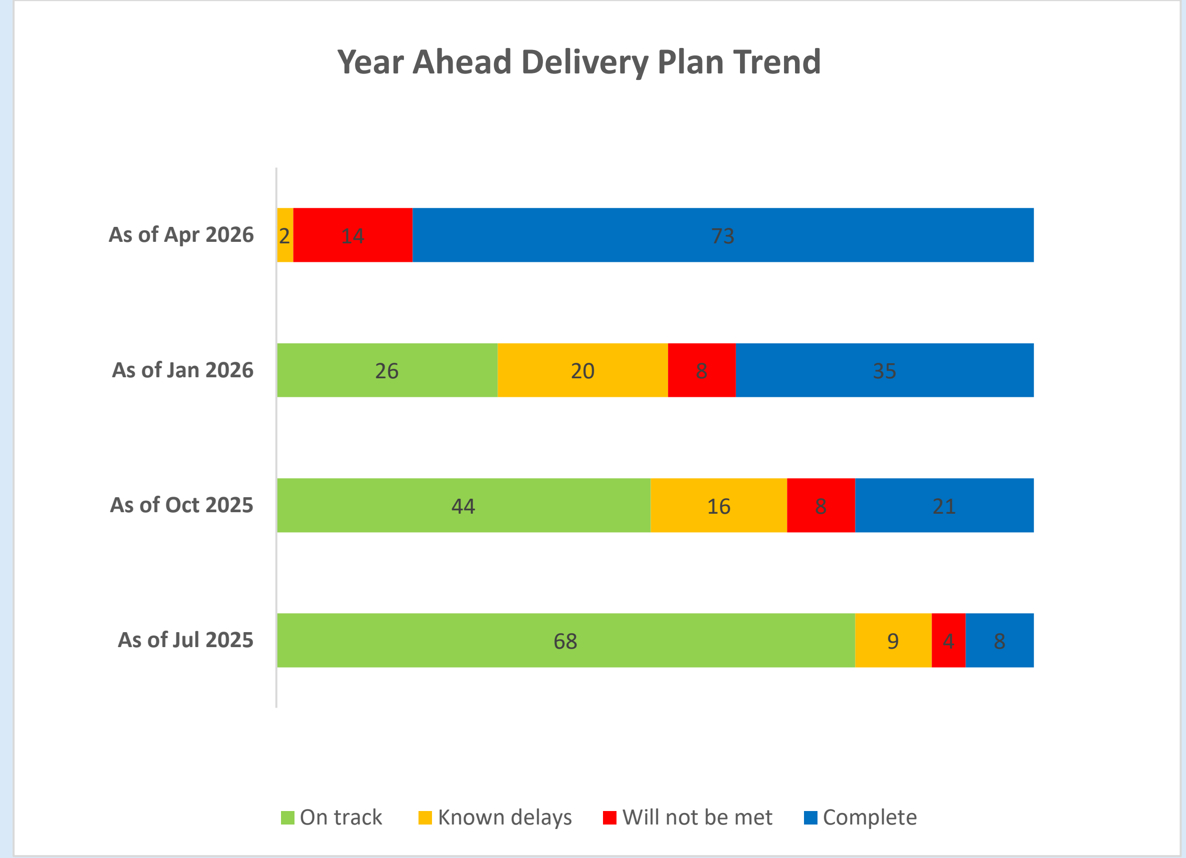
Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones



Performance Measures



Page 46



Year Ahead Delivery Plan Trend
As of Apr 2026
2
14
73
As of Jan 2026
26
20
8
35
As of Oct 2025
44
16
8
21
As of Jul 2025
68
9
4
8
On track
Known delays
Will not be met
Complete

Page 47

4. Finance update

The table below provides details on some of the key areas of the Council's budget 2025/26, indicating how the Council spent its budget against its five priority outcomes.

Themes	Commentary on financial performance of key areas of the budget
Places are thriving, safe and clean	In October, war memorial and civic centre improvements were approved to progress to design stage under the £4million Our Places Fund investment. Work is underway on regeneration projects in Wath and Dinnington.
	Works are complete at the newly opened café at Rother Valley Country Park.
	Revenue investments have created new Street Safe and Road Cleansing and Fly Tipping teams.
An economy that works for everyone	Capital investments have led to a series of improvements in our business centres.
	In the summer, Cabinet endorsed the submission of the Gateway station masterplan and funding was allocated to initiate property negotiations.
	Employment solutions service has helped people into work.
Children and young people achieve	A baby pack has been delivered to every family that wants one to provide support to children at the start of their lives.
	Clifton Park watersplash opened in the summer and the Children's Capital of Culture has delivered an array of activities throughout the year culminating in the Birthday Party.
Residents live well	The Energy Crisis Support scheme has been extended using the Household Support Fund, providing a cash grant of up to £250 per household.
	There have been 114 additional Council homes delivered.
	Additional temporary homes have been used to reduce the need for emergency hotel accommodation to combat homelessness.
One Council	The Council receives in excess of 300,000 calls a year into its main contact centre. Work continues at pace to reduce call waiting times and to improve and modernise the way that members of the public can contact the Council to provide better value for money and enhance the customer experience.

2025/26 Revenue Budget Investments Tracking

The table below provides a progress update on the 2025/26 revenue budget investments approved via Council in March 2025, as part of the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. 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	2025/26 Investment £'000	Expenditure to date £'000	% Spent To Date	Current Forecast Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Update Commentary
Places are thriving, safe and clean							
25/26 INV1	Street Safe Team	570	225	39%	225	-345	Underspend is due to delayed recruitment. New approved band L started in September 2025. The band J post was filled in November 2025. From the 10 new Enforcement Officer posts, 6 started in November 2025, 3 in January 2026 and 1 post remains vacant. Officers have been appointed on Band F not Band G as anticipated.
25/26 INV3	Road Marking	100	97	97%	97	-3	Scheduled works completed at 16 locations.
25/26 INV4	Street Cleansing & Fly Tipping improvements	307	137	45%	137	-170	Underspend is mainly due to delayed recruitment; 4 x Band D posts recruited July. Band J posts not filled in the current financial year.

An economy that works for everyone							
25/26 INV2	Employment Solutions Team	718	648	90%	649	-69	Underspend is due to delayed recruitment and actual salaries lower than budgeted.
Residents live well							
25/26 INV5	Cost of Living Support	188	188	100%	188	0	A range of support services for residents - £65k for school uniform vouchers, £92k for pension credit advisor extension (via Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)), £30k for Foodworks VCS support. Delivered in full.
One Council that listens and learns							
25/26 INV6	Customer Services Call Handlers	62	37	60%	48	-14	This investment increased call handler capacity over peak periods of call demand, to reduce the amount of time customers were waiting and provide a better experience. 2 x Band D officers were in post from 7 July 2025.
Total Investment Proposals		**1,945**	**1,332**	**68%**	**1,344**	**-601**	

5. TIMELINE OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Places are thriving, safe and clean | An economy that works for everyone | Children and young people achieve | Residents live well | One Council that listens and learns

2025-26

OCT

- The Rotherham Together Partnership Stakeholder event was held at Skills Street, Gulliver's Valley Resort.
- The Selective Licensing 2026-2031 report was approved by Cabinet.
- Established the Rural Verge and Gateway Team, who have successfully cleared 161 sites, collecting 3,442 bags of waste.

NOV

- Council agreed the new Community Safety Strategy, focused on enhancing public safety, protecting vulnerable individuals and reducing anti-social behaviour and crime across the borough.
- Rotherham Town Centre Christmas Light Switch on provided an evening of entertainment for families.
- Heavenly Desserts opened at Forge Island.
- A member's session was held to embed a strengths-based working approach across the Council, with 11 elected members in attendance.
- The 'Regeneration Plan' was approved at Cabinet and submitted to Government.

DEC

- The Housing Allocations Policy went live, setting out how the Council will help those who need housing the most find suitable homes and how properties are let in a fair way.information, advice, and raise awareness.
- The Employment and Skills Strategy was endorsed by Cabinet; delivery is overseen by the Employment and Skills Board of the Rotherham Together Partnership.
- The Council's Children and Young People's Services were rated 'Outstanding' overall following Ofsted's most recent inspection. from 2-8 June.
- Launched the Street Safe Team, providing a visible presence of uniformed staff in the town centre, Dinnington, Wath, Maltby and Swinton.
- Cabinet approved the inclusion of Rotherham within the SYMCA Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funded programme.

JAN

- The Department for Transport approved funding for the Rotherham Gateway (Mainline Station) to progress to a Full Business Case.
- Minor works started on the first phase of a Health Hub in the town centre.
- Holocaust Memorial Day took place at Clifton Park.

FEB

- Snail Yard pocket park in the town centre opened to the public.
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Hub, based at the Eric Manns building and ran by Rotherham Parents Forum Limited opened.
- Opened the Lakeside Café at Thrybergh Country Park after its revamp.
- The Selective Licensing scheme commenced.
- The demolition of Wath library began.
- The Inclusion Strategy was agreed by Cabinet, which outlines the Council's vision to create an inclusive borough where opportunity is extended to everyone.
- Dinnington regeneration work began, starting with the demolition of burnt-out buildings on Dinnington High Street.

MAR

- Launch of the Don Valley Corridor (DVC) Investment Zone, alongside Sheffield City Council and the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority.
- The Council's Adult Social Care Service was rated as 'good' following an assessment by the Care Quality Commission – the joint-second top scoring authority in Yorkshire and the Humber.
- Submitted a bid to The Cruff Foundation for a multi-use games area by Kimberworth Park Partnership.
- The Birthday Party was held in the town centre to mark the closing celebrations of the Children's Capital of Culture year. 8,300 people were in attendance.
- Roots, the Rotherham Street Carnival was held in the town centre with lots of children and families in attendance.
- A programme of events was held to celebrate International Women's Day 2026, focused on topics such as women's health in the workplace and male allyship.
- Work started at Swinton, as part of the Our Places Fund.

APR

- Cabinet approved the new Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2026/27.
- St George's Day event was held at Clifton Park, with over 2,500 people in attendance.
- Completed improvement works at the play area at Thrybergh Country Park.
- Launched the Council's new consultation software, Citizens Space.
- Cabinet endorsed the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026/27-2028/29.
- The new Waterfront Café and events space at Rother Valley Country Park opened
- The new tram-train stop at Magna opened to the public.
- Completed 800th new Council home on 30 April (out of target of 1000 between 2018 and 2027)

MAY

- Consultation on draft designs for City Regional Sustainable Settlement active travel and bus priority on Fitzwilliam Road and Broom Road commenced.
- Completed improvement works at Rosehill Park Play Area.
- Castle View Day Service was formally handover over to Adult Social Care.

JUN

- Construction of the Templeborough Business Zone Project began.
- Castle View Day Centre opened.
- The Rotherham Together Partnership showcase event was held at Magna to launch the new Rotherham Plan 2026-2036.

6. Theme updates

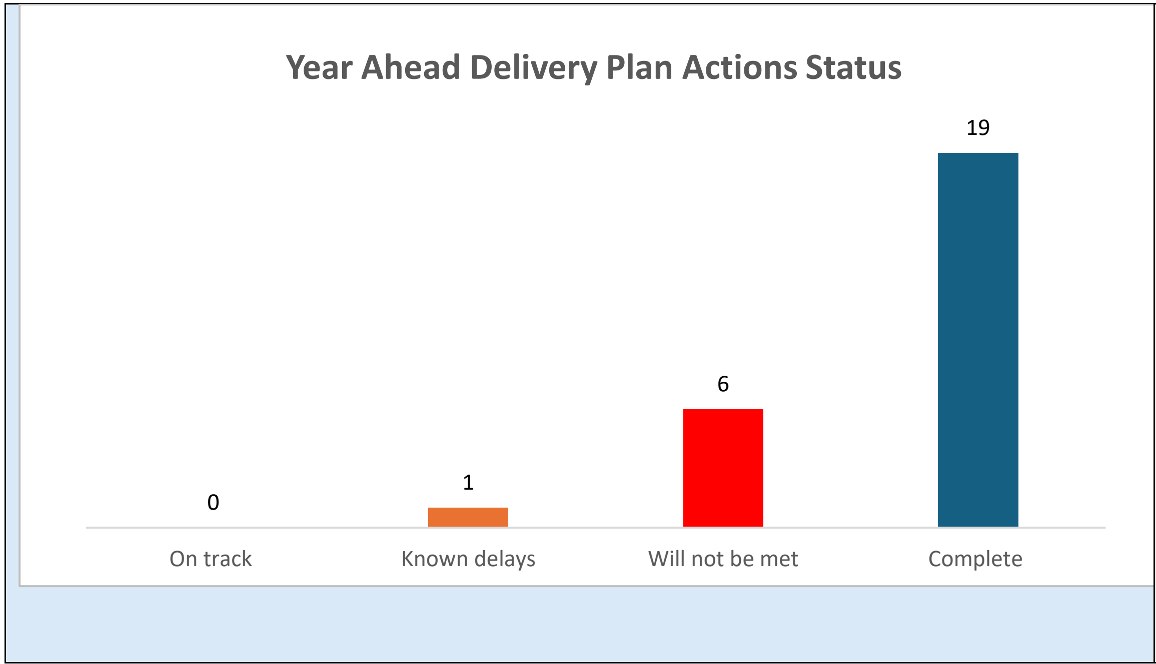
Outcome – Places are thriving, safe and clean		
Council Plan Priorities	**The differences you've seen in the first year of the Council Plan**	**The differences you will see over 2026/27**
Helping people to feel safe in their community	• Launched the Street Safe Team who actively patrol the town centre, Maltby, Wath, Dinnington and Swinton. • The Community Safety Strategy 2025–2028 has been approved, which focuses on safer neighbourhoods, tackling violence and exploitation, and preventing offending while building resilience. • Designs for road safety schemes are progressing across 12 wards, with most on track for delivery from Autumn 2026.	• Commencement of on-site works for identified road safety schemes, alongside development of the first 12 Ward Road Safety Plans ahead of public consultation in 2027/28. • Delivery of at least 50 enforcement interventions by the Street Safe team, including formal warnings, Fixed Penalty Notices and statutory notices.
Creating vibrant communities	• Construction is underway in Swinton, and work is starting in Maltby in August 2026. Public consultation on upgrades to civic centres and cenotaphs was completed in February 2026, with designs now progressing. • A strong programme of events has been delivered, attracting 157,504 attendees (up 3.2%). • Detailed designs have been completed for Dinnington High Street, and demolition of Wath library commenced in February 2026.	• Completion of the Maltby and Swinton schemes, and progress delivering cenotaphs and Memorials improvements and public realm improvements to civic centres. • Delivery of a varied programme of cultural events across the borough, supporting opportunities for residents and visitors to engage in community activities. • Completion of the demolition of Wath Library, alongside continued progress on the construction of the Dinnington High Street regeneration project.

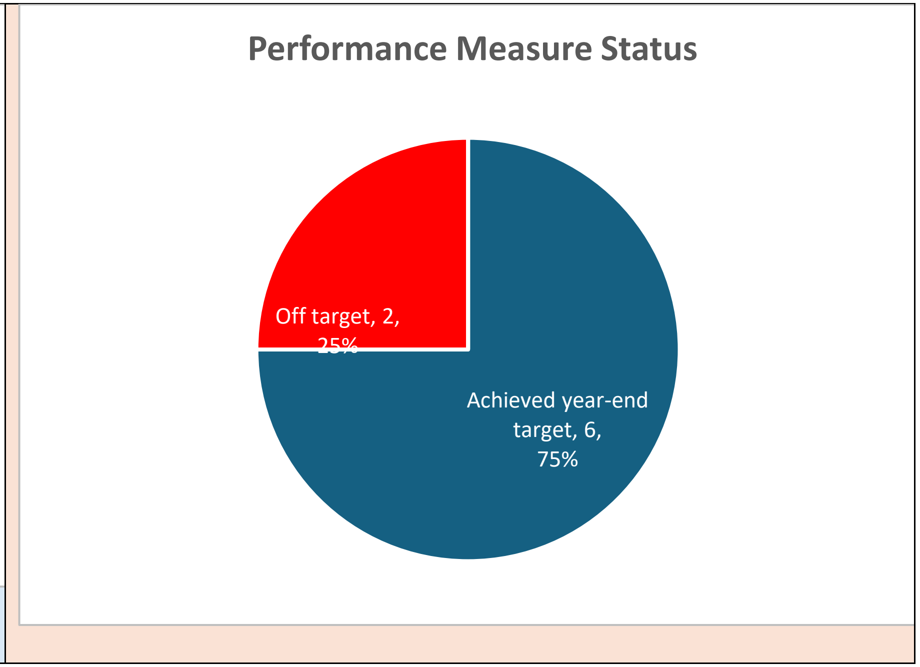
		• Investment in community facilities including: The Black Hut, Clifton Learning Centre, Oaklea Retreat, The Meeting Place, the United Multifaith Community Centre, Eastwood Community Centre, and Artworks.
Better public spaces	• £11.1m total investment in the cafe facilities at Thrybergh and Rother Valley Country Parks. • Ongoing investment in road maintenance with 328 schemes delivered, resurfacing 35.6 miles (57km) of roads and 8.1 miles (13km) of footpaths. The number of potholes has more than halved from 34,000 potholes in 2014/15 compared to just 15,521 in 2025/26. 12.23 tonnes of waste have been removed by a new Roadside Cleaning Team across 222km of roads. • Flood alleviation scheme designs progressing at Catcliffe and Whiston Brook.	• Expansion of the Council's roadside cleaning service through recruitment to the Phase 2 team and investment in new machinery, supporting the continued maintenance of green spaces to a high standard. • Commencement of works for the Whiston Brook flood alleviation scheme, supporting improved flood resilience for local communities. • Delivery of prioritised minor transport improvements brought forward by Ward Members and communities.
Revitalising the town centre	• Construction is underway on Riverside Gardens and Corporation Street. • Work has commenced on the first phase of a town centre health hub. • The pocket park at Snail Yard opened in February. • New town centre housing designs are progressing ahead of Cabinet in July.	• Opening of the new Rotherham Central Library to the public. • Complete the construction of the Outdoor Market, alongside the works at Riverside Gardens and Corporation Street. • Completion of public consultation to inform the development of the draft Town Centre masterplan.

	• Rotherham's 'Regeneration Plan' has been submitted in response to the Government's new grant fund 'Plan for Neighbourhoods'.	

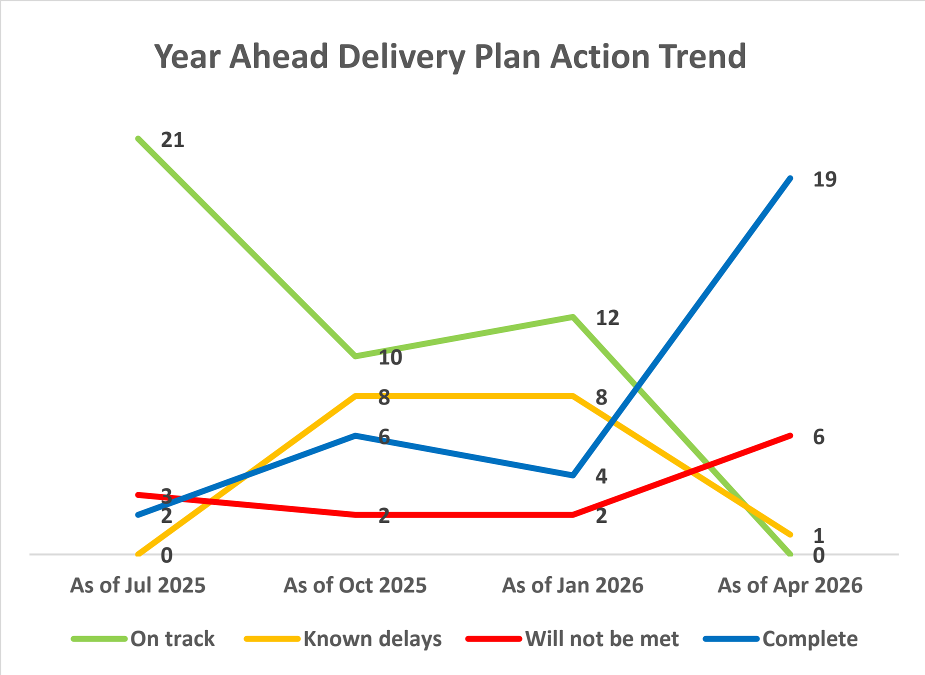
Headlines – evidencing our progress

To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 26 priorities/actions and 8 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress:





Page 54



Highlights – Achievements and Challenges

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to the priority actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Places are thriving, safe and clean
Achievements - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities and Performance Measures that have been completed since Quarter 2: **P4** Delivered 37 groups sessions that reached 991 children and young people to help tackle hate crime incidents through the Remedi 'Step Up, Beat Hate' Restorative Hate Crime Project. **P5** Throughout 2025/26, a total of 1,156 formal enforcement actions (Community Protection Notices and Community Protection Warnings) had been issued against a year-end target of 1,000 *(higher is better).* **P7** To date, 10 ward reports have been presented at Council. Remaining ward reports will be presented throughout the next two years up to early 2028.

P10 Successfully delivered a range of cultural events including UPLIFT Urban Sports Festival, The Birthday Party and annual Civic events. The estimated attendance for events hosted in 2025/26 was 157,504. **P12** Work started on the demolition of Wath library on 9 February 2026. **P13** The Cohesion Grant Fund was delivered throughout 2025/26 by a wide range of partners across the borough, supporting diverse activities. This included a small grants programme that funded various community events to celebrate St George's Day. **P15** Delivered 14.47km of footway improvements, through £1.66m of investment. **P16** Completed redevelopment works at Rother Valley Country, including the new Waterfront Café which opened to the public on 17 April 2026. **P17** Completed redevelopment works at Thrybergh Country Park, with a soft launch takin place on 26 January, before formally opening in February 2026. **P18** Progress has been made with the Catcliffe Flood Alleviation Scheme and a delivery partner has been appointed to develop the design. **P22** Completed the procurement of 16 new Refuse Collection Vehicles. **P23a** 81.59% of the local 'principal' road network is classified as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a year-end target of 80% *(higher is better).* **P23b** 80.46% of the local 'non-principal' road network is classified as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a year-end target of 77% *(higher is better)*. **P23c** 70.97% of the local 'unclassified' road network in Quarter 4 2025/26 was classified as 'green status' (do not require repair), against a target of 65% *(higher is better).* **P24** 68 effective enforcement actions for fly tipping were issued throughout 2025/26, against a year-end target of 60 (higher is better). **P26** 710 trees were planted across the borough throughout 2025/26, against a target of 500 *(higher is better)*. **P29** The pocket park at Snail Yard opened to the public in February 2026. **P30** Contractor appointed and minor works started at the first phase of a Health-Hub in January 2026, providing health-based services in the town centre. **P31** The development of plans to RIBA Stage 1 for the next phase of major housing in the town centre has been completed, ahead of consideration by Cabinet in July 2026.
Challenges - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities that will not be met within three months of the original target date, and Performance Measures that have not achieved target within 2025/26: **P3** develop and consult on tranche 2 Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety programme and have designs ready for delivery, is now due to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27. **P6** 19 residential rehabilitation placements to receive support for drug/alcohol misuse were started in total during 2025/26, against a target of 33 *(higher is better).*

P8 The refresh of the Thriving Neighbourhood Strategy has been delayed due to the Assistant Chief Executive vacancy. Two complementary strategies will now be developed, the Neighbour Leadership Strategy (due to Cabinet in Quarter 2 2026/27) and the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy (due to Cabinet in Quarter 3 2026/27). **P9** Work on site for Swinton's Our Places Fund scheme began in March and work on Maltby's scheme is now due to begin in Quarter 2 2026/27. **P14** as part of the Council's investment in community facilities across the borough, works commenced on Oaklea Retreat in June 2026, works at the meeting place are due to start in July and options are being developed for the Black Hut, informed by the completion of the required surveys. **P19** Some flood alleviation schemes are experiencing delays. Works at Whiston are scheduled to begin in June 2026, while designs for the Eel Mires and Kilnhurst schemes are expected to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27, with Environment Agency approvals anticipated in Quarter 3 2026/27. **P21** The procurement of all vehicles within the Fleet Replacement Plan is delayed and is anticipated to be completed by the end of September 2026. **P25** The provisional 2025/26 year-end figure for the proportion of household waste recycled and composted was 43.9%, against the year-end target of 45% *(higher is better).* **P28** Complete construction works to the Outdoor Covered Market - construction has been delayed due to a requirement for design changes. The works will now be complete by the end of June and will be open to the public from the 10th July 2026.

Narrative – the bigger picture

The 'Places are thriving, safe and clean' outcome is about creating neighbourhoods where people feel safe, proud, and connected, while ensuring public spaces are well maintained and vibrant.

A range of actions have been delivered to improve community safety. Following its launch in December, the Street Safe Team has maintained a visible presence in the town centre, Dinnington, Wath, Maltby and Swinton, providing reassurance, deterring anti-social behaviour, supporting police activity through intelligence sharing and assisting vulnerable individuals. The Community Safety Strategy (2025–2028) was adopted in November 2025, focusing on safer neighbourhoods, tackling violence, abuse and exploitation, and preventing offending. Preventative activity has also continued through the Remedi 'Step Up, Beat Hate' project, which engaged 991 children and young people and delivered 98 targeted one-to-one interventions for those at risk of perpetrating hate crime.

Progress has continued in creating vibrant communities. Ward plans aligned to local priorities are being delivered, with ten ward reports presented to Council, strengthening accountability. Regeneration activity has progressed with the demolition of Wath library beginning to make way for new facilities and the demolition of burnt-out buildings on Dinnington High Street in February. A programme of cultural and civic events, including Roots Street Carnival, St George's Day and Children's Capital of Culture activity, has attracted over 157,000 attendances, supporting community pride and inclusion. The Community Cohesion Grant Fund has enabled locally led initiatives, including activities linked to St George's Day. Delivery of the Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety programme and the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy have been delayed into 2026/27.

Investment in public spaces has delivered significant improvements while responding to pressures from extreme weather and infrastructure demand. The Highway Repair Programme completed repairs to 14.47km of footways through £1.66m of investment, improving accessibility and safety. Major parks developments have been completed at Thrybergh and Rother Valley Country Parks, including the new Waterfront Café and event space. The Roadside Cleaning Team, operational since October 2025, is delivering a dedicated rural verge cleaning programme. Flood alleviation work has progressed at Catcliffe with a delivery partner appointed to progress the design and at Whiston Brook, where works are due to commence in 2026/27. Preparatory work continues at Eel Mires Dyke and Kilnhurst. Fleet replacement and refuse vehicle procurement are progressing but have experienced delays, with revised timelines now extending into 2026 and 2027.

Work to revitalise the town centre has continued. Snail Yard pocket park opened in February 2026, and initial works began in January 2026 on a new Health Hub, contributing to increased town centre activity and accessibility. The Council also submitted its Regeneration Plan to the Government's 'Plan for Neighbourhoods' fund in November 2025, positioning the borough for future investment. However, some projects have been delayed, including the Outdoor Covered Market, where construction is now due to be completed in June, before opening in July.

Year Ahead Delivery Plan tracker

Places are thriving, safe and clean					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
P1	**Helping people to feel safe in their community**	Launch the Street Safe Team to provide a visible presence of uniformed staff in the town centre, Dinnington, Wath, Maltby and Swinton.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Street Safe initiative in Rotherham has begun delivering tangible results since the appointment of a Community Safety and Protection Manager in September 2025 and a Street Safe Coordinator in November. The team was launched in December 2025, providing a visible, uniformed presence that reassures the public and deters anti-social behaviour. Despite some early operational challenges, such as technical issues with body-worn video, the officers have already made a significant impact. Their intelligence sharing has contributed to police arrests for drug offences, and they have provided welfare support to vulnerable individuals, including escalating a high-risk domestic abuse case for multi-agency intervention. These actions demonstrate the value of the initiative in improving safety, tackling persistent issues like substance misuse and environmental concerns and ensuring collaborative working across services.

P2		Agree a new Community Safety Strategy for 2025-2028.	Quarter 3	Complete	The new Community Safety Strategy for 2025-2028 was endorsed by Cabinet on 15 September 2025 and agreed at Council on 5 November 2025. The Safer Rotherham Partnership has used an evidence-based approach to agree the new priorities, drawing on analysis of partnership crime and community safety data and the outcomes of a comprehensive programme of consultation to capture the views of key stakeholders, including people who live, visit or work in Rotherham. The Strategy sets out three key priorities for the Safer Rotherham Partnership including safer neighbourhoods, tackling violence, abuse and exploitation and preventing offending and building resilience.
P3		Develop and consult on tranche 2 Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety programme and have designs ready for delivery.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	There are schemes across 12 wards included in tranche 2 of the Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety programme across the borough. Currently, 8 of these schemes are with design consultants where they are being developed to detailed design stage, prior to being issued for construction in Quarter 3 2026/27, with the delay in securing these contracts leading to the delay on the action. Ahead of this, consultation will take place to ascertain if Traffic Regulation Orders or Road Hump notices are required.

					Two schemes, Sitwell and Rotherham East, are linked to the larger City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) project due to their location. The action is now due to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27.
P4		Tackle hate crime incidents and the driving factors of hate crime through the delivery of education and engagement group and individual sessions: • 600 children and young people to attend group sessions • 55 one to one sessions.	Quarter 4	Complete	The Remedi 'Step Up, Beat Hate' Restorative Hate Crime Project is an important aspect of the Safer Rotherham Partnership's strategy to prevent and address hate crime. Offering one-to-one sessions for young people and adults who are involved in or at risk of perpetrating hate crime, as well as delivering hate crime awareness workshops to youth groups across Rotherham, it aims to support the Partnership's agreed priorities. Throughout 2025/26, 37 group sessions were delivered, reaching 991 children and young people. 98 one-to-one interventions were delivered to individuals involved in or at risk of perpetrating hate crime. Delivery was consistent across the year, with the highest volume of group outreach in Quarter 3. The project supports Safer Rotherham Partnership priorities through both preventative group work and targeted restorative interventions.

P5 P6		Performance measures – see below			
P7	**Creating vibrant communities**	Delivery of ward plans through ward reports being reported to Council from July 2025, which have been informed by local communities.	Quarter 4	Complete	Reports from the following ten wards have been presented at Council: • Anston & Woodsetts • Aston & Todwick • Aughton & Swallownest • Boston Castle • Bramley & Ravenfield • Brinsworth • Dalton & Thrybergh • Dinnington • Greasbrough • Hellaby & Maltby West The remaining ward reports will be presented throughout the next two years.
P8		Refresh the Thriving Neighbourhood Strategy which will reflect the Council's continued approach towards working with local communities and the further integration of locality-based services.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Delayed due to the Assistant Chief Executive vacancy. A review of the approach to this area has been undertaken to ensure that the strategy ensures a proper focus on the work of Ward Members in their communities and how this relates to the Council's ambition around Thriving Neighbourhoods. Two complementary strategies will now be developed: • Neighbourhood Leadership Strategy – focused on the role of members in

					their wards and how they are supported. This is due to be presented to Cabinet in Quarter 2 2026/27. • Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy – focused on how the Council and partners will integrate and target services at a Locality (North, Central and South), ward and neighbourhood level by using data, taking a strengthened based approach and maximising the opportunity to involve communities in the co-production of service delivery, projects and initiatives. This is due to be presented to Cabinet in Quarter 3 2026/27.
P9		Implement Phase 1 of the Our Places Fund by starting work on the Swinton & Maltby schemes.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Swinton The scheme is now underway. The site set up took place on 31 March 2026 and works have now started on site. Maltby The Maltby scheme has been delayed due to additional funding, increased scope and design changes requested by Rotherham Council and start on site is now expected in Quarter 2 2026/27. Phase 2 of the Our Places Fund includes upgrades to civic centres and cenotaphs. Consultation on these schemes concluded on 5 February 2026, and designs are progressing.
P10		Deliver cultural events in varied locations throughout	Quarter 4	Complete	This year's events programme has now been delivered, this included:

		the borough, including such events as: • Rotherham Show • Signals Festival • Uplift • WoW Rotherham • Christmas Lights' Switch On • Support for ward-based community galas and festivals.			• The annual Rotherham Show which attracted 95,000 visitors over two days. • Children's Capital of Culture events including the Skate Park at the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) show at Wentworth and the School Baton Relay which involved more than 80 schools. • Bonfire Night which welcomed in excess of 12,000 to Clifton Park to enjoy the spectacular firework displays. • Delivery of the annual Civic and Town events including UPLIFT Urban Sports Festival, Christmas Lights' Switch On and Armed Forces Day. Events across the year attracted an estimated total audience of 157,504, an uplift of 3.2% on the previous year. Accessibility statements are prepared for all events to ensure inclusivity.
P11		Appoint a contractor to undertake Stage 4 designs for the Dinnington High Street regeneration project.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Council is now leading on the Stage 4 designs. Stage 4 designs were completed late November 2025.
P12		Start work on the demolition of Wath library to make way for new facilities.	Quarter 3	Complete	Work started on 9 February 2026.

P13		Support communities across the borough through the delivery of the Community Cohesion Grant fund.	Quarter4	Complete	The Cohesion Grant fund was delivered by a range of partners across the borough. This included a broad range of activity, bringing different communities together around different shared activities and interests. Given the Council's commitment to marking St George's day, some of this activity was re-designed to provide an opportunity to boost civic pride in place and therefore was completed by 4 May. This included funding through a small grants programme, a range of events to celebrate St George's day across the borough.
P14		To invest £300k in community facilities across the borough to sustain and increase the participation, activities and engagement within them. This includes the Black Hut and Oaklea Retreat.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The Black Hut Work is progressing on surveys and design development, with two options currently being considered. These are either refurbishing the existing building or demolishing it and replacing it with a new modular type unit. A final decision will be made once all surveys have been completed, including bat surveys scheduled for 2 July 2026. Design proposals will then be shared with stakeholders before procurement activities commence. Oaklea Retreat Works commenced 8 June with a current programme of four weeks. Sandersons Building Services have been awarded the contract to undertake windows, asbestos removal and general refurbishment.

					Completion is forecasted by the end of Quarter 2 2026/27. <u>The Meeting Place</u> Sanderson Building Services have been awarded the contract to undertake windows, asbestos removal and general refurbishment. Work will start on site the 15th July 2026 to fit in with a further tenant request. It has been agreed that the flooring will be carried out as a priority, allowing the centre to open whilst other works are carried out.
P15	**Better public spaces**	Invest £2 million into footway improvements across the borough to deliver 11km of footway repairs.	Quarter 4	Complete	As part of the Highway Repair Programme 2025/26, footway repairs were undertaken across the borough. A total of 14.47km of repairs were made, with a total expenditure of £1,665,315.
P16		Complete redevelopment works at Rother Valley Country Park.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Waterfront Café and event space opened on the 17 April 2026.
P17		Complete redevelopment works at Thrybergh Country Park.	Quarter 4	Complete	Work started on site in August 2025 and completed in December 2025. Redevelopment works included accessible pathways, new play facilities for children and the redeveloped café which opened on 12 February 2026.
P18		Progress the Catcliffe Flood Alleviation Scheme by engaging a delivery partner to progress the design.	Quarter 4	Complete	A report was presented to Cabinet in November 2025. Tender documents were issued in March 2026 to begin engagement with the market to

					deliver the project. Design proposals were received in response. Following the evaluation process, the contract was awarded on the 18th of June 2026 to progress the design work for the scheme.
P19		Reach shovel ready status on Whiston Brook, Eel Mires Dyke and Kilnhurst flood alleviation schemes.	Quarter 2	Will not be met	The delivery of these three complex flood alleviation schemes requires access to land owned by third parties. The site investigations and design have been delayed on all three projects due to the requirement to obtain formal approval to carry out site investigation and/or alter existing topography. The Whiston Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme is progressing. The contract for construction has now been awarded and the land purchases, which are essential for this scheme, are in the final phase of being secured. The works are due to commence on site in Quarter 1 2026/27, with a proposed 14-month delivery period. The design work in principle for both Eel Mires Dyke and Kilnhurst Flood Alleviation Schemes are both due to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27. Approvals from the Environment Agency are expected by Quarter 3 2026/27.

P20		Establish the additional Roadside Cleaning Team.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Roadside Cleaning Team were established in October 2025, with the rural verge programme commencing in October 2025. Throughout 2025/26, the team successfully completed 161 sites covering 222.44km of roads. During this period, the team collected 3,442 bags of waste, amounting to a total of 12.23 tonnes removed.
P21		Complete the procurement of all vehicles within the Fleet Replacement Plan.	Quarter 3	Will not be met	23 vehicles have been received, with contracts in place for a further two. One additional vehicle is awaiting contract approval. There are 11 vehicles currently progressing through procurement, with business cases and specifications submitted. A further four are awaiting service approval of their business cases. 62 vehicles are under review by the electric vehicle (EV) working group, which is assessing how electric vehicles will be supported across depot sites. Three vehicles are currently on hold while the remaining 13 are in the early stages of being scoped for replacement. Procurement will now be completed by the end of September 2026.

P22		Complete the procurement of the Refuse Collection Vehicles.	Quarter 3	Complete	The procurement of 16 new Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) has now been fully procured and awarded, with delivery times to be confirmed.
P23a P23b P23c P24 P25 P26		Performance measures – see below			
P27	**Revitalising the Town Centre**	Start work on Riverside Gardens and Corporation St public realm works.	Quarter 1	Complete	Work began on Riverside Gardens and Corporation Street in May 2025.
P28		Complete construction works to the Outdoor Covered Market.	Quarter 4	Known delays	The construction of the outdoor market has been delayed due to a requirement for design changes. The works will now be complete by the end of June and will be open to the public from the 10th July 2026.
P29		Complete landscaping works to the pocket park at Snail Yard.	Quarter 3	Complete	Opened to the public in February 2026.
P30		Start works on the first phase of a Health Hub providing health-based services in the town centre.	Quarter 3	Complete	Minor works began 20 January 2026.
P31		Complete development of plans to the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stage 1 for the next phase of	Quarter 2	Complete	Originally delayed enabling the addition of another site. Initial designs are being developed in preparation for presentation to and consideration by Cabinet in July 2026.

		major housing in the town centre.			
P32		Submit Rotherham's 'Regeneration Plan' in response to the Government's new grant fund 'Plan for Neighbourhoods' (formerly known as Long Term Plan for Towns).	Quarter 3	Complete	The 'Regeneration Plan' was approved at Cabinet on 17 November 2025 and submitted to the Government on the 27 November 2025.

Performance measures

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year End	Progress Update	Rag Rating
P5	Issue 1,000 formal enforcement actions to help address anti-social behaviour in communities.	High	1,124	1,000	211	354	270	321	1,156	In Quarter 4, there have been 321 combined enforcement actions (Community Protection Notices (CPNs) and Community Protection Warnings (CPWs)). This is an increase of 51 when compared to Q3 (270) and a decrease when compared with Q4 24/25 (461) by 140. CPNs have decreased by 2 in Q4 (52) when compared with Q3 (54) and have decreased by 9 when compared with Q4 24-25 (61). CPWs have increased by 53 in Q4 (269) when compared with Q3 (216) but have decreased by 131 when	

										compared with Q4 24-25 (400). At the end of Q4 a total combined number of enforcements issued was 1,156 which is 156 above the target. The issuing of CPN and CPW notices has been more consistent this year than in previous years. Some of the CPN & CPW figures which were reported at Q1, Q2 and Q3 have been amended here to reflect the data cleansing process which was carried out in recent week.	
P6	33 adults to start a residential rehabilitation placement to receive support for drug/alcohol misuse.	High	29	33	0	12	14	5	19	The number of clients that With You are placing in residential rehabilitation has significantly reduced since last year. 19 residential rehabilitation placements	

										were started in total during 2025/26. The current provider's model for identification and assessment for this intervention differed from previous years, where a dedicated worker led this activity. However, there was no waiting list for this intervention, or clients assessed as suitable but unable to access it, and the delivery shortfall may be as a result of high number going last year and/issues with the pathway. This is being addressed. The targets for increasing the numbers who access this intervention in future years will remain a key priority for the Public Health Grant under the new protected grant arrangements.	
P23 a	Maintain the proportion of	High	80.8%	80%	n/a	n/a	81.59%	n/a	n/a	Principal road conditions are reported annually, in	

	road network classified as ‘green status’ (do not require repair): Achieve 80% of the ‘principal’ road network.									2025/26 the figure was reported on in Quarter 2. Currently at 81.59% rated ‘green status’ (do not require repair). Principal roads are exceeding their target of 80% rated green. Principal road condition is currently at 81.59% for 2025-26, which is an increase of 0.54% on 2024-25 (81.05%).	
P23 b	Achieve 77% of the ‘non-principal’ road network.	High	78.5%	77%	n/a	n/a	80.46%	n/a	n/a	Non-principal road conditions are reported annually, in 2025/26 the figure was reported on in Quarter 2. 80.46% rated ‘green status’ (do not require repair). Non-principal roads are exceeding their target of 77% of roads rated green. Non-principal road conditions is currently 80.46% for 2025/26, which is an increase of 2% on 2024/25 (78.46%).	

P23 c	Achieve 65% of the ‘unclassified’ road network.	High	66.2%	65%	69.07%	69.52%	72.00%	70.97%	70.97%	Unclassified road condition data is reported quarterly and is currently at 70.97% in green (good condition) status. This exceeds the target of 65%. This is a decrease of 1.03% when compared to Q3 (72.00%) and an increase of 3.99% on Q4 2024/25 (66.98%). The aim of the extra £3m funding which ends in May 2028 is to arrest the unclassified network from further deterioration and to therefore maintain the current highway performance figures. In January 2026 the Department for Transport (DfT) published the national average road condition data for 2024/2025. The national average which should be considered for maintenance for unclassified roads was 17% (red condition). In comparison, in Q4 2024/25 Rotherham was	

										at 10.93% for unclassified roads which means that Rotherham performed better than the national average.	
P24	Undertake effective enforcement action for fly tipping by issuing a minimum of 60 fixed penalty notices.	High	69	60	18	17	8	25	68	This year has seen 68 effective enforcement actions for fly tipping, which is above the expected annual target of 60. Quarter 4 saw 25 effective enforcements. Therefore, the measure has achieved its target.	
P25	Increase the proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting) to 45%.	High	37.1%	45%	49.43%	45.12%	39.52%	39.94%	43.9%	Data now includes household waste recycling centres (HWRC) recycling. Finalised figures are provided 3-month in arrears so figures are likely to change and will be updated as/when they are received. Seasonality impacts the recycling percentage in winter months leading to a decline in the amount of green waste collected in	

										comparison to the previous quarters. Additionally, nationwide capacity issues for wood recycling meant that not all wood was recycled at the HWRCs during this period. Quarter 4 has seen an overall recycling rate of 39.94%, this is a slight reduction on Quarter 3 of 0.19%. Quarter 4 is also slightly down on the same point last year (2024/25), which was 41.00%. The provisional annual % of waste which is recycled is 43.9%. This would mean this measure had missed the annual target of 45%.	
P26	Plant at least 500 trees across the borough.	High	597	500	n/a	n/a	618	92	710	This measure tracks tree planting in urban areas. Planting season happens in Quarter 3 and 4. The target is 500 trees for 2025/26, 710 were	

Page 77

										planted (618 trees planted in Quarter 3 and 92 trees planted in Quarter 4). This is an increase on the previous year (2024/25) when the annual total for tree planting was 597.	

Long-term measures of success

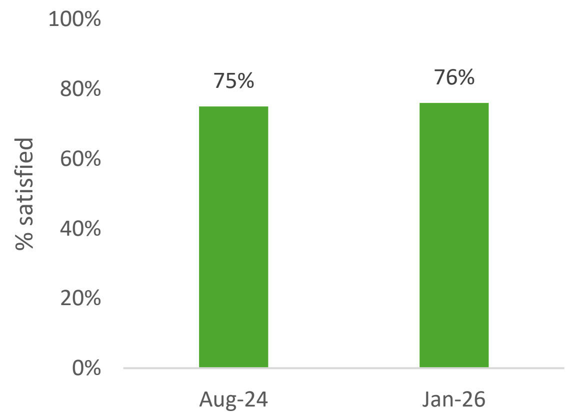
The annual long-term measures for this theme paint a broadly positive picture of how residents experience Rotherham as a place to live, with improvements recorded across the majority of indicators.

Satisfaction with the local area as a place to live has risen slightly from 75% to 76%, continuing a long-running pattern of stability. It should be noted that the ‘local area’ refers to the local neighbourhood or village where residents live and not the whole of Rotherham. As with previous year’s results residents’ satisfaction with their local area exceeds their satisfaction with Rotherham borough, which was 59% in the most recent Rotherham Satisfaction survey.

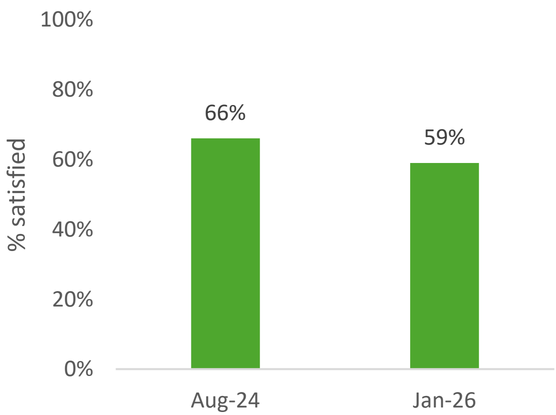
Annual footfall in the town centre increased from 13.6 in 2024/25 to 14.1 million in 2025/26.

The percentage of vacant units has decreased to 24%, a positive result reflecting a broadly stable retail and commercial environment.

KPI 1*. An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live

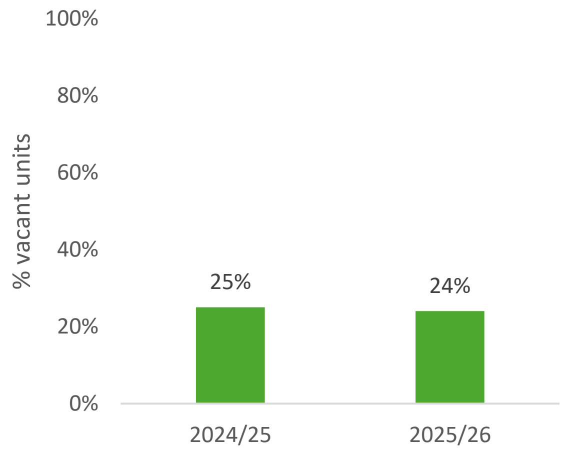


KPI 2*. An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with the Rotherham borough as a place to live



KPI 3. An increase in footfall in the town centre

KPI 4. A decrease in the percentage of vacant units in the town centre



The results on this page demonstrate that feelings of safety during the day have improved slightly, with 86% of residents saying they feel safe in their local area during the day, and the borough's streets are cleaner than last year with 95% of sites classed as acceptably free of litter and rubbish.

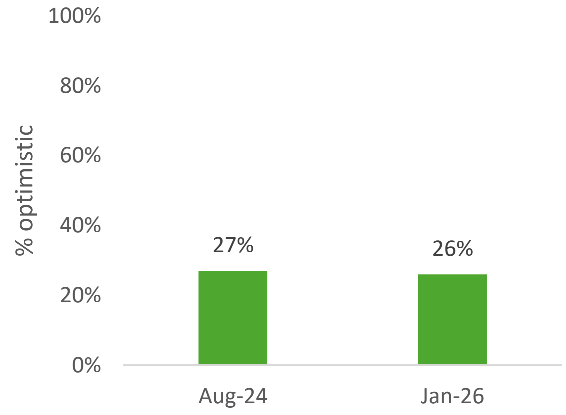
Optimism about the future of the town centre scored at 26%, just below the 27% baseline reported in 2024.

There has been a decline in feelings of safety after dark from 57% to 54%.

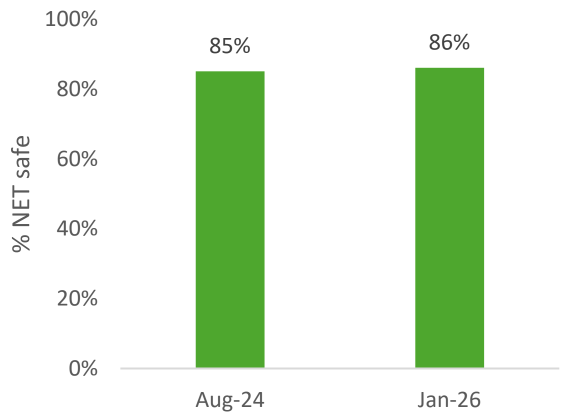
In 2025/26 95% of sites were classed as (acceptably) free of litter and rubbish, which has increased from 88% in 2024/25.

**NB: the relatively small sample size of the Rotherham surveys means that only a difference of five per cent or more between different survey results indicates a statistically significant change.*

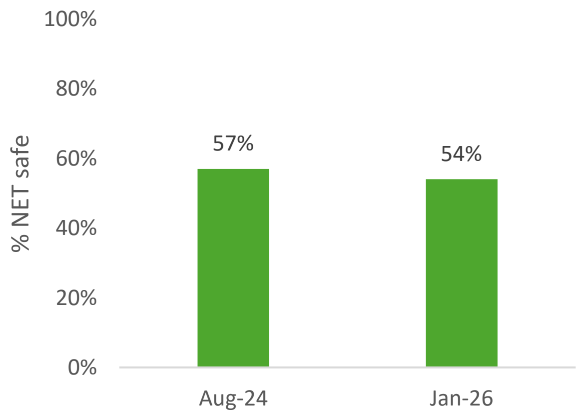
KPI 5*. An increase in the proportion of people optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre



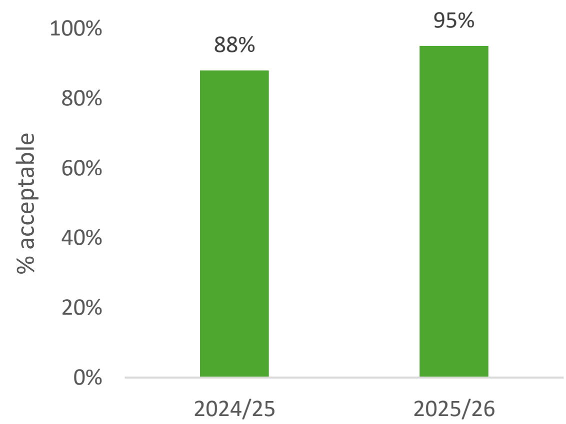
KPI 6*. An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area during the day



KPI 7*. An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area after dark



KPI 8. An increase in the percentage of sites classed as (acceptably) free of litter and rubbish



Case studies

Rotherham Council ranked one of the best in the country for road repairs

The Council has been named one of the best in the country for pothole repairs, road condition, smart investment and best practice.

In January 2026, the Government introduced a new 'traffic light' system - four scorecards measuring road condition, the level of local investment into highways maintenance and the extent to which Councils follow best practice - with green for the best, amber for adequate and red for those which need to improve.

Rotherham is one of only three of the 159 England Local Authorities and the only South Yorkshire Council to receive a green ranking for all four categories shown in the table below, which is due to a £39m investment between 2015 and 2024, with a further £16m committed to the Rotherham Roads Programme until 2028.

Local highway authority	Overall rating	Condition scorecard	Spend scorecard	Best practice scorecard
Barnsley	Amber	Amber	Green	Amber
Doncaster	Amber	Amber	Green	Amber
Rotherham	Green	Green	Green	Green
Sheffield	No rating [PFI Contract]	Green	No rating [PFI Contract]	Amber

Council investment has significantly reduced the number of potholes requiring repair. In 2014/15, 34,000 potholes were fixed, compared to just 15,521 in 2025/26—meaning the figure has more than halved since the investment began.

Ongoing maintenance has also improved overall road conditions. Currently, only 2.24% of Rotherham's A road network requires repair, well below the national average of 4%. Similarly, 2.27% of B and C roads need attention, compared with 7% nationally.

For unclassified roads, just 8.81% of Rotherham's 774km network requires repair—significantly lower than the national average of 17%.

In 2025/26, council investment delivered 328 maintenance schemes, resurfacing 35.6 miles (57km) of roads and delivering 9.04 miles (14.47km) of footway repairs.

Looking ahead to 2026/27, work is ongoing on 124 roads and 93 footways. Key locations include High Street and Tickhill Road in Maltby, Greasbrough Street in Masbrough, and Canklow Roundabout.

Resident feedback reflects this progress, with 84.5% of those surveyed expressing satisfaction with the Highways team's repair work during 2025/26.

The Council's approach has also gained national recognition. In March 2026, Simon Lightwood MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Local Transport, visited Rotherham to observe best practice. The visit included a live resurfacing project on Remount Road, Kimberworth Park, attended by Sarah Champion MP, local councillors, and Cabinet Member Councillor John Williams, alongside the Council's Highway Delivery Team.

Cllr Chris Read, Leader of Rotherham Council, said*: "Nobody likes potholes – they're frustrating for drivers and they can damage vehicles – so we made it a priority to tackle the problem head-on to make sure Rotherham's roads are safe to drive on.*

"Over the last decade, we've invested £55 million into improving the borough's roads, and that's why we're now ranked among the best in the country. You can see the difference - 10 years ago we were repairing more than 30,000 potholes a year, now that number has more than halved because the roads themselves are in better condition.

"*It's not just about quick fixes; it's about making sure our roads are built to last, and that's what this investment is delivering."*

"Nobody likes potholes – they can be dangerous for drivers and other road users, and they leave areas looking neglected – which is why we made it a priority to tackle the issue head-on. It's good to see this recognised in these latest government statistics.

"What this doesn't mean of course is that there are no problems. Industry analysis suggests there is a £17 billion backlog of resurfacing works to roads right across the country, and Rotherham is not exempt from that.

"But what the numbers do show is that the additional local investment of £55 million we've made into improving the borough's roads, in addition to the national block grant funding we receive, has moved us firmly in the right direction. This year alone we will resurface 200 roads. 10 years ago there were more than 30,000 potholes reported each year, now that number has more than halved. When many other parts of the country have not made that investment, Rotherham's roads are now in better condition than the national average.

"Finally, the Department for Transport analysis recognises that we are intervening earlier to stop road surfaces worsening, including using what is known as "surface dressing" to extend the life of the road surface, so we're also getting the best value for the taxpayer."

Figure 1 - Winlea Avenue Brecks, Before and After

Figure 2 - Charles Street Kilnhurst, Before and After

New Street Safe team hits the ground in Rotherham

The introduction of the Street Safe Team in December 2025 in Rotherham town centre has already demonstrated a strong and effective approach to tackling anti-social behaviour through partnership working, early intervention and coordinated enforcement. A recent case involving an individual causing significant concern illustrates this well.

Shortly after moving to the area, an individual became known to local partners including RMBC, South Yorkshire Police and the business community due to escalating anti-social behaviour. This resulted in daily reports from the public and businesses, with incidents involving intimidation for money, minor public order offences and causing distress to retail staff. The individual's unstable circumstances, including homelessness and rough sleeping, contributed to the frequency of incidents.

Despite several arrests for low-level offences, a more coordinated response was required. The Street Safe Team and South Yorkshire Police therefore worked together to implement a problem-solving approach, combining enforcement and support, with improved information sharing to better understand behaviour and enable timely action.

The Street Safe Team maintained a regular presence in the town centre, engaging with the individual and collecting evidence using body-worn video. Support was offered through referrals to vulnerable adult and mental health services, alongside enforcement action, including a Community Protection Warning followed by a Notice. Continued breaches and further offences led to a more robust police response and arrest.

As a result, the individual was charged with multiple offences and remanded into custody, where they are awaiting sentencing. They are now receiving mental health support, with a Criminal Behaviour Order being prepared and support arrangements in place for their release.

The impact of this intervention has been significant. Feedback from businesses and the public has been overwhelmingly positive, with a noticeable improvement in confidence within the town centre. The case has also helped to establish stronger joint working practices and intelligence-sharing processes between partners, creating a more sustainable approach for dealing with similar issues in the future.

This example highlights how the Street Safe Team is contributing to a safer and more welcoming town centre. By combining visible presence, early intervention, enforcement action and support, the team is not only addressing immediate issues but also helping to build longer-term solutions. It reflects the council's wider commitment to revitalising high streets, restoring community confidence and ensuring that public spaces are safe, accessible and enjoyable for residents, businesses and visitors alike.

Cllr Chris Read, Leader of Rotherham Council, said: *"We're acting on what our communities have told us - that feeling safe and visible support matters - as part of the changes we're making to support our local high streets.*

"We want Rotherham to feel safe and welcoming for everyone. Our new team are there to lend a hand, point people in the right direction and to take action against the minority who can put other people off. They've already supported the police with this individual in the town centre, and they're providing valuable evidence and feedback.

"But this initiative isn't just about enforcement. It's about restoring pride and trust in our public spaces - giving residents and visitors a familiar presence that's welcoming, approachable and ready to help. So when you see them, do say hello!"

Paul Murphy, Community Protection Manager and lead of the new team, said: "We're pleased that we're on the ground and already making a difference. The Street Safe team is all about giving people confidence that our high streets are safe, welcoming places to visit and enjoy. The team is approachable, proactive and ready to tackle issues head-on, while working closely with partners to keep things moving in the right direction.

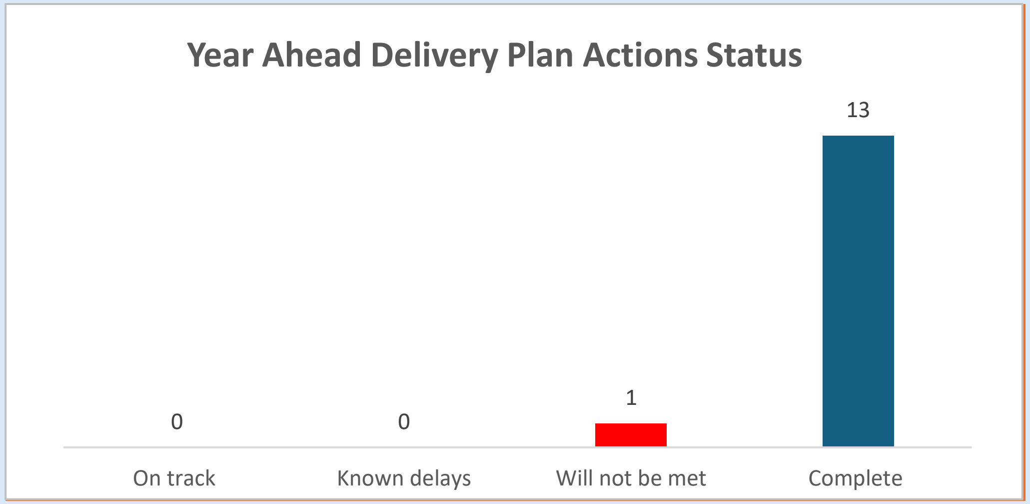
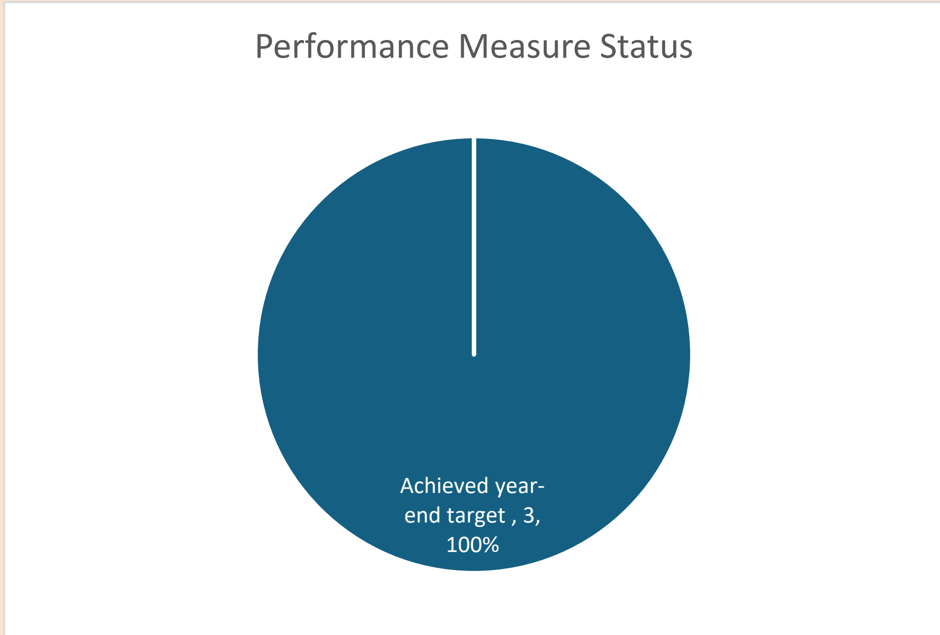
Having the team in place is a big step forward for Rotherham, and we're excited about the positive impact the team will have for residents, businesses and visitors."

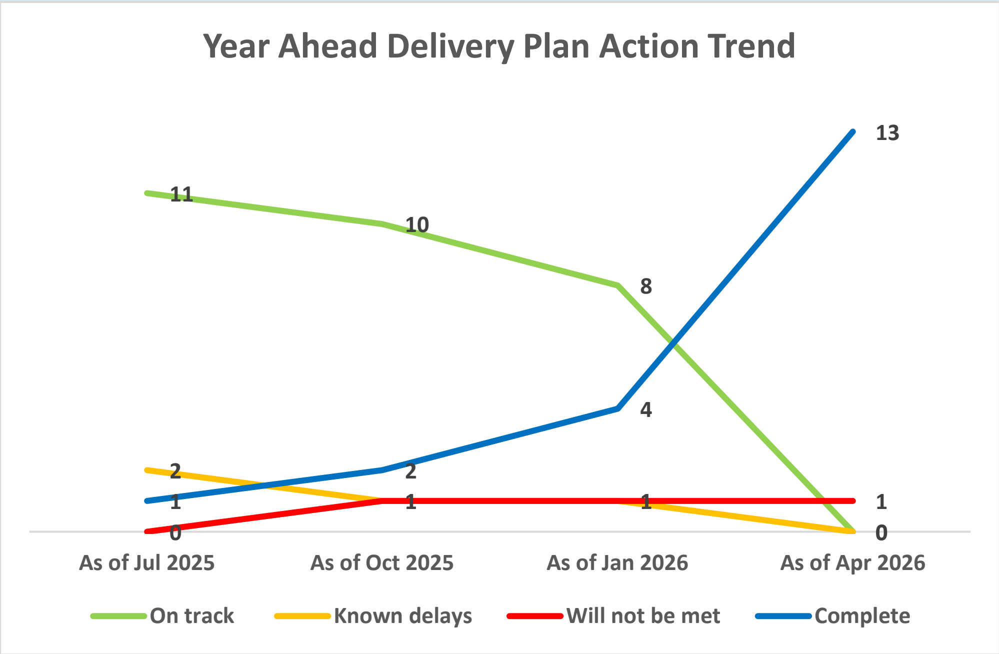
Outcome: An economy that works for everyone		
Priorities	**The differences you're seeing through the first year of the Council Plan**	**The differences you will see in 2026/27**
Developing the economy	• Launch of the Don Valley Corridor Development Partnership and establishment of a mayoral development zone to drive forward investment and regeneration. • Construction of the Templeborough business zone project has commenced. • Successful shop unit business grants scheme delivered across local town centres.	• An expanded shop units grants programme, providing at least 50 grants to high street businesses. • A comprehensive business support offer helping around 550 businesses, with 60 receiving dedicated start-up support through our upgraded business centres, and 60 high-growth firms benefiting from a key account management service.
Enhancing skills	• 87 people found work through the new economic inactivity trailblazer (Pathways to Work), whilst the Council's Employment Solutions service delivered 222 training interventions and helped 249 people into work. • Partner organisations starting to embed social value by trialling it in procurement processes.	• 1,000 Rotherham residents helped to access employment pathways with at least 250 finding work. • Through Pathways to Work, start a programme of subsidised work placements, supporting young people to move towards, and into employment.
Connecting people to opportunity	• Programme business case completed, unlocking funding for the full mainline station business case. • Magna tram-train station opened, improving connections to key employment sites.	• A contracting strategy in place for the design and delivery of Rotherham Gateway rail infrastructure. • A plan produced to improve the public realm and consider land uses along the corridor from Rotherham Gateway Station to the town centre.

	• All major South Yorkshire bus depots now under public ownership, including Rawmarsh depot in Rotherham. • Invitation to tender issued in February to provide demand responsive Transport services across Rotherham (and Doncaster).	

Headlines – evidencing our progress

To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 14 priorities/actions and 3 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress:

Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones	**Performance measures**
	


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend
11
10
8
13
4
2
2
1
1
1
1
0
0
As of Jul 2025
As of Oct 2025
As of Jan 2026
As of Apr 2026
On track
Known delays
Will not be met
Complete

Highlights – Achievements and Challenges

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to the priority actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

An economy that works for everyone
Achievements - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities and Performance Measures that have been completed since Quarter 2: **E1** Construction of the Templeborough Business Zone began on the 8 June 2026. **E2** 46 shop unit grants were accepted across the town centre, Dinnington, Maltby, Swinton and Wath as part of the shop unit grants programme in 2025/26, against a target of 20. **E4** 83 businesses were helped to start up through Launchpad and Business Centres, against a target of 70 *(higher is better).* **E5** Provided advice and support to 522 local businesses, against a target of 500 *(higher is better).* **E6** The Employment and Skills Strategy was endorsed by Cabinet on 15 December 2025 and approved at the Strategic Partnership Group on 21 January 2026. **E7** The Employment Solutions Service supported 471 individuals to access training or paid employment during 2025/26, exceeding the target of 455. Of these, 222 individuals progressed into training opportunities, while 249 secured paid employment. **E8** Developed and implemented an apprenticeship action plan to work with partners to develop more apprenticeships across the borough, work is ongoing and includes targeted engagement with relevant stakeholders, schools and universities **E9** Supported 45 young people aged 16-25 to access paid employment through traineeships and internships as part of the Children's Capital of Culture programme. **E12** The proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council increased to 1.68% of the workforce, against the year-end target of 1.5% *(higher is better).* **E13** A Programme Business Case has been completed in relation to the Rotherham Gateway (Mainline Station) masterplan and was submitted to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority in January 2026. **E14** Work is ongoing to support South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and partners to develop the Outline Business Case for Waverley, with completion of the Outline Business Case expected in March 2027. **E15** The tram-train station and park and ride at Magna opened on 9 April 2026. **E16** Consultation on the draft designs for City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement active travel and bus priority proposals on Fitzwilliam Road and Broom Road commenced in May 2026. **E17** A programme of work experience continues to be implemented and developed through regular engagement with schools, colleges, universities and local businesses, including the introduction of One Council placements across services in the Council.

Challenges - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities that will not be met within three months of the original target date or Performance Measures that have not achieved target within 2025/26: **E3** - upgrades to business centres at Century (Manvers) and Matrix (Dinnington) have been delayed. Activity at Fusion (Templeborough) is complete.

Narrative – the bigger picture

Through action in this theme, the Council and its partners seek to ensure the economy is growing in a way that creates opportunities for residents in every corner of the borough. This means improving connectivity and attracting investment, supporting existing businesses and potential entrepreneurs, giving people the chance to gain skills and find work, and – through our social value policy - ensuring the public sector pound delivers maximum benefits for people and places.

This year has seen the delivery of a new scheme supporting high street businesses to improve shop units, aiming to improve the look of local town centres and boost trade. An initial target of 20 businesses supported was more than doubled, with huge interest in the scheme seeing 46 grants awarded. As a result, the scheme has been extended and expanded in 2026/27.

The Council's business hubs at Manvers, Templeborough and Dinnington have been upgraded over the course of the year. Offering space and free support to new and growing small and medium enterprises (SMEs), the hubs are benefiting from fire stopping works and a new roof at Century 2 in Manvers, which is due to be completed in 2026/27.

A new employment and skills strategy for Rotherham was approved by partners in January. This will direct future provision based on three missions of supporting people into work, improving core skills for employment, and delivering a workforce for sustainable economic growth.

Fully up and running from August 2025, the new economic inactivity trailblazer had helped 87 people into paid work by March 2026, 33 of whom had never worked or been long-term unemployed. This compliments the Council's ongoing Employment Solutions service, which supported 471 people into training or paid employment in 2025/26, including 222 entering training and 249 securing employment.

On social value, Rotherham's key partner organisations have completed phase 2 of an ambitious partnership project. Ultimately, it aims to generate benefits worth over £50 million for local people and communities through procurement processes and suppliers' additional contractual commitments.

Major transport projects took significant steps forward in 2025/26. A programme business case for Rotherham Gateway was submitted to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA), leading to the release of funding for development of a full business case, which was approved in January 2026. The aim is still for a mainline station to open around 2030. At the same time, the Council is working with SYMCA and other partners to progress an outline business case for the planned train station at Waverley. The new tram-train station at Magna opened in April, improving connections between Rotherham and Sheffield and increasing access to jobs in Templeborough, where the new business zone is taking shape with construction starting in June. The station includes 100 free park and ride spaces, along with cycle parking and electric vehicle charging.

Year Ahead Delivery Plan tracker

Outcome: An economy that works for everyone					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
E1	**Developing the economy**	Start construction of the Templeborough Business Zone Project.	Quarter 2	Complete	Work started on site on 8 June 2026.
E2		Support up to 20 businesses to improve shop units in the town centre and on other principal high streets through the new 'shop units grants' programme.	Quarter 4	Complete	To date, 50 shopfront grants have been offered, with 46 accepted and given across the town centre, Dinnington and Maltby. Funding has been identified to continue the project in 2026/27.
E3		Deliver the programmed upgrades to business centres at Century (Manvers), Fusion (Templeborough) and Matrix (Dinnington) including improvements to internal facilities.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	<u>Century Business Centre – Roofing</u> Work started on site on the 15th June 2026. Work has also taken place with a range of stakeholders to ensure the least amount of disruption to the businesses operating from the Centre. <u>Dinnington Matrix and Century Business Centre – Fire Stopping</u> Contractors have now attended the site as part of a pre-start meeting, taking on board disruption to tenants/business users. Works to commence on both business centres simultaneously and the start date has now been confirmed as 6th July. Works are anticipated to be programmed over 8 weeks. The contractor is

					creating a detailed programme in order for the Business Centre Management to coordinate with the tenants. Fusion Fire Stopping Complete.
E4		Performance measures: see below			
E5					
E6	**Enhancing skills**	Adoption of Employment and Skills Strategy.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Employment and Skills Strategy was endorsed by Cabinet in December 2025 and approved by the Strategic Partnership Group in January 2026. Delivery has commenced overseen by the Employment and Skills Board of the Rotherham Together Partnership.
E7		Through the Employment Solutions service, support a minimum of 455 people to access employment, (including training, education, apprenticeships, and paid employment).	Quarter 4	Complete	Throughout 2025/26, the Employment Solutions service supported 471 people, including 222 training interventions and 249 individuals who moved into employment.
E8		Develop and implement an apprenticeship action plan that documents the work with partners to develop more apprenticeships across the borough.	Quarter 4	Complete	The partnership apprenticeships working group has established a baseline to help understand the types of apprenticeships available across the partnership. The apprenticeship action plan was presented to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) group meeting in July 2025 and approved by partners. Work towards the action plan continues to take its course along with targeted engagement with

					relevant stakeholders, schools and universities. The group also takes advice from the South Yorkshire Apprenticeships Hub around opportunities to link up between organisations, and initiatives to increase numbers of apprenticeships.
E9		Support 25 young people aged 16-25 into paid employment through traineeships and internships as part of the Children's Capital of Culture Programme.	Quarter 3	Complete	The Children's Capital of Culture programme has been completed with a focus on embedding the legacy of this initiative across services and partners. Throughout the festival year, the programme supported 45 young people aged 16-25 to access paid employment through traineeships and internships.
E10		Implement an Economic Inactivity Trailblazer, providing a new system of support to economically inactive residents to re-enter the workforce.	Quarter 1	Complete	Delivery began 1 April 2025. It is being delivered through an internal team of employment advisers, alongside 13 voluntary and community sector organisations to ensure that provisions are embedded in community settings. The Employment Solutions team are also working to provide personalised support through a dedicated Economic Inactivity Trailblazer team. At the end of 2025/26, Pathways to Work (Economic Inactivity Trailblazer) had engaged 388 participants onto programme with 87 participants supported into paid work (22% conversion – which mirrors regional averages across South Yorkshire). Over 45% of jobs started were full time, with 54% of jobs being permanent. 38% of participants moved into work

					had been long term unemployed or had never worked before.
E11		Complete delivery of Phase 2 of the Rotherham Together Partnership's Social Value Action Plan.	Quarter 3	Complete	Phase Two began in June 2025 with the first monthly forum, bringing together senior stakeholders from partner organisations. All partners have now engaged in 1-2-1 workshops with consultants from the Social Value Portal. The Chamber of Commerce and Voluntary Action Rotherham, with the support of the Social Value Portal, have each created a framework for their 'connector' roles within social value in Rotherham. The annual Social Value event was held in July 2025, attended by representatives from across the partnerships.
E12		Performance measure: see below			
E13	**Connecting people to opportunity**	Completion of a Strategic Case in relation to the Rotherham Gateway (Mainline Station) Masterplan.	Quarter 3	Complete	Conversations have taken place with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) colleagues to explore a 'place-based' approach to delivering the masterplan. A Programme Business Case has been completed and submitted to SYMCA in January 2026. The assurance process will not begin before formal submission to SYMCA's Investment Board.
E14		Work with regional partners to support SYMCA in their work to develop the Outline Business	Quarter 4	Complete	Work is ongoing to support South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and partners to develop the Outline Business Case for the new railway station at Waverley.

		Case for the new railway station at Waverley.			The work is on track as expected, completion of the Outline Business Case is expected in March 2027.
E15		Work with regional partners to support SYMCA in their work to construct a new tram-train stop at Magna.	Quarter 4	Complete	The tram-train stop at Magna opened on 9 April 2026.
E16		Consult on draft designs for City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement active travel and bus priority proposals on Fitzwilliam Road and Broom Road.	Quarter 4	Complete	Consultation on the draft designs commenced in May 2026.
E17		Develop and deliver a programme of work experience, supported internships, apprenticeships and graduate schemes to ensure effective career pathways and succession planning.	Quarter 2	Complete	Programme is implemented and ongoing. Development and review continue, with new connections and opportunities being sought internally on a regular basis. One Council placements have been implemented, where students can experience several areas of the Council, and feedback has been very positive. Connections have also been made with external local businesses to refer applications on that cannot be supported within the Council. The Council continue to connect with schools, colleges and universities to promote work experience, apprenticeships and graduate opportunities through Rotherham Council. Activities include careers fairs, networking events, presentations to students, spotlight sessions and use of local university online careers hubs to promote vacancies.

Performance measures

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year End	Progress Update	Rag Rating
E4	Help 70 businesses to start up.	High	78	70	23	26	24	10	83	The total for this measure (the combined Business Centre and Launchpad totals) for Quarter 4 is 10 (17 through Launchpad and 7 through Business Centres). This is the lowest quarterly total for this measure since Quarter 1 2023/24. This measure exceeded the target in Quarter 3. The cumulative total for the year is 83. The service report that occupancy rates at the Business Centre average 82%, with Fusion and Century seeing a reduction due	

										to natural turnover of businesses at the sites but forecast to recover. Century 2 had a strong quarter of enquiries, with 4 units let bringing occupancy to 85%.	
E5	Provide advice and support to 500 local businesses.	High	522	500	147	173	88	114	522	Quarter 1 saw 147 sessions delivered. Quarter 2 saw 173 sessions delivered. Quarter 3 saw 88 sessions delivered. Quarter 4 saw 114 sessions delivered, 25 more than the last quarter (Quarter 3 2025/26), and 14 more than Quarter 4 2025/26. This means the annual target has been met, with a cumulative total of 522 sessions delivered. The focus on the shop unit grant which impacted Quarter 3, did not impact Quarter 4 and with resourcing back to business as usual a	

										more typical quarterly total was achieved for Quarter 4.	
E12	Increase the proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council as a percentage of the workforce to 1.5%.	High	0.9%	1.5%	1.11%	1.21%	1.48%	1.68%	1.68%	Quarter 4 2025/26 figure is 1.68% in comparison with the Quarter 4 2024/25 figure of 0.91%. The target was hit for the first time this year with the increase in apprenticeships attributed to an increased focus on early careers and improved links between the Organisational Development team and services across the Council to identify opportunities for apprenticeships. National Apprenticeship Week took place in February 2026, which provided	

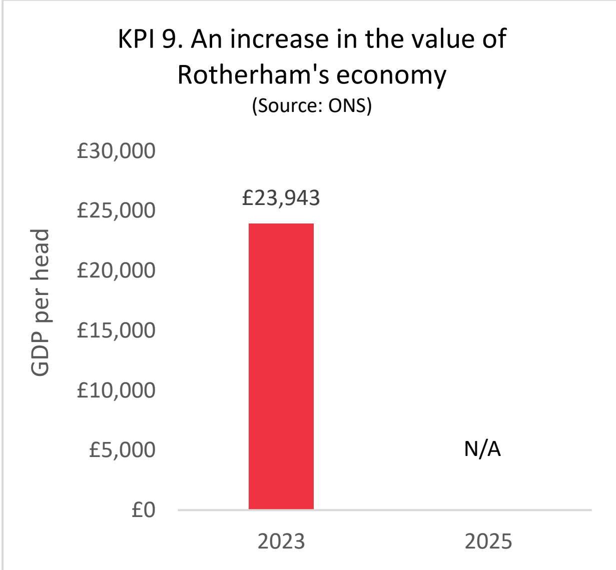
										the opportunity to further promote apprenticeships and engagement with managers for the coming year.	

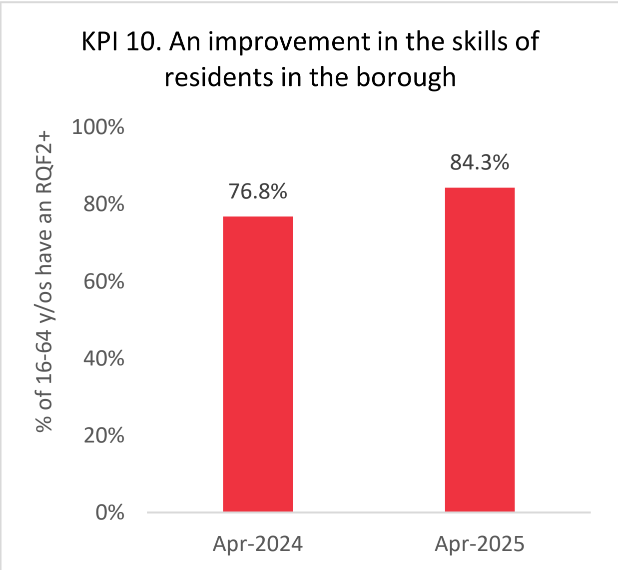
Long-term measures of success

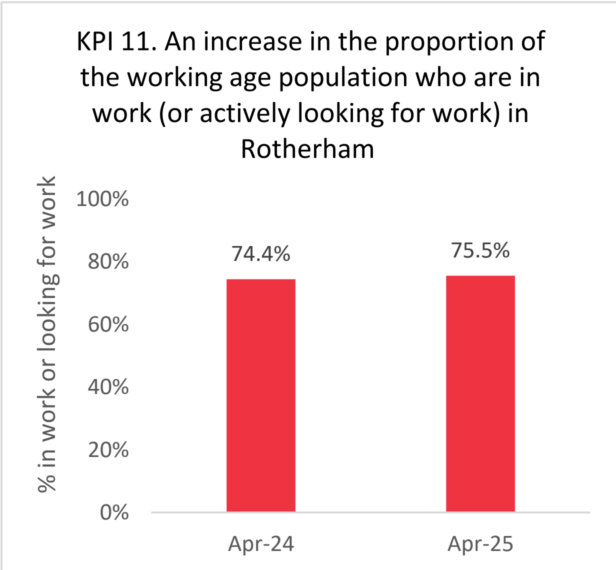
The results of the annual long-term measures for this theme are broadly positive, although persistent structural challenges facing Rotherham's economy are still present. The most encouraging picture is on skills and employment: the proportion of working-age residents holding a Level 2 qualification or higher has risen to 84.3%, and 75.5% of the working-age population is now in work or actively seeking it, up from a baseline of 74.4%.

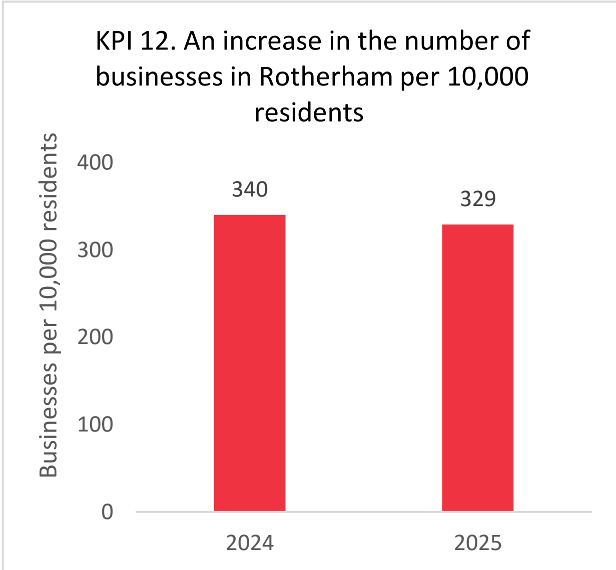
The picture on business density and economic output is more challenging. The number of businesses per 10,000 residents has fallen slightly from 340 to 329.

It is important to note that there is a three-year lag in gross domestic product (GDP) data, which is provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Therefore any interventions delivered in the current Council Plan period will not be visible in this measure until 2029.









Case studies

Shop Unit Grant Programme

Rotherham Council have launched an initiative to improve high street locations throughout the borough, making them look more appealing and working with businesses to increase footfall into the town centres.

Using UK Shared Prosperity Fund money, the Shop Unit Business Grant scheme was set up as a pilot initiative to improve the high street location.

Businesses within eligible locations were able to apply for up to £25,000 in grant funding to improve the exterior location of their properties. Improvements included new signage, repainting the exterior of the property along with new and improved shop frontage.

Specific areas of the five principal towns of Rotherham were chosen as pilot areas. The town centre, Dinnington, Maltby, Swinton and Wath Upon Dearne had small pilot areas where businesses were able to apply for the funding through a competitive application process.

Over the course of the scheme, 46 businesses successfully secured funding to make improvements to the premises.

Improvements included complete paint refresh of exterior of premises, new windows and shop frontages, improved accessibility for premises, new signage, new lighting to improve visibility, especially at night, new awning, new doors, new carpets internally and some internal refreshment.

All works were carried out by legitimate local suppliers, who worked with the clients to supply quotes, carry out the work and then invoice for payment to be made.

Feedback from clients that have undertaken the process has been positive with many stating that the projects would not have been undertaken without the grant funding.

Not only has the exterior work made the premises look better, new doors, windows and shop frontages have helped to make premises warmer and more economical. Businesses that have carried out internal remodelling have reported that it has made them more attractive to customers.

“The grant has improved the visibility and presence of the business, as well as enhancing the street scene.

“Although it is still relatively early days, I’ve noticed passersby stop and look at it and we have also received one new business enquiry which we can directly attribute to the new signage.” Cannon PR, Town Centre

“We now look like a modern up to date business, a more inviting and aesthetically pleasing place to enter. We believe our customers both new and old will be with us long into the future. An updated business on the High Street, whereas before we had an outdated, uninviting frontage which gave the impression of us not caring about the business or our customers which was simply not true. We are now ready for the modern age and are very pleased with the finished result” - Prestige Printers, Swinton

Phase two of the Shop Unit Grant scheme is being launched, funded through the Local Growth Fund. There will be £565,666 made available with the focus being on the following areas:

- Rotherham town centre
- Parkgate (from the bottom of Rawmarsh Hill - excluding big national chains)
- Dinnington
- Maltby
- Swinton
- Thurcroft
- Wath
- Dalton (Doncaster Road)

Applications outside of these areas will be considered on a case-by-case basis but priority will be given the areas listed above.

Priority for this funding will centre around:

- Bringing empty shops/units back into use – maximum grant of up to £15,000
- External work (signs/facias/lighting) - maximum grant of up to £10,000
- Internal work – no electrical, plumbing or construction work. – maximum grant of up to £10,000

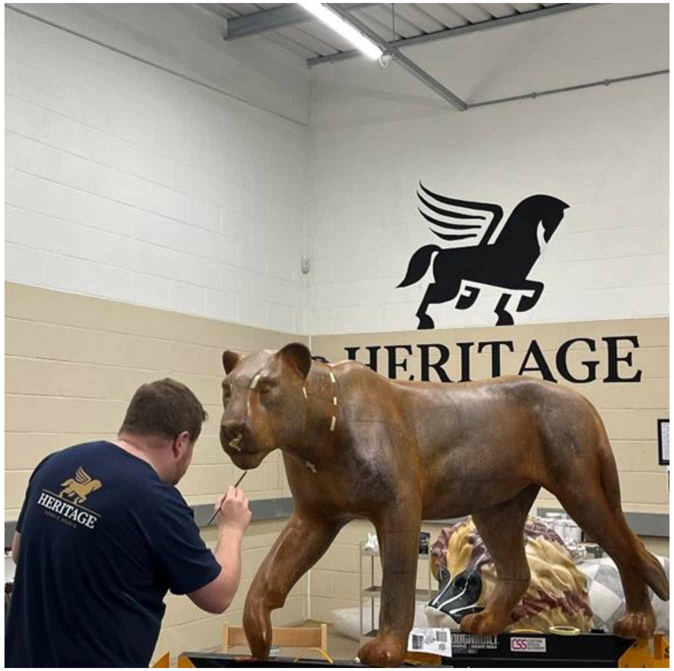
There will be two calls for applications, with dates to be confirmed. All applications will go through to panel and be assessed against set criteria.

Launchpad success story: Heritage Scenic Studio’s journey to high-profile productions

Joe Philpott and Sam Piper launched Heritage Scenic Studio in August 2025, based at the Council’s Century 2 Business Centre. The business is a specialist training and scenic painting studio supporting work across theatre, film, events and interiors.

Drawing on over 20 years of industry experience, Heritage Scenic Studio provides hands-on training for aspiring artists through weekend workshops and intensive courses. Alongside this, they deliver consultancy services and commissioned scenic work for productions and creative projects, helping to meet growing demand for high-quality scenic artistry.

Joe and Sam first engaged with Launchpad in May 2025 while developing their business idea and searching for premises. Through tailored one-to-one support and expert-led workshops, they strengthened their business knowledge and built solid foundations for growth. This early support enabled them to move confidently from concept to trading.



Since launching, the business has gone from strength to strength. Continued support from Launchpad and their base within the Council’s Business Centres has helped them grow quickly, securing a range of high-profile projects in their first year.

Their work includes contributions to the Pride of Yorkshire Sculpture Trail for Sheffield Children’s Hospital and scenic painting for several UK theatre productions, including Sheffield Theatres’ upcoming production of Summer Holiday. They have also achieved a major milestone by delivering their first full West End production, with all scenic painting completed at Century 2.

Through their rapid growth and increasing reputation, Heritage Scenic Studio demonstrates how targeted business support can help local entrepreneurs turn specialist skills into thriving enterprises.

Client testimonial

“We’ve had an exceptionally busy and exciting few months, working on the Pride of Yorkshire Sculpture Trail and several UK theatre tours.” Joe Philpott, Heritage Scenic Studio

“The support and guidance we’ve received from Launchpad has played a significant role in developing the business and enabling us to deliver our first full West End production.” Joe Philpott, Heritage Scenic Studio

Employment Solutions

The past year has seen some exciting new developments and great achievements in the Employment Solutions Team. This is the first year that the core Team has been centrally funded following a budget investment, a decision based on the success of the previous 5 years, and how invaluable the service was to the wider support offered by the Council. The core team, named “Elevate” achieved all agreed targets by December 2025, and over-achieved on engagements and customers supported into employment by the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

Summer 2025 also saw the start of an expansion with an incredibly successful assessment and interview event in preparation for the ‘Pathways to Work’ Trailblazer delivery. 13 new people have been introduced to the wider team, who are tasked with engaging with and supporting “economically inactive” customers into employment.

Using encouragement to be innovative in selection processes, the Employment Solutions team opted away from traditional interviews in the hope of being able to observe some of the key qualities that were needed within the new team.

Quote from participant on the day: *“I’ve really enjoyed the day, even if I am not successful, I feel that I have really got something out of this, and after the first few minutes, forgot my nerves as I got involved in the tasks.”*

Recruitment & Networking

The two bi-annual recruitment events held at Riverside have each attracted an average of 46 employers and providers, along with strong engagement from job seekers in the community. These events continue to be well recognised by both the community and employers, with plans to build on their success through new additions in the future.

A quote from employers at the event - *‘Well organised event, steady flow of customers and lots of interest and engagement’ ‘great networking opportunity’ ‘interviewed six suitable candidates on the day.’*

Training offer

In-house training provision has been expanded through the appointment of a dedicated training officer and the development of partnerships with external providers. Softer skills training to support customers in progressing towards employment has proven highly successful, with 242 candidates completing bespoke courses. These have ranged from core employability skills, such as job searching and CV development, to tailored programmes designed in collaboration with a range of employers.

Pre-employment training programmes have included guaranteed interviews for each participant, with many securing roles upon completion. These opportunities have been well received, with candidates frequently highlighting how enjoyable and valuable the sessions have been.

Elevate (core funded team)

The Elevate annual targets were achieved by December 2025, a testimony to the fantastic teamwork involved. Over 500 individuals engaged with advisors resulting in 118 training achievements and 143 jobs secured. Other customers have upskilled and moved much closer to employment.

Individual Placement Support (IPS)

The Individual Placement Support (IPS) team have taken 208 referrals from the treatment team at ‘We are With You’ and managed to engage 94 people recovering from substance misuse into employment support. Out of the 94 engaged, 36 managed to gain sustainable, paid employment. Despite some challenges, all targets were well exceeded, demonstrating exceptional teamwork to support some of the more challenged residents, not only helping them into work, but also to significantly improve their day to day lives.

Economically Inactive Trailblazer

There have been many positive success stories, highlighted in April at the first Pathways to Work celebration event, where these were shared with the wider community. The sense of pride was clear throughout.

Employers and young people spoke about their early successes in employment, alongside a full-circle story from within the Pathways team. Amanda, who initially approached Employment Solutions for support during a challenging time, now plays a key role as part of the triage team.

Quote from Amanda: *“I can’t recommend the Employment Solutions service enough, from my adviser Stewart, to training and support from all staff. It really helped me to get where I am … and I am really enjoying the job so far.”*

In total, at the end of Quarter 4, 1,569 referrals for support had been received, of which 842 started a programme within the Employment Solutions service. In total, 471 people were supported into training or paid employment, exceeding the overall target. This included supporting 222 people into accredited training and 249 people into paid employment.

The Employment Solutions team engaged with vulnerable and socially excluded customers to access training and employment opportunities, including those with protected characteristics and economically inactive customers. They have offered support to unemployed candidates seeking flexible working, childcare friendly work options and early retirees returning to the workforce.

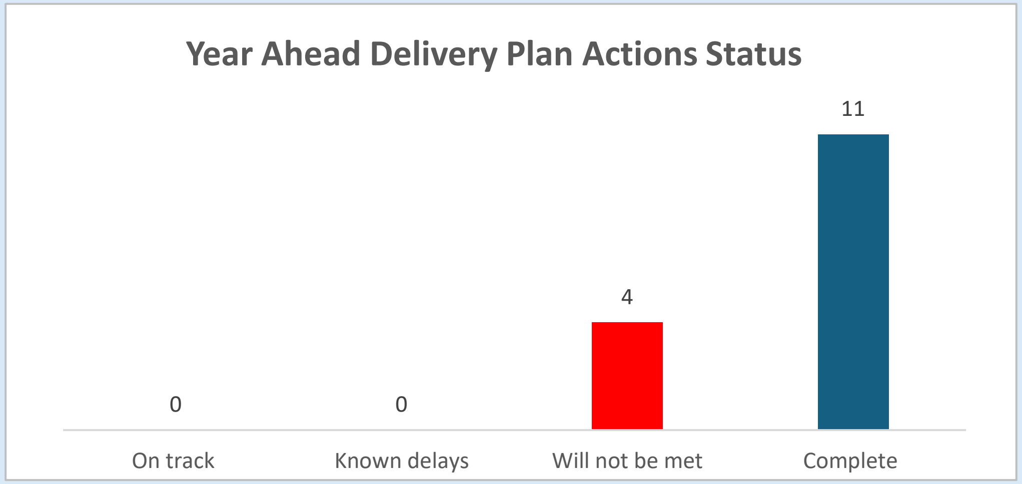
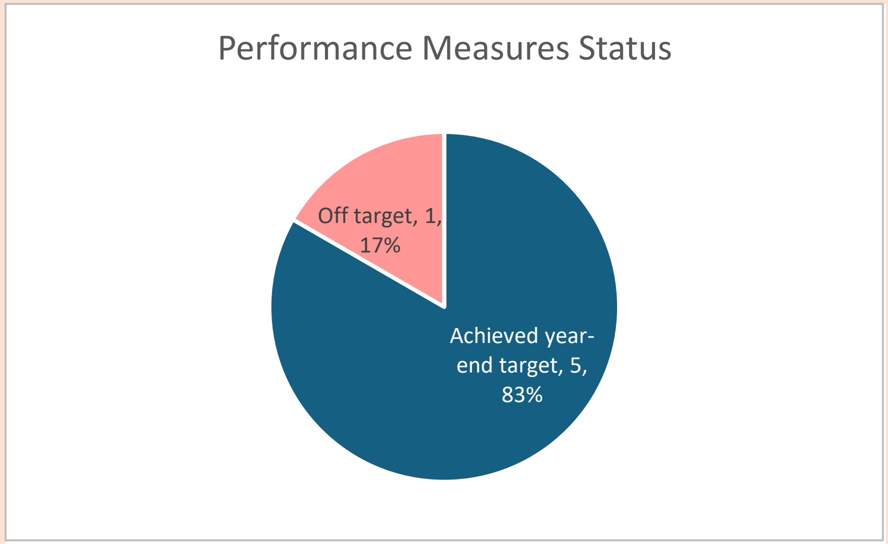
With the new Pathways to Work initiative to support delivery, and with the procurement of different courses, Employment Solutions will be able to offer an even wider range of training to help even more people across the borough. The impact will be a more highly skilled and confident workforce, ready to help improve the local economy in Rotherham

Outcome: Children and young people achieve		
Priorities	**The differences you are seeing in the first year of the Council Plan**	**The differences you'll see in 2026/27**
Ensuring children and young people have fun things to do	• The watersplash facility at Clifton Park opened in July 2025, and playground improvements have taken place at Chestnut Grove, Rother Valley, Thrybergh Country Park, and Rosehill Park. • Across the 2025 festival year, over 1,000 events and activities were delivered alongside a wide-ranging in-school creative learning programme reaching more than 120 schools and colleges. • The Children's Capital of Culture programme continues to support children and young people from diverse backgrounds across programmes including the Youth Programming Panel, Arts Award accreditation and Volunteering Schemes. • The voluntary and community sectors delivered 1356 universal youth work sessions.	• Deliver improvements to a further eight playgrounds. • Deliver an extra 10,000 places throughout the year as part of the Healthy Holidays Activity programme. • Continue to embed the legacy and learning from Children's Capital of Culture. • Refresh the self-catering and recreational facilities at Crowden Outdoor Education Centre.
Enabling children and young people to thrive	• 100% of eligible families who requested a Baby Pack received one. • The building work at Erics Manns is now complete and the Parent Carer Forum are now occupying the building and delivering services within the Community. • Implementation of a new education case management system to enable improved identification and targeted support for children and young people, particularly those	• Deliver a scheme to provide financial support for families with children during the school summer holidays as part of the measures agreed through the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF). • Increase permanent staffing by 2 full time equivalent (FTE) Educational Psychologists to create capacity for a targeted early intervention offer that supports schools to implement a whole school inclusive approach for children with SEND.

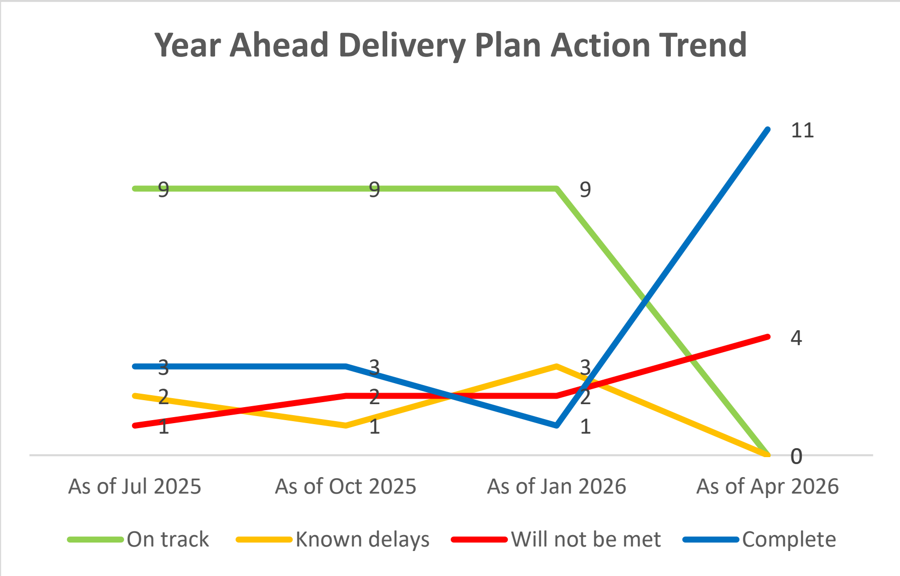
	with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), to enhance educational outcomes and preparation for adulthood. • All 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges have worked with the Council's Careers Consultants and the South Yorkshire Careers Hub to improve careers provision and meet the Gatsby Benchmarks, the national framework for high-quality career guidance. • Independent Travel Training has been delivered to support greater independence for young people with SEND, with 20 pupils trained by March 2026.	• Ongoing implementation of the new education case management system.
Keeping children and young people safe from harm	• Delivery of new in-house residential homes is progressing. One additional home opened in August 2025, a further home has been submitted for registration, and capital works are complete on another pending recruitment of a Registered Manager. • Planning and early implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme and Family Help Strategy is underway. • The No Family Left Behind Strategy was approved by Cabinet in September 2025.	• Provide the remaining two planned children's in-house residential homes • Implement the new Families First delivery model which includes early intervention, a whole-family approach, and strengthened multi-agency partnerships to provide targeted, timely support that keeps families together (as currently defined by Department for Education).

Headlines – evidencing our progress

To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 12 priorities/actions (1 action has 4 parts) and 6 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress:

Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones	Performance measures
	

Page 110


Year Ahead Delivery Plan Action Trend
9
9
9
11
4
3
3
3
2
2
2
1
1
1
0
As of Jul 2025
As of Oct 2025
As of Jan 2026
As of Apr 2026
On track
Known delays
Will not be met
Complete

Highlights – Achievements and Challenges

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to the priority actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Children and young people achieve
Achievements - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities and Performance Measures that have been completed since Quarter 2: **C1** Delivered more than 1,000 events and activities across the 2025 festival year. **C3** Improved 4 play areas across the borough as part of the Children's Playground Programme. **C4** Submitted a bid to The Cruyff Foundation for a multi-use games area by Kimberworth Park Partnership. **C5** Delivered 1,356 youth work sessions across the borough, through community and voluntary sector organisations **C6** Delivered 141,748 free school meal vouchers to support families during the school holidays. **C9** Supported all 27 schools/colleges in Rotherham to work with the Council's Careers Consultants and South Yorkshire Careers Hub **C11** Delivered 100% of Baby Packs to eligible families in Rotherham who requested one. **C12** Provided heath visitor checks for 91% of eligible children aged 2-2.5 years old across the borough. **C14** Delivered 2,762 support sessions at Children's Centres to support families with children aged 0-5 years. **C15** Issued 78.3% of EHCPs within 20 weeks, ensuring children receive effective support when needed.
Challenges - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities that will not be met within three months of the original target date or Performance Measures that have not achieved target within 2025/26: **C8** Throughout 2025/26, 20 pupils have been successfully trained to travel independently to school or college. Target not met due to issues with staff resources and sign-off delays. A new member of staff has been appointed and capacity has increased. **C13** 80.3% of babies born between 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025 were registered with a Family Hub within 6 months of birth, against a target of 90% *(higher is better)*. **C16C** Submission of registration for a fifth two-bedroom children's in-house residential home has been delayed to Quarter 2 2026/27, as recruitment for a Registered Manager is still ongoing. **C16D** Submission of registration for a sixth two-bedroom children's in-house residential home has been delayed to Quarter 3 2026/27, as capital works commenced in May 2026 and are expected to be completed in September 2026.

Page 112

C17 Plan the implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme and the Family Help Strategy, the comprehensive needs analysis has been undertaken and engagement activity undertaken to inform the development of the revised threshold document, which is being designed.

Narrative – the bigger picture

This theme encapsulates the Council's ambition for 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. This year has seen some landmark achievements in delivering on that ambition, not least Rotherham becoming the world's first Children's Capital of Culture in 2025. More than 1,000 events and activities were delivered across the year in collaboration with local partners, including major festivals and exhibitions, alongside an in-school creative learning programme reaching over 120 schools and colleges. The programme has been particularly focused on ensuring children from all backgrounds can participate, including through the Youth Programming Panel, Arts Award accreditation and Volunteering Schemes.

The Council's commitment to tackling child poverty has been given formal expression this year through the approval of the No Family Left Behind Strategy at Cabinet in September 2025. With 34% of Rotherham's children living in poverty, this strategy represents a significant step in harnessing Council and partner resources to improve life chances across the borough. Alongside this, food vouchers continued to be issued to all children eligible for free school meals throughout every school holiday period, ensuring that the most vulnerable families were not left without support.

Support for the very youngest residents has remained strong. Over the year, 100% of eligible families who requested a Baby Pack received one, and 91% of eligible children received their health visitor check at the 2 to 2.5-year mark. Children's Centres delivered 2,762 support sessions to families with children aged 0 to 5, and the council commissioned the voluntary and community sector to deliver 1,356 universal youth work sessions across the borough, ensuring those from harder to reach communities were included. All 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges have continued to work with the Council's Careers Consultants and the South Yorkshire Careers Hub on improving the quality of their careers provision against the Gatsby Benchmarks, ensuring that young people across the borough are better prepared for their futures.

Work to expand the borough's in-house residential children's homes programme has continued, with the third and fourth two-bedroom homes completing registration and opening during the year. This programme is central to the Council's commitment to keeping children in care closer to their families and communities. The completion of building work at the Eric Manns SEND centre, now occupied by the Rotherham Parent Carers Forum, is another tangible example of investment in the infrastructure that families with children with special educational needs and disabilities depend on. Play and outdoor activity areas have also seen significant investment this year, with four play areas at Chestnut Grove in Dinnington, Thrybergh Country Park, Rosehill Park and Rother Valley Country Park all having completed improvements as part of the Children's Playground Programme.

Year Ahead Delivery Plan tracker

Outcome: Children and young people achieve					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
C1	**Ensuring children and young people to have fun things to do**	Work with children and young people across the borough to deliver events throughout the 2025 Festival Year, celebrating Rotherham becoming the world's first Children's Capital of Culture.	Quarter 3	Complete	Across the 2025 festival year, more than 1,000 events and activities have been delivered. This includes major exhibitions, festivals and events delivered in collaboration with local partners, such as House of Fun and WE Wonder (Wentworth Woodhouse), Festival of Stories (Grimm & Co), and Rotherham Winter Light Festival (Flux Rotherham). It also includes a diverse in-school creative learning programme that has worked with over 120 Rotherham schools and colleges. These have achieved a combined audience engagements of over 460,000. In addition, there have been 77,849 active participations from children, young people and adults across events, activities and in school creative learning programmes. The programme also continues to support children and young people from diverse backgrounds across programmes including the Youth Programming Panel, Arts Award accreditation and Volunteering Schemes.

C2		Replace the watersplash facility at Clifton Park.	Quarter 2	Complete	The watersplash facility at Clifton Park opened to the public on 23 July 2025 to coincide with the school holidays. A celebration event took place at the Rotherham Show and featured performances.
C3		Improve 4 play areas as part of the Children's Playground Programme.	Quarter 4	Complete	Chestnut Grove play area in Dinnington was complete in May 2025. Improvement works completed at Rosehill Park Play Area on the 6 May 2026. Works at Thrybergh Country Park were completed on 1 April 2026. Works at Rother Valley Country Park play area completed on 5 June 2026.
C4		Submit a bid to the Football Foundation in support of a new multi-use games area in the borough.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Football Foundation's second round of Expressions of Interest opened later than expected in October 2025, instead of the original date of June 2025. However, an alternative bid was submitted to The Cruyff Foundation for a multi-use games area by Kimberworth Park Partnership on 27 March 2026.
C5		Performance measure: see below			
C6	**Enable children and young people to thrive**	Provide food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals during the school holidays, in line with the package of measures agreed	Quarter 4	Complete	Delivered 141,748 of free school meal vouchers to support families during the school holidays.

		through the Household Support Fund.			
C7		Complete building work on the Special Educational Needs and Disability centre at Eric Manns and hand over to the Rotherham Parents Carers Forum.	Quarter 4	Complete	The building work is now complete, and the Rotherham Parent Carers Forum are now occupying the building and delivering services within the community.
C8		Deliver Independent Travel Training to at least 30 children and young people to increase independence, through the new Home to School Transport Policy.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The scheme is specifically for children and young people in receipt of home-to-school transport due to a special educational need. Throughout 2025/26, 20 pupils have been successfully trained to travel independently to school or college. The target has not been achieved due to the number of pupils with complex needs who require additional support to achieve the required level of competence and confidence. A new Independent Travel Training Practitioner has been appointed, which will enhance the offer available with a view to increasing the number of pupils that can be trained in 2026/27. The Travel Training buddy hours have also been increased to extend the ability to train more pupils. Classroom sessions continue to be developed, and a school / alternative provision (AP) resource centre has been identified as a pilot. This will identify pupils suitable for independent travel training at

					an earlier stage, to generate a pipeline of pupils to undertake training.
C9		Support 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges, to enhance their careers provision.	Quarter 4	Complete	All 27 schools/colleges continue to work closely with the Council's Careers Consultants and the South Yorkshire Careers Hub, to achieve the revised Gatsby Benchmarks for quality careers provision. The Gatsby Benchmarks are an eight-point framework for world-class career guidance in education, outlining standards for schools, colleges, and training providers to help pupils with their future career paths, and all schools, colleges and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) are measured against them.
C10		Implement a new education case management system.	Quarter 2	Complete	Following the purchase and successful start to implementation of the new education case management system in September 2025, work is underway on data quality and migrating data. To align with the education calendar the planned go-live date for the new education case management system is Quarter 2 2026/27.
C11		Performance measures: see below			
C12					
C13					
C14					
C15					
C16a	**Keeping children and young people safe from harm**	Provide the remaining planned children's in-house residential homes to meet the needs of Rotherham children in care	Quarter 3	Complete	The Registered Manager is now in post. Registration was submitted in July 2025.

		and help make sure they stay in the borough. a. Submit registration for a **third two-bedroom home**			
C16b		b. Submit registration for a **fourth two-bedroom** home.	Quarter 3	Complete	Registration was submitted in March 2025 and the home opened in August 2025.
C16c		c. Submit registration for a **fifth two-bedroom** home.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Recruitment for a Registered Manager is still ongoing. Registration is now scheduled for Quarter 2 2026/27 subject to successful recruitment.
C16d		d. Submit registration for a **sixth two-bedroom** home.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	Following engagement with Ward members and residents, additional due diligence was undertaken, which led to the delay in the submission of a planning application. Capital works commenced in May 2026 to be completed in September 2026. Submission of registration is now scheduled for Quarter 3 2026/27.
C17		Plan the implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme and the Family Help Strategy; undertake a comprehensive needs analysis and revise the threshold document.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The commissioned needs assessment has been completed; the high-level technical information is being translated into an accessible version, to ensure it is meaningful and informative to those reading it. This will inform the next phase of work. Furthermore, the working groups have been held, with participation from families, practitioners and

					partners, and activity has now moved into the design phase. The Voice and Participation Lead has worked with Voluntary Sector groups, issuing small grants enabling representation from communities in Rotherham to engage in work to refresh the threshold document, ensuring the language is accessible for families to understand. The workshops have been completed and information gathered to inform the new design. The new document is in the design phase, with work also being undertaken to embed short scenario based video clips, to assist families understanding. This is due to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27. All recruitment to the Transformation Programme Team is complete with Education, Health and Police roles now in post. An update on the progress of the Families First Programme was presented to Cabinet on 16th March 2026.
C18		Publish a No Family Left Behind *(Rotherham's Commitment to Addressing Child Poverty)* Strategy, championing initiatives and aligning stakeholders to address child poverty.	Quarter 2	Complete	The strategy was approved and published at Cabinet on 15 September 2025.

Performance measures

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year End	Progress Update	Rag Rating
C5	Commission the voluntary and community sector to deliver 850+ universal youth work sessions so that young people have access to activities across the borough.	High	1120	850	366	275	358	357	1356	366 sessions delivered in Quarter 1 2025/26. 275 sessions delivered in Quarter 2 2025/26. 358 sessions delivered in Quarter 3 2025/26. **357** sessions delivered in Quarter 4 2025/26. This equates to 1356 sessions for 2025/26 across 2025/26. *Although care is taken to ensure data is as accurate as possible each quarter, delays in data input can result in changes in figures when reports are re-run retrospectively each quarter.*	

C11	Deliver 100% of Baby Packs to eligible Rotherham Families who have requested one.	High	n/a	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100% eligible families who have requested a Baby Pack have received one throughout 2025/26.	
C12	Provide health visitor checks to at least 85% of eligible children for their 2-2.5yr checks.	High	91%	85%	92%	92%	91%	91%	91%	91% of eligible children have received their 2 - 2 1/2-year check in Quarter 4 2025/26.	
C13	Continue to deliver high quality services across the Family Hubs network, ensure that at least 90% of families register their children within 6 months of birth.	High	90%	90%	84.2%	74%	73.8%	87.9%	80.3% cumulative annual out-turn	Data shows that since November 2025 there has been a steady increase in the numbers of children registered within 6 months of birth. The cumulative annual outturn shows that 80.3% of babies born between 1st October 2024 and 30 September 2025 were registered with a Family Hub within 6 months of birth, which falls short of the 90%	

										target, however in March 2026, 90.7% of babies were registered within 6 months of birth, achieving the 90% target in that month. Current performance has been affected by some families refusing to register and/or moving out of the area.	
C14	Children's Centres to deliver 1900+ support sessions to families with children aged 0-5 years.	High	n/a	1900	854	657	703	548	2,762	2,762 (854 Q1, 657 Q2, 703 Q3 and 548 Q4) sessions delivered to children aged 0-5 and their families.	
C15	Issue 73% of Education, Health and Care Plans within 20 weeks ensuring children receive effective	High	72.7%	73%	85.8% (Q4)	81% (Q1)	81.3% (Q2)	78.3%* (Q3)	78.3% (Data runs Jan-Dec 2025)	Measure is reported 1st January to 31st December in line with DfE reporting. As such the annual figure for this measure concluded in December 2025, which is Rotherham Council's Q3 reporting period.	

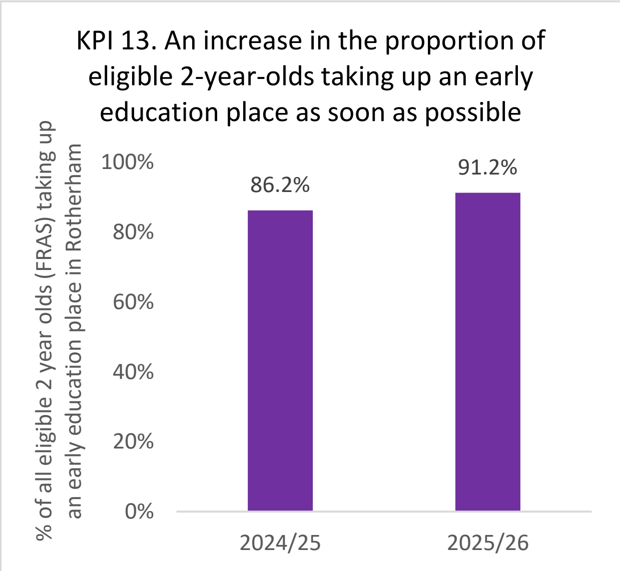
	support when needed.										

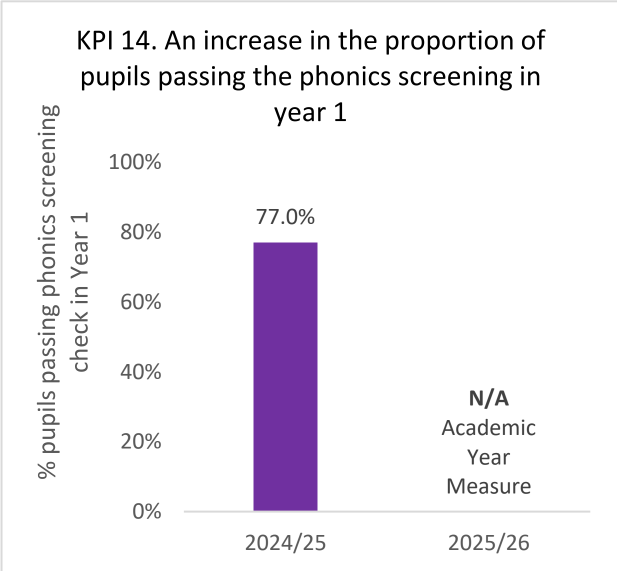
Long-term measures of success

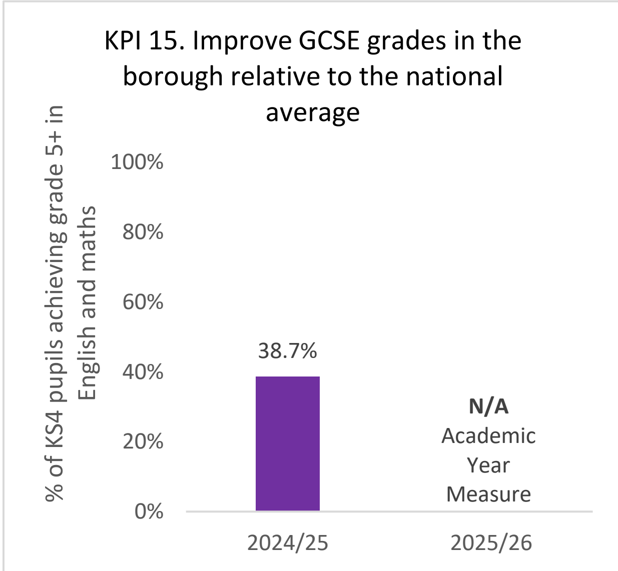
The annual long-term measures for this theme show a positive overall picture, with improvements across a range of indicators relating to early education, inclusion, and outcomes for children in care.

On this page, data shows the proportion of eligible two-year-olds taking up an early education place has risen from 86.2% to 91.2%. The strong performance in this area is due to a number of measures which are proactively taken to raise awareness, encourage take-up and ensure families are recorded on the correct eligibility code. These include; proactive engagement through family hubs, integrating early education within children's social care processes, follow-up with eligible children not in a place, ensuring children access the correct entitlement, and ongoing monitoring and sharing of data with relevant parties.

The data on phonics screening and GCSE attainment will be reported once the relevant data is available.



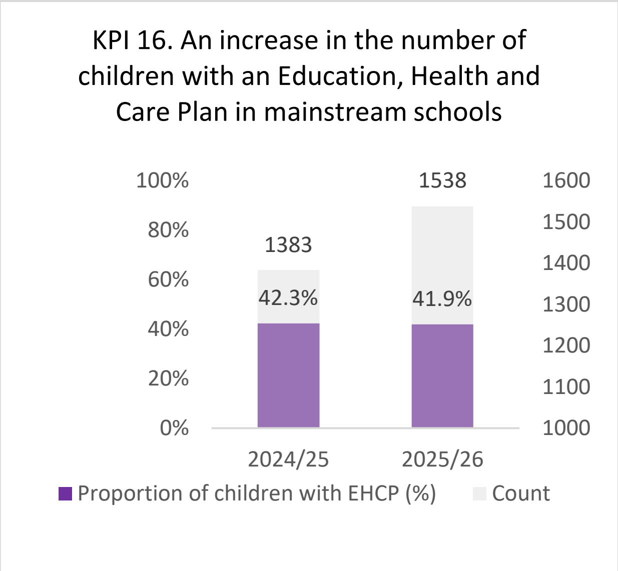


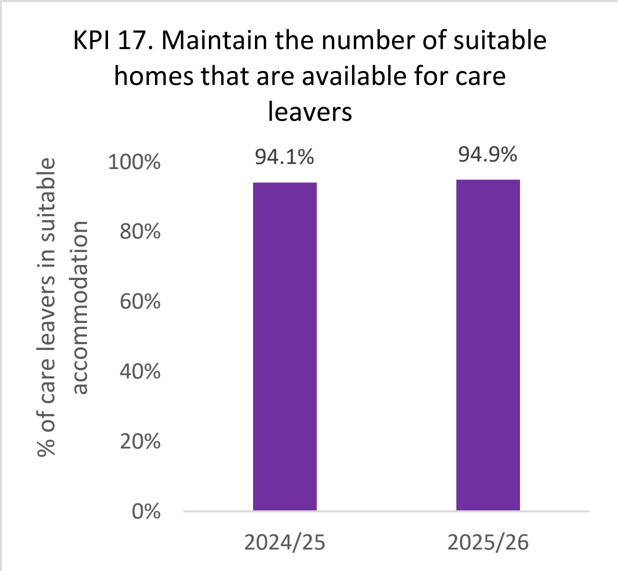


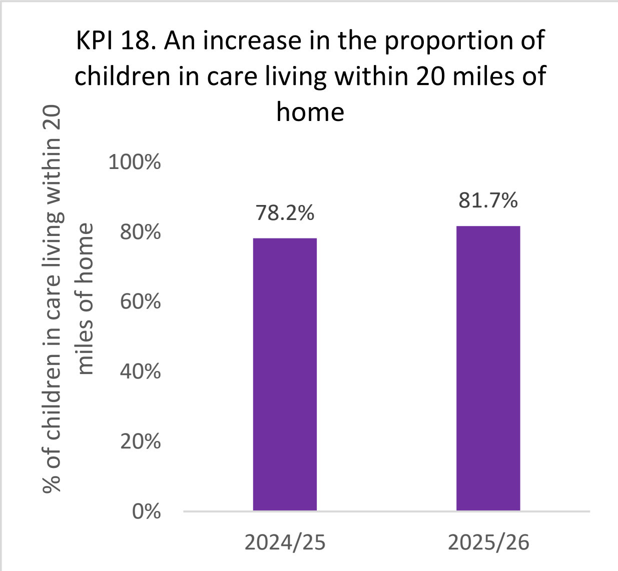
The number of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) educated in mainstream primary and secondary settings has grown from 1,383 to 1,538, though the overall proportion has slightly decreased as the total EHCP population has grown from 3,623 to 4,062. This reflects both rising demand and a deliberate shift in the system towards resourced provision attached to mainstream schools, which has seen a 29% increase in children supported in this way.

For children in care and care leavers, performance has improved. 94.9% of care leavers are in suitable accommodation, up from 94.1% last year and a priority area the Council is committed to improving further.

The proportion of children in care living within 20 miles of home has risen from 78.2% to 81.7%. This has been in part due to a strong governance arrangement for children and young people in care who are living outside the local area. The focus has been to review care planning arrangements for children in care and support them, if aligned to their care plan, to return to Rotherham. This has been done in conjunction with increasing placement sufficiency and correlates to the work done to increase local in-house residential and fostering capacity.







Case studies

Engaging dads and male carers with the Family Hubs programme

Across Rotherham, Family Hubs play an important role in helping children reach their full potential. Designed to be welcoming and inclusive, they provide high-quality early learning environments where children can safely play, explore, interact, and develop social, physical, and communication skills alongside their parents and carers.

Significant efforts have been made to encourage dads and male carers to attend Family Hubs, helping to ensure that all family members feel supported and included.

Positive Impact on Families

Feedback from families continues to highlight the positive difference Family Hubs make to children's learning, development and family wellbeing.

Marcus, who regularly attends the Aston Stay and Play group with his son, shared how access to a larger play space has allowed his son to explore more freely. This has supported his physical development and early social skills by interacting with other children. Marcus has also made good use of additional support services available at the hub, including the self-weighing service, helping him stay informed about his son's growth and development.

Figure 3 - Marcus and Reid, Aston Stay and Play group

Adam, who attends sessions with his daughter, described the benefits for both of them. He has seen her confidence, social interaction, and sharing skills improve, which he feels are particularly important as she is an only child. The sessions have given her opportunities to try new activities such as arts and crafts in a supportive environment. Attending these sessions has also had a positive impact on his own wellbeing. It has helped reduce feelings of isolation and provided valuable opportunities to meet other parents, share experiences, and offer mutual support and reassurance.

Dads and male carers tell us what makes these sessions successful is the welcoming atmosphere, inclusive staff approach, and varied activities that support children's development such as free play, outdoor experiences and singing.

Families can find out more about the support available by visiting: www.rotherham.gov.uk/family-hubs

Free Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds

Across Rotherham, Free Early Learning for 2 Year Olds plays an important role in supporting children's development and preparing them for school. The programme offers up to 15 hours of funded early education each week for eligible children, providing access to high-quality learning environments delivered by Ofsted-registered nurseries, pre-schools, childminders, and a number of schools in Rotherham.

Designed to be inclusive and accessible, the offer supports children's early development while helping families connect with wider services that promote wellbeing and positive outcomes.

Rotherham has achieved a high level of participation, with 92.3% of eligible children taking up their place in Spring 2026. This is significantly above national and regional averages and reflects a strong, coordinated approach across services and partners.

Supporting Families to Access Early Learning

A number of approaches have been put in place to ensure that eligible children are identified early and supported to access the right provision.

Children are routinely identified and checked to confirm their eligibility, helping to ensure they receive the most appropriate entitlement at the right time. This early identification supports both improved outcomes for children and the accuracy of local data.

Families are actively encouraged to take up their place through proactive engagement. Working closely with Best Start in Life Family Hubs, staff contact eligible families directly and offer practical support. Outreach workers provide face-to-face guidance, including home visits, helping parents and carers understand the benefits of early education, address any concerns, and complete applications.

Strong partnership working with Children's Social Care further strengthens this approach. Early education is embedded within social care processes, with regular data sharing used to identify children who are eligible but not yet attending. Social workers support families to access provision as part of wider planning, and where needed, programmes such as PEEP (Learning Through Play) provide a stepping-stone where needed.

Families who have not yet taken up a place are contacted regularly to understand and address any barriers. This personalised follow-up ensures that support is tailored to individual circumstances and that no child misses out on the opportunities available.

Making a Positive Difference

This coordinated approach continues to make a positive difference for children and families across Rotherham. By identifying children early, engaging families proactively, and working in partnership across services, more children are able to benefit from high-quality early learning experiences.

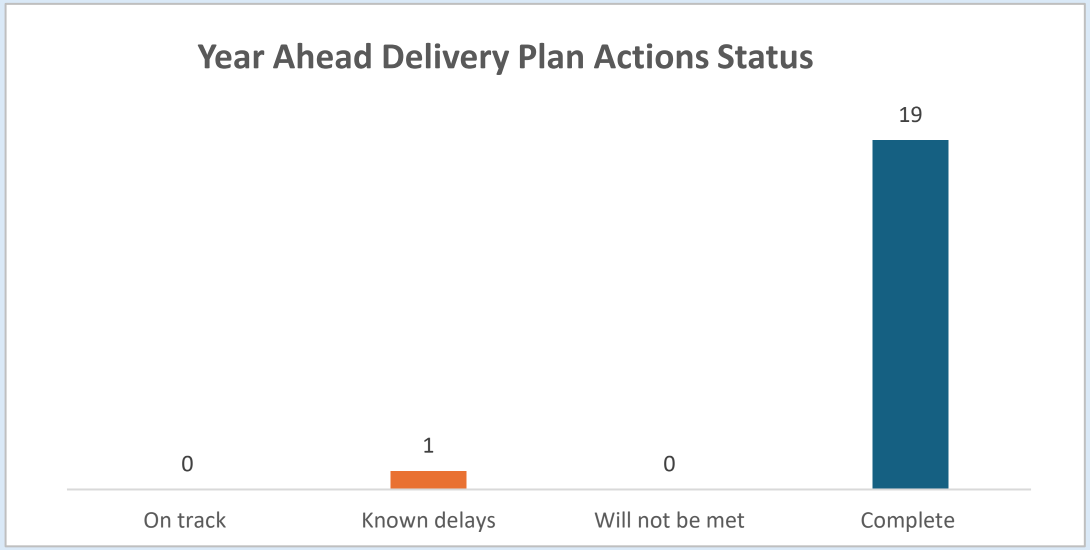
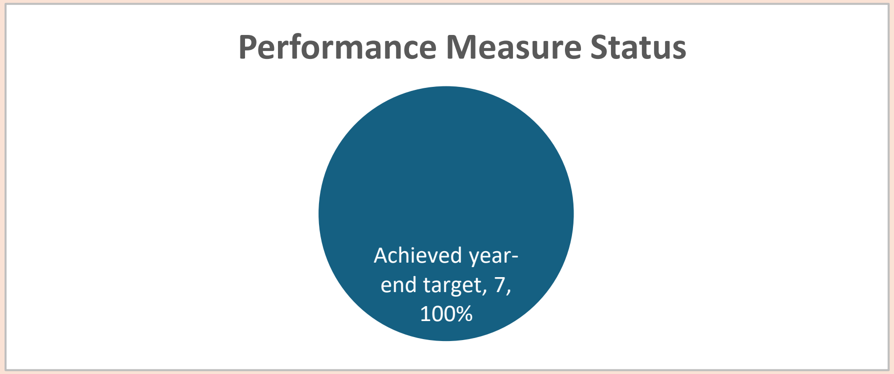

Big book
Big Ships
Pirate's
Treasure

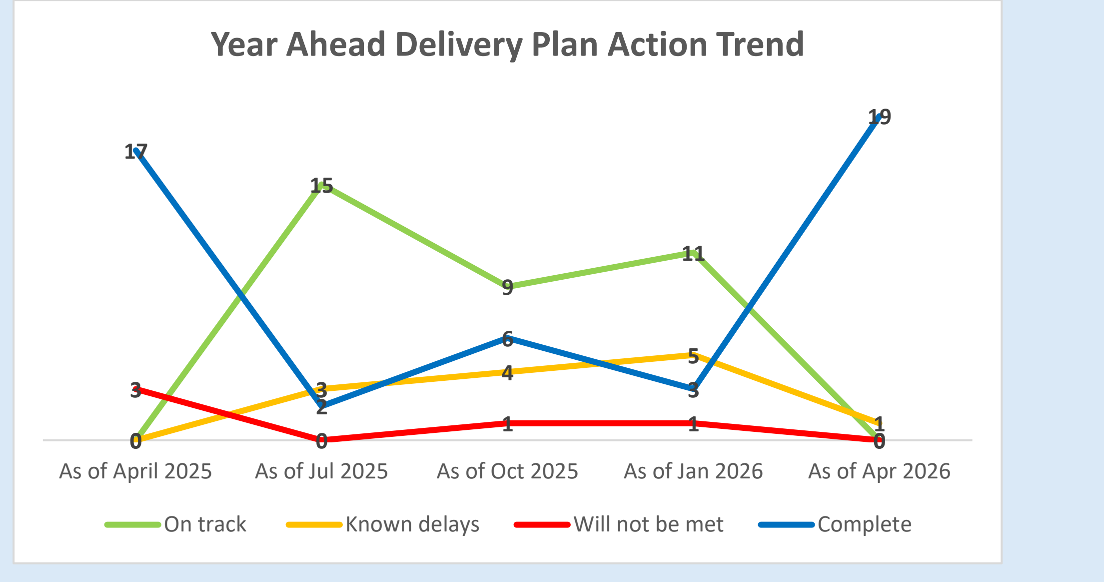
Outcome: Residents live well		
Priorities	**The differences you are seeing in the first year of the Council Plan**	**The differences you will see in 2026/27**
Better physical and mental wellbeing	• Provided 8,624 NHS health checks for Rotherham residents. • An Active Hub (Every Move Counts) has been supporting patients to access physical activity opportunities since July 2025. • Started works in January 2026 on the first phase of a Health Hub to provide health-based services in the town centre.	• Continued delivery of NHS Health Checks for Rotherham residents, with a further 8,500 health checks provided during 2026/27. • Introduction of a pilot half-price swimming offer for residents aged over 65 across leisure centres in Aston, Maltby, Rotherham and Wath. • Complete construction works for Health Hub phase 1.
Assisting people to live independent, safe and well.	• Rothercare has been live since April 2025 in collaboration with Mediquip delivering a wide range of equipment. • Completed works for Castle View Day Service which will provide new day opportunities for people with high support needs. The centre opened in June 2026. • The Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme has been delivered for 2025/26 with the discount applied to all Council Tax Support claimants.	• Improved access to adult social care support through the introduction of an online self-assessment tool, empowering people in their adult social care journey. • Launch of Thrive at Castle View, providing new day opportunities to support people with complex care and support needs closer to home. • Delivery of the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up Scheme for working households receiving council tax support, alongside a Crisis Support Scheme providing one-off financial support for residents experiencing financial difficulty.

Good quality, affordable homes for all.	• By the end of Quarter 4, 788 new council homes had been delivered against the target of 1,000 by 2027. • Expanded the Council's temporary accommodation portfolio to 173 homes. • A total of 85 homes have been delivered through the acquisitions workstream throughout 2025/26.	• Continued delivery of the Council's commitment to providing 1,000 new council homes, alongside improvements to the quality of existing Council homes. • At least 35 long-term private sector empty homes brought back into use through Council support and intervention. • Delivery of 101 new Council homes through acquisitions from private sector housebuilders and the open market, alongside new homes developed through the Council's Small Sites Homebuilding Initiative.

Headlines – evidencing our progress

To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 13 priorities/actions (1 action has multiple parts) and 7 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress:

Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones	Performance measures
	



Highlights – Achievements and Challenges

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to the priority actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

Residents live well
Achievements - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities and Performance Measures that have been completed since Quarter 2: **R1** Commissioned an Active Hub (Every Move Counts) to support people with long-term health conditions to access physical activity opportunities. **R3** Provided 8,624 NHS Heath Checks for Rotherham residents. **R4** Supported 1,494 Rotherham residents to set a Quit Date, as part of the ambition for a Smoke Free Rotherham. **R5** Completed building works, and opened Castle View Day Service, which will provide new day opportunities for people with high support needs. **R8** Agreed an updated Domestic Abuse Strategy to continue to improve the support available to victims.

R9 Delivered the Learning Disabilities Strategy priorities for 2025 and increased capacity to support up to 100 additional residents with Learning Disability and Autism at any one time. **R10** Delivered the Council’s Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme, providing up to £126 to working households in receipt of council tax support. **R11** Ensured 84% of Domestic Abuse referrals were actively engaged in and support offered, even as demand has increased compared to Quarter 4 or 2024/25. **R12** Ensured that 98.14% of new Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support claims are dealt with within 14 days of receipt. **R13** Completed the Council new build project at Warden Street, Canklow. **R14a** Completed the Council new build project at Albert Road and Princess Street. **R14b** Completed the Council new build project at the Former Ship Inn Site, Swinton. **R14e** Started groundwork on new homes at Wath. **R14g** Delivered 85 new Council homes through acquisition either from private sector housebuilders or direct from the open market. **R14h** Brought 36 long term empty homes back into use through Council support. **R17** Completed 6,490 full stock condition surveys throughout 2025/26. **R18** Expanded the Council’s temporary accommodation portfolio to 173 homes. **R19** Ensured that 95.4% of council housing repairs were completed ‘Right 1st time’. **R20** Ensured that 61.1% of council homes have ab EPC C and above energy performance rating.
Challenges - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities that will not be met within three months of the original target date or Performance Measures that have not achieved target within 2025/26: **R14d** Groundwork is due to commence on new homes at Eastwood in Quarter 1 2026/27.

Narrative – the bigger picture

The 'Residents Live Well' outcome focusses on ensuring better physical and mental wellbeing, enabling people to live independently, safely and well, and providing access to good quality, affordable homes.

The Active Hub (Every Move Counts), launched in July 2025, has continued to support residents with long-term health conditions to access physical activity and improve their wellbeing. Alongside this, a range of initiatives have strengthened resident independence and safety. The Castle View Day Service building was completed in May and opened in June 2026. The Rothercare analogue to digital switchover was also completed for over 5,000 residents ahead of the January 2027 national deadline. Broader support was reinforced through the refreshed Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026/27–2028/29, approved in April 2026, focused on improving victim support and tackling perpetrators.

Progress has also continued in supporting inclusion, employment, and financial resilience. Delivery of Learning Disability Strategy priorities has accelerated, with additional supported employment funding from September 2025 helping over 50 residents into employment-related activity. Governance has been strengthened through the relaunch of the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the creation of a dedicated voice forum to embed lived experience. Financial support has been maintained through the Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme, assisting eligible households throughout the year.

Significant progress has been made in housing delivery and policy implementation. A number of developments were completed in the second half of 2025/26, including Warden Street (completed Quarter 4, awaiting allocation) and schemes at Albert Road, Princess Street, and the former Ship Inn site in Swinton (completed and let in Quarter 3). Other sites progressed, with groundworks starting at Maltby in Quarter 2 and developments at Wath and West Melton advancing to site, while Eastwood is due to start on site in Quarter 1 2026/27. The Council exceeded its acquisitions target, delivering 85 new homes, and brought 36 long-term empty properties back into use by year end. Key policy measures included the launch of the Selective Licensing scheme in February 2026 and implementation of the new Housing Allocations Policy from December 2025. 6,490 stock condition surveys were completed against a target of 6,000, improving insight into housing stock and informing future investment.

Year Ahead Delivery Plan tracker

Outcome: Residents live well					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
R1	**Better physical and mental wellbeing**	Commission an Active Hub to establish referral support for people with long-term health conditions to access physical activity opportunities.	Quarter 3	Complete	Active Hub (Every Move Counts) is commissioned and being delivered by Rotherham Connect Healthcare Community Interest Company (CIC). The programme continues to have a phased roll out with patients supported by health coaches to access physical activity opportunities. Hub has been established and accepting referrals since July 2025.
R2		Launch a specialised support service for people who have attempted suicide.	Quarter 1	Complete	The specialised support for people who have attempted suicide launched in April 2025 and is accepting referrals.
R3 R4		Performance measures: see below			
R5	**Assisting people to live independent, safe and well**	Complete the building work for Castle View Day Service which will provide new day opportunities for people with high support needs.	Quarter 4	Complete	Building works for Castle View Day Service were completed in May. The service is now operational, following a successfully delivered and carefully managed phased transition that maintained continuity of care for individuals with high support needs. The formal opening on 11 June 2026 marks a significant milestone in strengthening high-quality local provision and increasing system capacity.

R6		Deliver the Rothercare analogue to digital switchover for over 5,000 residents.	Quarter 3	Complete	The switchover has been fully completed. Delivery is ahead of the national January 2027 deadline.
R7		Launch a new technology service that will provide a broader range of equipment to enable people to remaining living at home for as long as possible.	Quarter 1	Complete	New Technology Offer went live on 1 April 2025. Rothercare are now working in collaboration with Mediquip to deliver a wider range of equipment.
R8		Agree an updated Domestic Abuse Strategy to continue to improve the support available to victims and the actions taken to address perpetrators of violence and abuse.	Quarter 4	Complete	The refreshed Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026/27-2028/29 was approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership and endorsed by Cabinet on 13 April 2026. The refreshed strategy will continue to improve the support available to victims and the actions taken to address perpetrators of violence and abuse. Regular oversight of the Strategy will be undertaken by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board and the Improving Lives Select Committee.
R9		Deliver the Learning Disability Strategy priorities for 2025, which will include a new transition pathway for young people preparing for adulthood, increasing the number of young people accessing employment opportunities and embedding the voice of the young person	Quarter 4	Complete	Additional funding for Supported Employment commenced in September 2025, increasing capacity to support up to 100 additional residents with Learning Disability and Autism at any one time. This funding, provided through SYMCA and the Department for Work and Pensions as part of the Get Britain Working programme, has already supported over 50 residents into employment-related activity.

		in their care and support journey.			Governance and oversight of the Learning Disability Strategy have been strengthened through the relaunch of the Learning Disability Partnership Board, which will monitor progress against agreed priorities. A dedicated voice forum, facilitated by Speak Up advocacy, has been established to capture lived experience and inform ongoing delivery. The Preparing for Adulthood programme continues to embed the voice of young people across all workstreams, with targeted engagement undertaken through the Guiding Voices group to shape service development and improve transition experiences.
R10		Deliver the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme, providing up to £126 to working households in receipt of council tax support.	Quarter 4	Complete	The scheme has been delivered for 2025/26 with the discount applied to all Council Tax Support claimants. The scheme was kept live during the year as claimants can move in and out of eligibility and new claimants may come forward during the year as their circumstances change.
R11		Performance measures: see below			
R12					
R13	**Good quality, affordable homes for all**	Continue the delivery of our ambitious Council Homes Delivery Programme:	Quarter 3	Complete	All homes were completed in Quarter 4 2025/26. These homes have been advertised and are awaiting allocation.

		Complete the Council new build project at Warden Street, Canklow.			
R14a		Complete the Council new build project at Albert Road and Princess Street.	Quarter 3	Complete	All homes were completed and let within Quarter 3 2025/26.
R14b		Complete the Council new build project at the Former Ship Inn Site, Swinton.	Quarter 3	Complete	All homes were completed and let within Quarter 3 2025/26.
R14c		Start groundwork on new homes at Maltby.	Quarter 2	Complete	Groundworks on these new homes has started. A spade in the ground event was held on 26 September 2025.
R14d		Start groundwork on new homes at Eastwood.	Quarter 4	Known delays	Start on site is now expected to take place in Quarter 1 2026/27.
R14e		Start groundwork on new homes at Wath.	Quarter 3	Complete	Scheme started on site in Quarter 4 2025/26.
R14f		Start groundwork on former Albert Club, West Melton.	Quarter 1	Complete	Scheme started on site in June 2025.
R14g		Deliver 75 new Council homes through acquisition either from private sector housebuilders (through planning obligations) or direct from the open market.	Quarter 4	Complete	A total of 85 homes have been delivered through the acquisitions workstream throughout 2025/26. These homes were acquired from private sector housebuilders (through planning obligations) or direct from the open market.
R14h		Bring at least 30 long term empty homes back into use through Council support.	Quarter 4	Complete	At year-end 2025/26, 36 empty homes have been brought back into use.
R15		Develop proposals in relation to Selective Licensing which seek to protect private tenants, support landlords and improve housing conditions within the Borough.	Quarter 2	Complete	The Cabinet approved the Selective Licensing Report on 20 October 2025, which included consultation feedback and recommendations to move forward with additional designations. This decision was reviewed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB), which

					confirmed the Cabinet's decision. This action is now complete. After a mandated 3-month period, the scheme commenced in February 2026.
R16		Agree a new Housing Allocations Policy.	Quarter 3	Complete	Cabinet agreed the new Housing Allocations Policy on 15 September 2025. The Policy went live on 1 December 2025. An Implementation Plan is in place to support this and the management of IT changes alongside resident communication.
R17		Complete full stock condition surveys to 6,000 properties.	Quarter 4	Complete	Throughout 2025/26, 6,490 full stock condition surveys were completed.
R18		Performance measure: see below			
R19					
R20					

Performance measures

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year End	Progress Update	Rag Rating
R3	Provide 8,500 NHS Health Checks for Rotherham Residents.	High	7673	8,500	2,325	1,950	6,457	8,624	8,624	Quarter 1 – 2,325 (target of 2,125 Q1) Health Checks have been delivered to Rotherham residents; the service is on target. Quarter 2 – 4,275 (target of 4,250 Q2) Health Checks have been delivered to Rotherham residents; the service is on target. Quarter 3 – 6,457 (target of 6,375 Q3) Health Checks have been delivered to Rotherham residents; the service is on target. Quarter 4 – 8,624 (target of 8,500 Q4) Health Checks have been delivered to Rotherham	

										residents; the service is on target.	
R4	Support the Rotherham Ambition for a Smoke Free Rotherham by supporting 1,000 Rotherham residents to set a Quit Date.	High	1,176	1,000	270	402	254	568	1,494	Quarter 1 - 270 (target of 250 Q1) Rotherham residents have been supported to set a quit date; the service is on target. Quarter 2 - 672 (target of 500 Q2) Rotherham residents have been supported to set a quit date; the service is on target. Quarter 3 - 926 (target of 750 Q3) Rotherham residents have been supported to set a quit date; the service is on target. Quarter 4 – 1,494 (target of 1000 Q4) Rotherham residents have been supported to set a quit date; the service is on target	

R11	Ensure that a minimum of 70% of Domestic Abuse referrals are actively engaged in any support offered.	High	n/a	>70%	74%	85%	75%	84%	n/a	The number of referrals to Domestic Abuse Support Service in Quarter 4 (948) has increased by 50 when compared to Quarter 3 (898). This is also an increase when compared to Quarter 4 2024/25 by 62 incidents. The Domestic Abuse engagement rate has seen an increase of 8% when compared with Quarter 3 (75%) and a 24% increase when compared with Quarter 4 (59%) 24/25.	
R12	Increase the proportion of new claims for Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support are dealt with within 14 days of receipt of all necessary	High	98.4 %	98%	98.56 %	98.59 %	98.43 %	98.14 %	98.14 %	The service has ensured that 98% or more claims for Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support are being dealt with within 14 days of receipt of all necessary information. At year end 2025/26, the rate was 98.14%.	

	information to 98%.										
R18	Expand the Council's temporary accommodation portfolio to at least 173 homes	High	160	173	167	173	*	*	n/a	The portfolio consisted of 173 properties at Quarter 2 (service deadline).	
R19	Maintain the proportion of council housing repairs completed 'Right 1st time' to achieve at least 93%.	High	94.5 %	>93%	95.2 %	95.7 %	95.7 %	95.4 %	95.4%	Performance in Quarter 1 25/26 was 95.2%. Performance in Quarter 2 25/26 was 95.7%. Performance in Quarter 3 25/26 was 95.7%. Performance in Quarter 4 25/26 was 95.4%. The year-end performance for right first time is 95.4%.	

R20	50% of council homes to have an EPC C energy performance rating.	High	58%	50%	59.2 %	60.6 %	60.9 %	61.1 %	61.1%	The year-end proportion of council housing with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated C and above is 61.1%. A programme is being developed to deliver the warmer homes funding to improve energy efficiency of circa 1,100 properties over the next three years.	

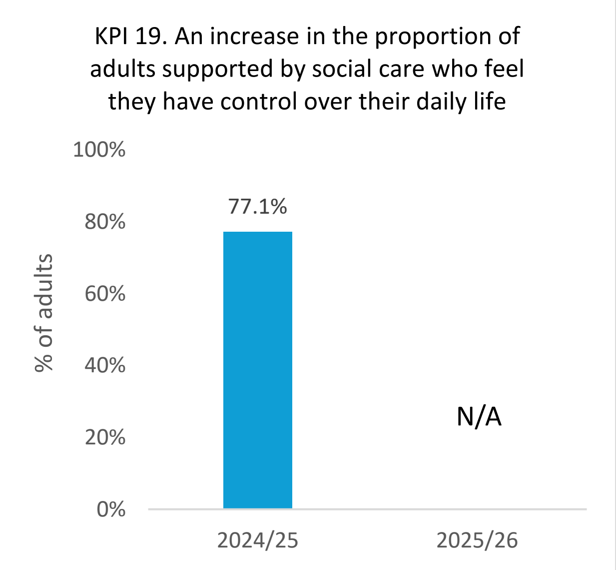
Long-term measures of success

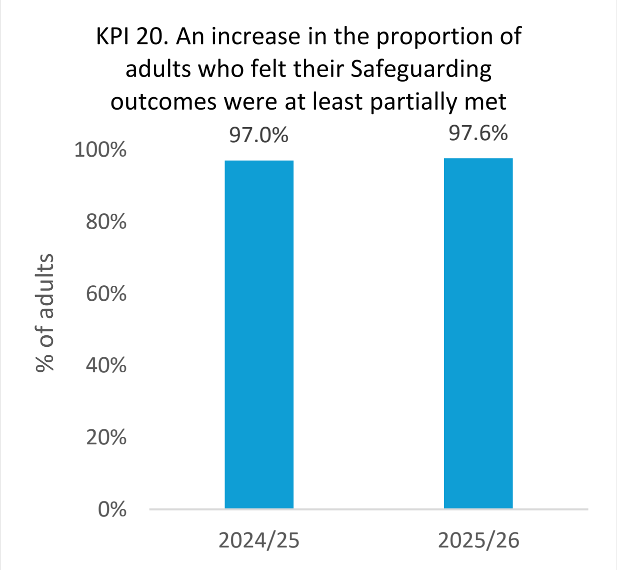
The annual long-term measures for the Residents Live Well theme reflect sustained performance in safeguarding and housing, with data on some measures still outstanding pending national publication.

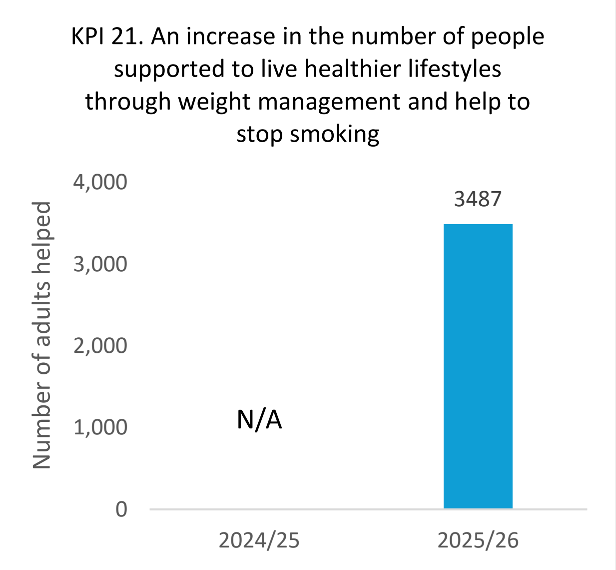
On adult safeguarding, the Council achieved 97.6% effectiveness in meeting adults' desired outcomes by year end, building on last year's strong performance. The reflects the Council's 'Making Safeguarding Personal' approach, which ensures safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focussed.

In total, the Council delivered 3,487 smoking cessation and adult weight management interventions over the year, supporting residents to live more healthy lives.

Results from the Adult Social Care Survey, which will inform the measure of how many adults supported by social care feel they have control over their daily lives (KPI 19), are scheduled for publication by the Department for Health and Social Care in Autumn 2026.





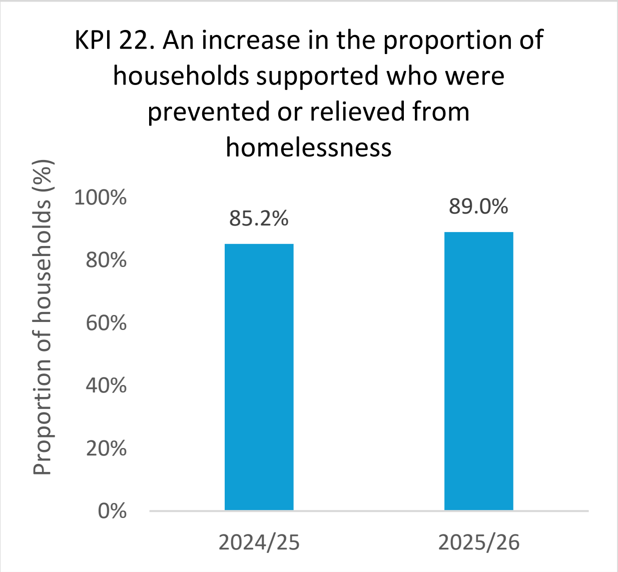


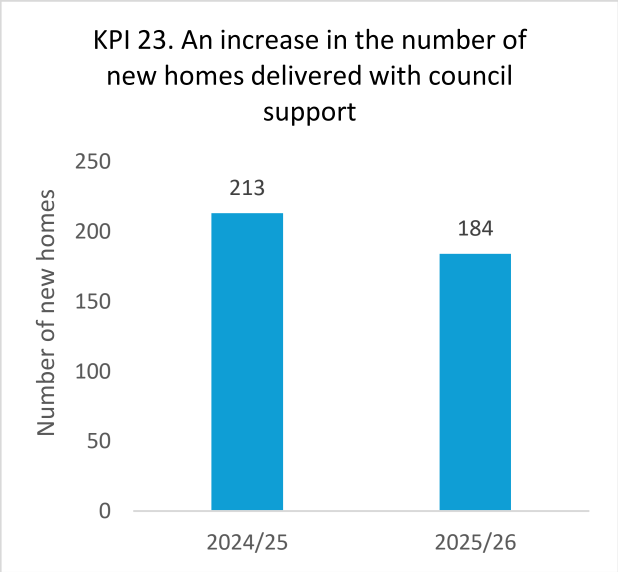
Page 145

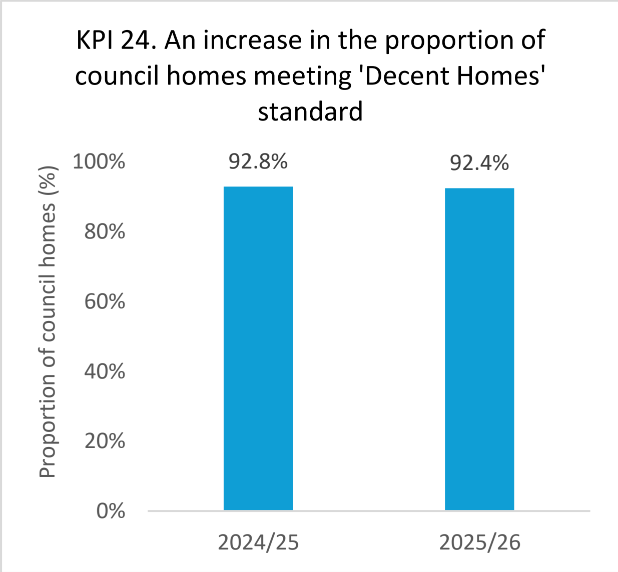
In housing, 89% of households supported were prevented or relieved from homelessness, exceeding the 85% set in the previous year. This is a strong result given continuing pressures on the housing market and increasing complexity of demand.

184 new homes were delivered with Council support during the year, 114 were delivered directly by the Council, and a further 70 enabled through Council support including 36 empty private sector properties brought back into use. While this is below the 213 homes delivered in 2024/25, the reduction reflects a smaller planned programme of 100 direct Council homes in 2025/26 compared to 150 the previous year. With 150 Council homes planned for 2026/27 including completions at the Maltby and Wath direct build sites, the Council expects this year's figure to be met or exceeded.

Finally, there was a slight drop in the proportion of council homes that met the ‘Decent Homes’ standard since last year. The aim remains to increase the proportion of council homes meeting the Decent Homes Standard, however, performance can be influenced by a range of factors. In 2025, Housing Services began a three-year programme to survey all properties to assess their condition and identify hazards. Within the first year, 6,490 surveys were completed, this is likely to impact the overall level of decency, as more issues are identified through the survey process. Despite this, it is positive to note that the proportion of homes meeting the Decent Homes Standard has only decreased marginally, by 0.4% compared to the previous year.







Case studies

Canklow, Warden Street

Warden Street / Castle Avenue in Canklow is a joint venture between housing and adult social care. The scheme provides 15 new Council homes, comprising a mix of general needs, specialist accommodation, and a purpose-built Day Care Centre. The development includes 13 two-bedroom apartments for older people, designed to support ageing in place, alongside one two-bedroom Disabled Person apartment for households requiring enhanced accessibility. A key feature of the development is the provision of a four-bedroom accessible bungalow, an accommodation type that is in particularly high demand. This property type is critical in supporting independence for families with acute needs and was specifically designed to meet the requirements of larger households requiring a fully accessible, bungalow-style home. The design enables flexibility, dignity, and long-term sustainability for families where one or more members have significant health or mobility needs.

The importance of delivering this type of home was evidenced through a previously completed four-bedroom bungalow in East Herringthorpe, which supported a family with acute health needs. Feedback from the resident highlighted the transformational impact of accessible, appropriately designed housing; “This home has changed everything. I can now move around freely and no longer feel embarrassed having visitors. It’s given my children their childhood back”.

<u>Identification of need:</u>

Housing Intelligence was used to inform the business case and shape the development by identifying clear gaps in local provision. At the time, there were no two-bedroom council-rent apartments in the ward and no two or three-bedroom bungalows in Canklow, with limited bungalow supply across the wider Boston Castle Ward. Housing Register data showed significant levels of medical (13%) and ground-floor (9%) need, alongside a trend of under-occupancy within existing stock. This evidenced the need for a new, accessible housing offer that could better meet diverse needs and encourage downsizing. Downsizing supports tenants through improved suitability, accessibility and reduced living costs, while also enabling better use of social housing stock. In line with Rotherham’s Allocations Policy, which prioritises downsizers, and recognising the borough’s ageing population, the decision was made to age-restrict the properties.

<u>Impact:</u>

Feedback has been gathered from tenants residing in the new homes at Canklow Warden Street to understand their initial experiences and the impact of the properties on their daily lives. Overall, responses have been highly positive. Tenants described the homes as “spacious and modern” and noted that living there has been “very enjoyable.”

One tenant highlighted a significant improvement in their circumstances, explaining that they had previously lived in shared accommodation but are now able to have their children stay with them more regularly as a result of having their own home.

Across the feedback, tenants consistently expressed satisfaction with both the space and the design of their new properties, indicating that the development has positively contributed to their quality of life.

Stop Smoking case study

Scott, from Rotherham, started smoking when he was 17. What began as curiosity - watching friends and family smoke - soon became a 25-year addiction. Last year he quit smoking with help from his local stop smoking service, showing that it is never too late to quit. *“I grew up around smoking. My mum smoked, my grandad smoked, and most of my friends smoked. I always wondered why, and eventually my curiosity got the better of me. That’s why I tried my first cigarette. Before I knew it, smoking was part of my routine and part of my identity. Smoking was easy for me – I've always worked outside, so I didn’t have to wait for breaks - I could smoke whenever I wanted. It was easy for me to smoke 20 to 25 cigarettes a day.”*

Scott, who turns 50 next month, knows first-hand the harm smoking can cause. His mum was diagnosed with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in her 50s and sadly passed away around 20 years later. *“I watched my mum die from COPD which was caused by smoking. She struggled a lot and it wasn’t nice to see. I didn’t want my kids to go through that. I didn’t want them - or my grandkids - to see me that way, or for me not to be around for them. Smoking started taking its toll on my health soon after. I was always coughing – sometimes so hard I nearly blacked out. I’ve even broken ribs from it. I’m currently being assessed for bronchitis, and I knew continuing to smoke could lead to COPD. That’s when it really hit me - I had to do something if I wanted to be there for my family.”*

Like most people who quit, Scott had tried to quit before. *“During COVID, I tried using my local stop smoking service, but it was all over the phone. I was given patches, but they didn’t work for me. At work, I’d end up asking the lads for a cigarette, and before I knew it, I was back smoking. “Last year, I went back to the service but this time I used Varenicline. My advisor, young Sam, was brilliant from the start. We got on well and those appointments kept me accountable. I knew he’d be checking my CO [carbon monoxide] levels, and I didn’t want to let him down.”*

Since quitting, Scott has experienced an improvement in his health and daily life. *“My lungs have cleared up a lot, and I feel so much healthier. But it’s more than that - I am so much more present. I don’t have to stop games halfway through to go outside to smoke, I don’t leave the table when we’re at a restaurant for a family birthday, and I don’t have to delay playing games with my grandkids to have a cigarette first. You don’t realise how much time you spend in the garden until you get that time back.” Scott is encouraging others to quit smoking too. “My attitude used to be that stopping was for quitters – I was stubborn when it came to quitting and I didn’t like people telling me what to do. “Now all I can say is that I was wrong. Quitting is, not to be cheesy, but it is* *lifechanging – it changes how I behave, how I spend my time and the quality of my life. "It's not as hard as you think - especially with the right support. Take advantage of the help that's out there and just give it a go."*

Social Care Measures

This new set of 12 measures will reflect how effectively the Council is delivering services that support vulnerable children and adults, including those in residential care and carers. They focus on key areas such as independence, access to support, and safeguarding, and will be used to track progress and drive improvement across social care services.

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year End	Progress Update	Rag Rating
SC1	Proportion of adults with social care support, remaining at home.	High	72.78% (2821)	N/A	72.6% (2869)	72.5% (2874)	73.3% (2939)	73.6% (2878)	73.6% (2878)	Performance remains positive with a high proportion of adults with social care support continuing to live independently in their own homes, reflecting the effectiveness of prevention, enablement and community-based support.	

SC2	Number of new admissions to residential care homes for older people as a rate per 100K population.	Low (in line with Peers)	581.40	616.02	151.20	156.80	126.94	93.82	520.63	The Better Care Fund target for 2025–26 is to reduce the number of older people admitted to residential care to no more than 330 admissions over the year, equivalent to a population rate of 607.18 per 100,000. Reporting for this measure has transitioned to the national Client Level Dataset (CLD) definition for long-term admissions to residential and nursing care, which provides a more stable and accurate reflection of activity and aligns with national statutory returns. Performance in Quarter 4 remained well within target, with 51 admissions recorded (93.82 per 100,000), compared to a quarterly target of fewer	
SC3	Number of new admissions to residential care homes for older people.	Low (in line with Peers)	327	>330	80	82	70	51	283		

										than 83 admissions (153 per 100,000). For the full year to date, 283 admissions have been recorded as of 9 April 2026, equating to a rate of 520.63 per 100,000 population. This represents performance significantly better than the annual target and demonstrates continued success in supporting older people to remain living independently where appropriate.	
SC4	Proportion of Adults who were enabled to be independen t after short term at home support.	High	90.60%	90%	92.4%	92.4%	94.5%	95.9%	93.8% %	Performance for this measure remains strong. In Quarter 4, **95.9%** of adults were supported to remain independent following short-term supp ort in their own homes. The year-end position of **93.8%** exceeds the annual target of **90%**, demonstrating the continued effectiveness of	

Page 153

										enablement and reablement services. This measure has remained on track throughout the year. Data is refreshed quarterly to ensure accuracy, and work is underway to align the local definition with the national Client Level Dataset definition from 2026–27 to support consistency with statutory reporting.	
SC5	Proportion of carers who find it easy to find information about support.	Better than National Average	n/a	Better than National Average	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	This indicator is reported from the Survey of Adult Carers in England (SACE), managed by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and undertaken every two years. The 2025/26 survey will commence in October 2025. In the previous 2023-24 Survey of Adult Carers 59.5% of Rotherham carers felt it was easy to find information about support. This ranked the	

										Council 77 out of 151 councils, slightly above the national average (59.1%), and in line with the regional Yorkshire and Humber average score (59.5%). **Unable to full assess this measure until the next national data release in Autumn 2026.	
SC6	Number of 0-17year old children who are a Child in Need as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population.	Low	310.7	<375.5	310.6	306.4	321.4	320.1	320.1	320.1 at the end of Quarter 4 showing a decrease of 1.3 compared to Quarter 3 equating to a decrease of 8 young people. The annual outturn shows an increase of 9.4, equating to 100 young people in comparison with the 2024/25 year-end position but still comfortably below target. **Note that the full year's data is refreshed each quarter to take into account any backdated	

										updates made to the system between reports.	
SC7	Number of 0-17year old children with a child protection plan as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population.	Low	54.2	<55	44.9	40.2	43.9	43.3	43.3	**43.3** at the end of Quarter 4 showing a 0.6 decrease compared to Q3 equating to a decrease of 3 young people. The annual outturn is a decrease of 10.9, equating to a decrease of 57 young people in comparison with the 2024/25 year-end position. **Note that the full year's data is refreshed each quarter to take into account any backdated updates made to the system between reports.	
SC8	Number of 0-17year old children in care as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs	Low	83	<90.0	76.1	77.8	78.6	80.8	80.8	**80.8** at the end of Quarter 4 showing a 2.2 increase compared to Q3 equating to an increase of 13 young people, this has been slowly increasing throughout the year but remains under target. The annual outturn is a	

	population.									decrease of 2.2 and a decrease of 1 young person in comparison with the 2024/25 year-end position. **Note that the full year's data is refreshed each quarter to take into account any backdated updates made to the system between reports.	
SC9	Number of 0-17year old children open to the Family Help service as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population.	n/a	403.8	n/a	349.0	337.4	323.6	351.1	351.1	**351.1** at the end of Quarter 4 showing an increase of 27.5 compared to Q3 equating to an increase of 75 young people. The annual outturn is a decrease of 52.7, equating to a decrease of 117 young people in comparison with the 2024/25 year-end position. **Note that the full year's data is refreshed each quarter to take into account any backdated updates made to the system between reports.	No target

SC10	Number of children and young people assessed as having a medium to high risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).	n/a	15	n/a	14	16	23	19	19	**19** at the end of Quarter 4 showing a decrease of 4 young people compared to Quarter 3. The annual outturn is an increase of 4 young people compared to the 2024/25 year-end position.	No target
SC11	Number of children and young people assessed as having a medium to high risk of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).	n/a	44	n/a	47	46	57	51	51	51 at the end of Quarter 4 showing a decrease of 6 young people compared to Quarter 3. The annual outturn is an increase of 7 young people compared to the 2024/25 year-end position.	No target
SC12	Proportion of children and young people being referred to	Low	17.3%	<22%	19.00 %	19.10 %	18.50 %	19.60 %	19.00%	**19.6%** of referrals in Quarter 4 were re-referrals, showing a 1.1% increase on Quarter 3. The annual outturn is 19.0%, this is an increase	

Page 158

	social care services for a second of subsequent time within 12 months.									of 2.7% compared to the 2024/25 outturn but still comfortably below target.	

Outcome – One Council that listens and learns

Priorities	The differences you are seeing in the first year of the Council Plan	The differences you'll see in 2026/27
Better customer experience	• Increased the number of services available digitally for customers, with the digital pest control appointment service going live in Quarter 3, followed by new online booking forms for Secure Green Spaces. Throughout 2025/26, a total of 169 new online forms were created, with a further 167 forms amended or updated. A new complaints system and policy was introduced from April 2026. • Implementation of a new IT system (Confirm) to support borough cleanliness, remaining elements are now planned for delivery during 2026.	• An improved and expanded range of online customer services, including the introduction of a new trees system, alongside enhancements to housing repairs services. • Customer telephone wait time in the corporate contact centre averages 2.5 minutes or below, by Quarter 4.
Working in partnership with our communities	• The new Rotherham Plan for the Rotherham Together Partnership was endorsed by partner organisations in May 2026, including Cabinet, and launched at a showcase event at Magna on 11 June 2026. • Cabinet approved a new Inclusion Strategy 2026-2030 in February. • Launched new consultation software in April 2026 to improve the Council's approach to consultation with residents. • Launched new Tenant Engagement Framework, which was developed through co-production.	• Secure Tenant Participatory Advice Service (TPAS) Exemplar Status, recognising strengthened tenant engagement arrangements through independent accreditation by England's leading tenant engagement organisation.

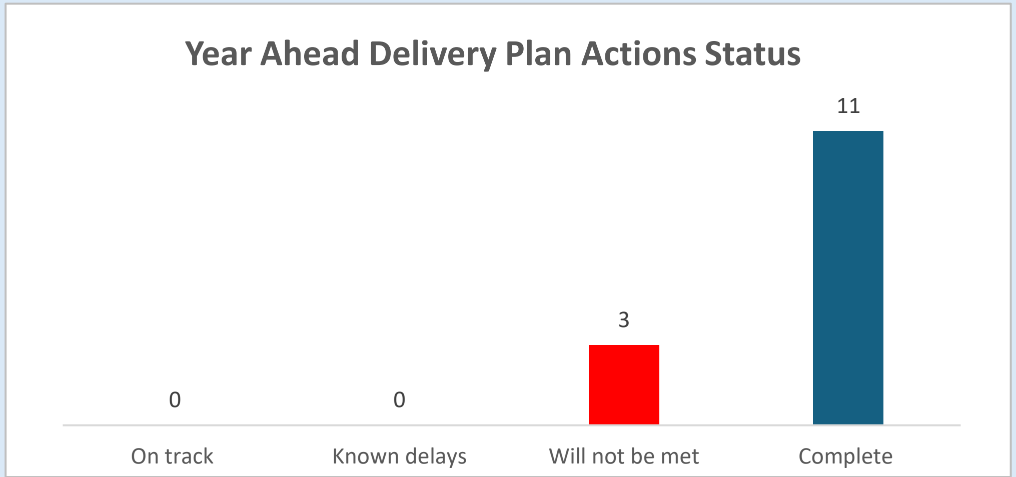
A workforce that is ambitious and proud	• Progress has been made in improving workforce representation, with increases in the proportion of employees from Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority backgrounds, those with disabilities, and staff aged under 25. • A programme of work experience, internships, apprenticeships and graduate schemes has been launched, including One Council placements across multiple service areas. 61 student placements and 18 referrals to partner organisations across Rotherham have been delivered. • Increased the proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council to 1.68%, against a target of 1.5%.	• A flexible recruitment approach reflecting the communities served by the Council and supporting delivery of year one priorities within the Inclusion Strategy Action Plan. • An agreed action plan to address identified areas for improvement arising from the employee opinion survey.
Responding to climate change	• Worked with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) to progress the next phase of the public EV infrastructure strategy and identify an external funding source. Cabinet approved the Council's inclusion in the South Yorkshire scheme at its meeting in December 2025. Procurement documents have been produced and approved by SYMCA and the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Support Body.	• Delivery of a rooftop solar project at the Market and Library building in the town centre. • Development of a broader climate sustainability strategy in partnership with organisations across the Rotherham Together Partnership, Youth Cabinet, Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission, and other anchor institutions. • Completion of procurement activity for all vehicles included within the Phase 1 Fleet Replacement Programme. • Installation of energy conservation measures, including solar panels, heat pumps and insulation, at 115 Middle Lane South, Springwell Gardens, Swinton Library, and Peacock Lodge Children's Home.

		• Deliver the Council’s Heat Decarbonisation Plan to 16 sites that are proposed in the Council’s Climate Energy Annual Report (2026/27). • Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure.

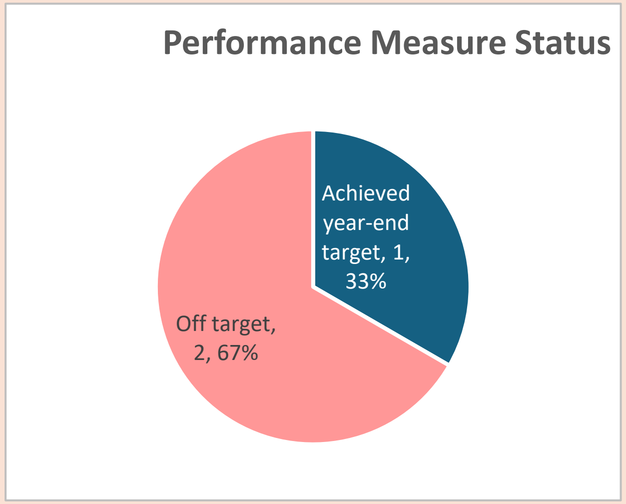
Headlines – evidencing our progress

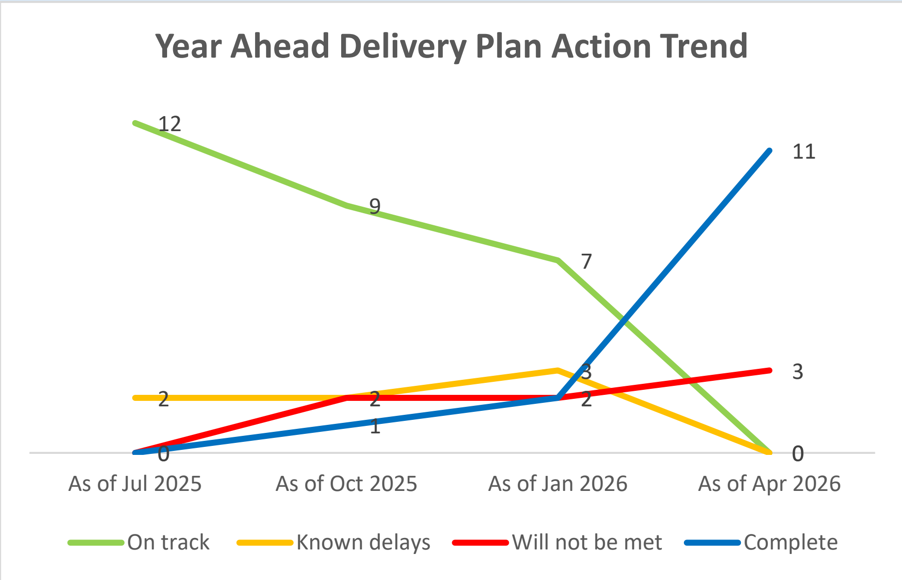
To provide evidence of delivery of the outcomes and commitments within this theme, there are 14 priorities/actions and 3 performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Plan Delivery Plan. The diagrams below provide an overview of performance and progress:

Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions/milestones



Performance measures





Highlights – Achievement and Challenges

This section seeks to summarise achievements, as well as flag challenges and risks. Those included relate to the priority actions within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan and further details are available within the main body of the report.

One Council that listens and learns
Achievements - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities and Performance Measures that have been completed since Quarter 2: **1** The digitalised pest control appointment service went live in Quarter 3 2025/26, followed by new online booking forms for Secure Green Spaces in Quarter 4 2025/26. Throughout 2025/26, 169 new online forms were created with a further 167 amended or updated. **4** Proportion of complaints closed within timescales was 85% (*higher is better)*, this therefore met the 85% target. **6** The Council's refreshed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy was agreed by Cabinet in February 2026, now named the Inclusion Strategy.

7 The new Rotherham Plan for the Rotherham Together Partnership was endorsed by partner organisations in May 2026, including Cabinet, and launched at a showcase event at Magna on 11 June 2026. **9** Implemented new consultation software in April 2026, to improve the Council's approach to consultation. **10** Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening Co-Production Board (RASCAL) has been embedded within the approach to change across adult social care strengthening co-production, governance, and lived-experience across the service. **11** Co-designed the new Tenant Engagement Framework strengthening tenant influence in Rotherham and empowers tenants to effectively shape council housing services. **13** Implemented a refreshed recruitment approach to better attract candidate's representative of the borough, supported by attendance to 19 careers and employability events in Quarter 4 2025/26. This has contributed to increased engagement from young people, with more applications and appointments from the 16-24 age group, alongside delivery of 61 work placements across Council services. **15** Delivered 30 engagement events with education establishments and communities to improve awareness and promote the benefits of renewables, carbon reduction, energy management and green skills and jobs. **16** Developed a full business case for the procurement and delivery of a Local Area Energy Plan for Rotherham. This has been included within the Climate Emergency Annual Report for delivery during 2026/27. **17** The next phase of public EV infrastructure strategy has advanced with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, securing a funding source and identifying a proposed approach.
Challenges - Year Ahead Delivery Plan activities that will not be met within three months of the original target date or Performance Measures that have not achieved target within 2025/26: **2** Implementation of the new IT system (Confirm) continues to make progress; however, it has been delayed due the complexity of data development, cleansing, analysis and migration, alongside competing operational demands. The remaining elements are now planned for delivery during 2026/27. **3** Average customer wait time to corporate contact centre was 4 minutes and 33 seconds in Quarter 4. This is against a target of under 3 minutes on average. **5** 411 complaints relating to street cleaning, grounds maintenance and waste management were received during 2025/26, compared with a target of fewer than 190 complaints *(lower is better).* Performance was affected by several operational challenges, including significant changes within the waste management service, reliance on agency staffing and the implementation of revised collection routes. **12** The Employee Opinion Survey 2025 was delivered within the agreed timescales and achieved a 49% participation rate, against a target of 50%. **14** The installation of solar (Photovoltaic) panels at five town centre properties has been delayed following the consolidation of works into a single procurement, supporting better value for money and a more coordinated approach to future installations. Completion is now expected in Quarter 3 of 2026/27.

Narrative – the bigger picture

The One Council that listens and learns outcome focusses on delivering a high-quality customer experience, working in partnership with communities, supporting a workforce that is ambitious and proud, and responding to the challenges of climate change. Central to this outcome is the continual improvement of internal processes, strengthening engagement and modernising services to meet the evolving needs of residents.

Progress has been made in expanding digital services and access, supporting greater efficiency for residents. New online booking forms for Pest Control and Secure Green Spaces have been introduced. Throughout 2025/26, 169 new online forms have been created with a further 167 online forms amended or updated. Delivery of the Council's new IT system (Confirm) has progressed, although implementation is taking longer than originally planned. Once complete, the system will enhance workflows, case management, and customer experience through features such as interactive mapping and automated updates, ultimately improving the cleanliness of the borough by providing better performance monitoring.

Engagement with residents and communities remains a key priority. The Housing Tenant Engagement Team delivered a comprehensive programme of co-design activity between Spring and Autumn 2025 to inform the development of a new Tenant Engagement Framework. The Council approved its Inclusion Strategy in February 2026, following consultation with residents and community groups across the borough. The strategy sets out a clear ambition to reduce barriers to participation in all aspects of life across the borough. It is structured around four equality objectives: working together, responsive services, welcoming places, and becoming an employer of choice. A new consultation platform was launched in April 2026 which provides a more accessible and inclusive mechanism for residents to have a voice on issues and projects affecting them, while ensuring that the process is consistent and streamlined.

The Council continues to respond to the climate emergency. The installation of two solar (PV) panels on five properties across the town centre is delayed ensuring best value is realised through one procurement exercise. Completion is now expected in Quarter 3 2026/27. A full business case has been developed for a Local Area Energy Plan, which will be delivered through the 2026/27 Climate Change Action Plan. Work is also progressing in partnership with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) to deliver the next phase of electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure. Following Cabinet approval in December 2025, procurement documents have been approved by SYMCA and the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Support Body, with SYMCA responsible for publication in Quarter 1 2026/27. This collaborative approach reflects the importance of regional coordination in responding to climate challenges and securing investment.

Outcome 5: One Council that listens and learns					
Ref	**Outcome**	**Activity**	**Timescales for delivery**	**Status**	**Rationale for status**
1	**Better customer experience**	Increase the number of services available digitally for our customers, by implementing calendar booking and payment upfront online functions. This will include a digitalised pest control appointment service.	Quarter 4	Complete	The digitalised pest control appointment service went live in Quarter 3, followed by new online booking forms for Secure Green Spaces. Throughout 2025/26, 169 new online forms were created with a further 167 amended or updated.
2		Implement a new IT system (Confirm), which will improve the cleanliness of the borough by providing better performance monitoring, maximising use of resources and improving how the public report and receive feedback on local issues.	Quarter 3	Will not be met	Service delivery has been delayed due to the complexity of data development, cleansing, analysis and migration, alongside competing operational demands. The remaining elements are now planned for delivery during 2026, with full transition to business-as-usual arrangements later than originally planned.
3		Performance measures: see below			
4					
5					
6	**Working in partnership with our communities**	Refresh the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategy and produce the accompanying Annual Report.	Quarter 2	Complete	The EDI Strategy refresh was considered and agreed at Cabinet in February 2026 following the consultation that was undertaken throughout the autumn. The consultation undertaken included a number of focus groups with different groups from across the borough.

					The Strategy has now been renamed as the “Inclusion” Strategy.
7		Develop and launch a new Rotherham Plan for the Rotherham Together Partnership.	Quarter 4	Complete	This was endorsed by partner organisations in May 2026, including Cabinet, and was launched at the Rotherham Together Partnership showcase at Magna on 11 June 2026.
8		Deliver the next phase of a staff and Elected Member learning and development programme that will help embed a strength based-working approach across the Council’s workforce and partners.	Quarter 2	Complete	Training for 80 staff members took place during July 2025. A Community of Practice has been established for continued staff development and support. A session for Elected Members was also held on 3 November 2025.
9		Procure and implement new consultation software to improve the Council’s approach to consultation.	Quarter 4	Complete	The system has been procured and implemented. Training for Council staff has been undertaken. Pilots of the new system were undertaken in Quarter 4 on smaller scale ongoing consultations and engagement activities. The new system went live from 1 April 2026.
10		Embed the Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening Co-Production Board (RASCAL) within the approach to change across adult social care.	Quarter 4	Complete	The Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening Co-Production Board (RASCAL) continues to meet monthly and is now well embedded within Adult Social Care’s approach to service change. The Board is co-chaired by a member with lived experience alongside the Co-Production Lead, strengthening shared ownership and ensuring effective governance.

					RASCAL has played a key role in co-producing the next Adult Social Care Strategy, including shaping the approach to community engagement. Activity is underway to further strengthen the representativeness of the Board through recruitment of new members, and planning is in progress to mark Co-Production Week in July 2026, reinforcing the Council's commitment to meaningful involvement.
11		Co-design a new look tenant engagement framework that strengthens tenant influence in Rotherham and empowers tenants to effectively shape council housing services and enhance their neighbourhoods.	Quarter 4	Complete	Between spring and autumn 2025, the Housing Tenant Engagement Team ran 13 codesign workshops with 26 of our regularly engaged tenants. Alongside tenant only sessions, the Service also brought together a national TPAS consultant, and key council stakeholders including the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Housing Senior Management Team. These workshops allowed collaboratively working, to explore what excellent engagement should look like, develop proposed aims and outcomes for wider consultation, and agree the shared values that will guide the approach over the next four years. Following these workshops a further 107 tenants gave their views on the proposed aims and outcomes. The Service used this learning from the consultation to finalise the Tenant Engagement Framework. A further meeting was held with tenants from the main panels to sense-check the final version and make sure it

					reflected what they had said was most important. The framework is now live on the Council website.
12	**A workforce that is ambitious**	Complete the Employee Opinion Survey 2025 and increase the participation rate to greater than 50%.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	The Employee Opinion Survey 2025 was delivered in accordance with timescales and achieved a 49% completion rate. Outcomes have been communicated with Council staff, Elected Members and Trade Unions via the Joint Consultative Committee. Notable increases were seen in senior management visibility, leadership and direction, alongside staff feeling a strong sense of belonging to the Council and its values. The Workforce Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, is developing an overarching action plan as part of continuous improvement activity and further links to actions in the Workforce Plan and the Inclusion Strategy. Activity will be monitored through the workforce Board and reporting to the Joint Consultative Committee.
13		Refresh the recruitment approach through engagement with our communities and modern recruitment methods, including jobs fairs and partnership working, to ensure the attraction of applicants who are representative of the communities we serve.	Quarter 4	Complete	In Quarter 4 2025/26, a total of 19 careers and employability events were attended by the Council. These included careers fairs, work placement, launch events, apprenticeship pathway sessions and a professional interview evening. A total of 112 work placement applications were received. Of these, 61 placements were offered across 16 services, alongside 18 referrals to

					partners and other organisations in Rotherham. Three T-Level placements were offered within Digital Services, and a long-term undergraduate placement was completed within the Organisational Development service. Recruitment impacts continue to be monitored, which has been an increase in applications from Quarter 4 2023/24 (15.25%) to Quarter 4 2025/26 (15.86%) and in appointments (13.28% to 14.87%) from the 16-24 age group.
14	**Responding to Climate Change**	Install two solar (PV) panels on five town centre properties ((Tom Burgess House, Arthur Wharton House, Elizabeth House, Portland House; Millfold Rise) to provide a revenue income or saving, funded by the Decarbonisation Recycle Fund.	Quarter 4	Will not be met	A procurement activity is ongoing to identify solar suppliers, to now include installations. By bringing this into one procurement, it will create delays on this scheme but will provide economies of scale/better value for money and a more proactive approach to future installations. Completion is now expected Quarter 3 2026/27.
15		Deliver 10 engagement events with education establishments and communities to improve awareness and promote the benefits of renewables, carbon reduction, energy management and green skills and jobs.	Quarter 4	Complete	Throughout 2025/26, a total of 30 events have taken place including six school engagements to discuss renewable energy and student engagement. Energy officers have also attended one formal landlord event raising awareness of ECO 4 Flex and Landlords EV infrastructure offer. 18 Winter wellbeing events have been undertaken at community centres across the borough, including Riverside House and Catcliffe Memorial Hall.
16		Develop a full business case for the procurement and	Quarter 4	Complete	A business case has been created, followed by the inclusion of this project within the Climate

		delivery of a Local Area Energy Plan for Rotherham, including a review of potential external funding opportunities.			Emergency Annual Report. This action was approved at Cabinet 13 April 2026 for procurement and delivery within the 2026/27 Climate Change Action Plan.
17		Work with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to progress the next phase of the Public EV Infrastructure Strategy and identify an external funding source.	Quarter 4	Complete	The Council's EV Infrastructure officer continues has worked closely with SYMCA colleagues and other Local Authority counterparts to develop this scheme. A funding source and proposed approach has been identified. Cabinet approved the Council's inclusion in the South Yorkshire scheme at its meeting in December 2025. Procurement documents have been produced and approved by SYMCA and the LEVI Support Body. SYMCA will now be responsible for publishing this in Quarter 1 2026/27. There are no further actions for the Council to undertake until a supplier is appointed.

Performance measures

Ref	Measure	Good Performance	2024/25 Year End	Target (If Applicable)	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	Year to Date	Progress Update	Rag Rating
3	Customer telephone wait time in the corporate contact centre to under 3 minutes.	Low	2 mins 47 secs	3 minutes	3 mins 31 secs	5 mins 56 secs	4 mins 6 secs	4 mins 33 secs	n/a	Call wait times in Quarter 4 were challenging with weather events and staff numbers. Staff levels have now been increased to an appropriate level but due to training time, this did not have a positive impact on call wait times during the quarter.	
4	Respond to 85% or above of complaints closed within timescales.	High	83%	85%	81%	82%	83%	85%	85%	In Quarter 4 2025/26, breakdown of performance by directorate/service area is as follows: All directorates and service areas are performing on or above target apart from Children and Young Peoples Services and Housing. The Housing Services has significantly improved performance from 2024/25 which was 76%.	

5	Reduce the number of complaints relating to street cleaning, grounds maintenance and waste management to less than 190.	Low	257	<190	79	99	46	187	411	187 complaints received in Quarter 4, of which 183 relate to Waste Management, 1 on Street Cleansing and 3 on Grounds Maintenance. Waste Management complaints rose by 140 in Quarter 4 compared to Quarter 3, representing the highest quarterly total for the service. Street Cleansing recorded one complaint in Quarter 4, unchanged from Quarter 3, with eight complaints received over the year. Ground Maintenance saw a small increase to 3 complaints in Quarter 4, bringing the annual total to 15. Overall, 411 complaints were received during 2025/26. The Waste Management service has experienced significant change during 2025/26, which disrupted service delivery. While stabilisation plans are expected to reduce complaints,	

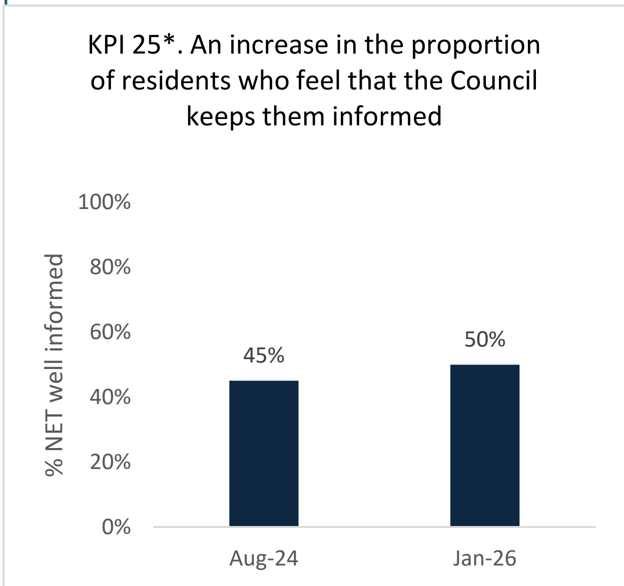
										the introduction of a new complaints process and resident form may result in higher reported numbers.	

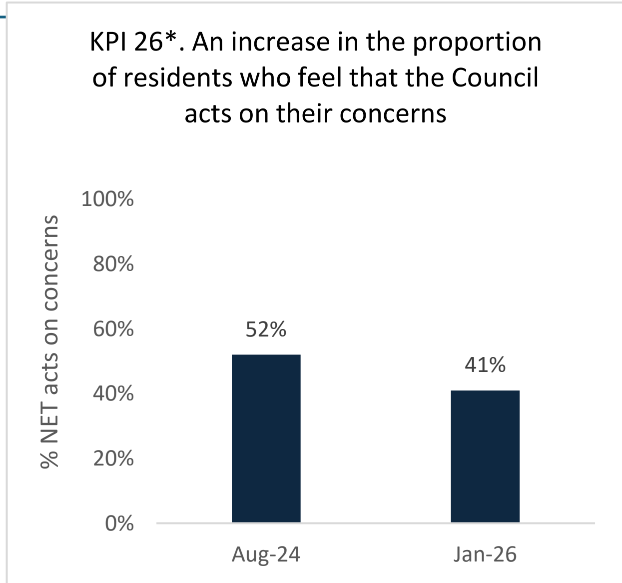
Long-term measures of success

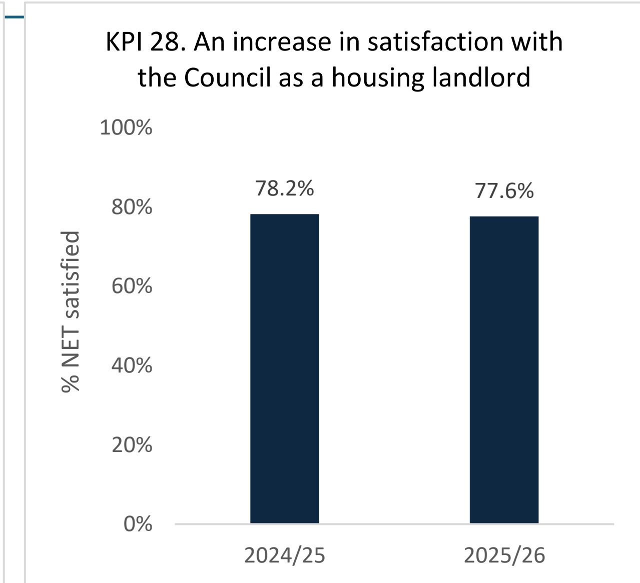
The results of the annual long-term measures for this theme offer a nuanced picture of how residents experience the Council. Half of residents now feel the Council keeps them well informed, up from a baseline of 45% in 2024. However, the proportion of residents who feel the Council acts on their concerns has fallen from 52% in 2024 to 41% in 2026. For this question, residents were asked for their opinion about services provided by the Council to the community as a whole, as well as to their own household, and therefore this might explain the difference between the perceptions of KPI 25 and KPI 26.

There has been a 0.6 percentage point decrease in satisfaction with the Council as a housing landlord compared to the previous year. Despite this dip, the figure remains 0.7 percentage points above the 2023/24 baseline, and within the Local Authority upper quartile when compared to 2024/25 results, an indication of sustained performance above national benchmarks.

Strengthening measures informed by customer feedback will be implemented to improve overall satisfaction and support continued high performance. Target agreed between Housing Services and involved tenants via the Housing Involvement Panel in March 2026.
**NB: the relatively small sample size of the Rotherham surveys means that only a difference of five per cent or more between different survey results indicates a statistically significant change.*





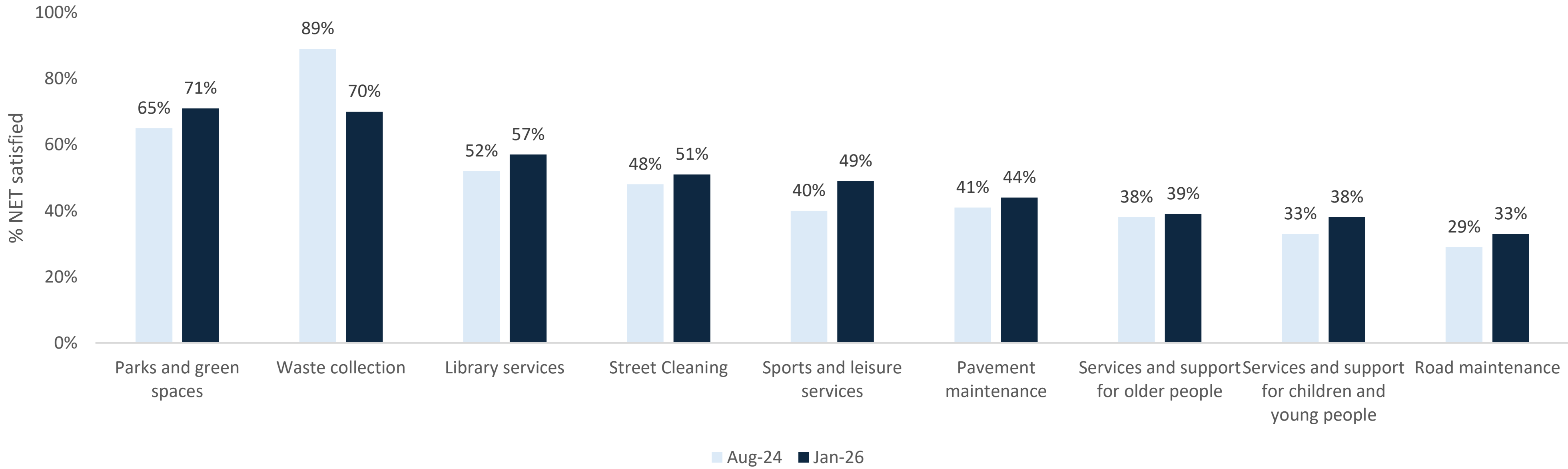


When asked about specific council services, residents reported an increase in satisfaction has increased across the majority of service areas since 2024, with the largest improvements in sport and leisure services (up from 40% to 49%), parks and green spaces (up from 65% to 71%), and services for children and young people (up from 33% to 38%).

The most notable exception is waste collection, where satisfaction has fallen from 89% to 70%, though it remains the second highest-rated service area, behind only parks and green spaces.

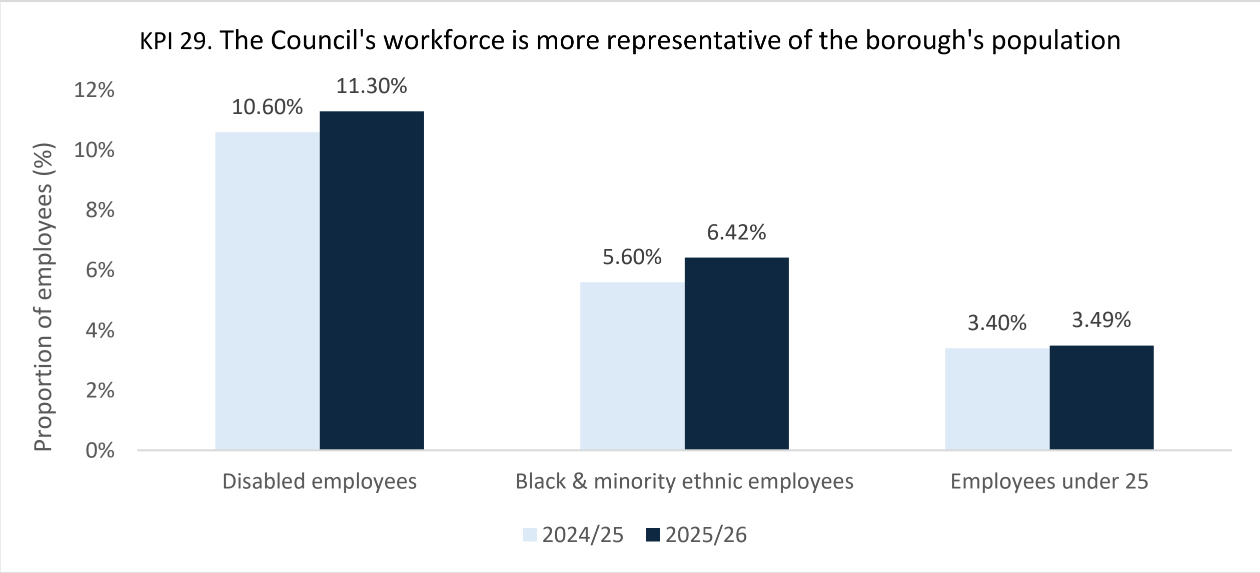
Road maintenance continues to attract the lowest satisfaction of any service at 33%. However, it should be noted that Rotherham Council has been named one of the best Local Authorities in the country for pothole repairs and road condition, with £39m invested between 2015 and 2024, with a further £16m committed to the Rotherham Roads Programme until 2028.

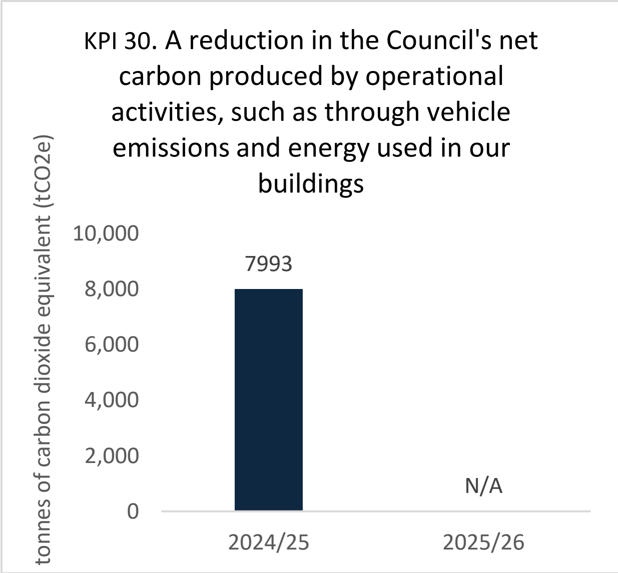
KPI 27*. An increase in satisfaction with specific council services



On workforce diversity, progress has been made across all three monitored groups, strengthening the council's commitment to having a workforce that is representative of the borough. The proportion of employees from black and minority ethnic backgrounds has risen to 6.42%, employees with a disability has increased to 11.30%, and the proportion of staff aged under 25 has grown to 3.49%, reflecting the impact of targeted recruitment and early careers pathways.

Carbon output data for 2025/26 is not yet available and will be reported in Quarter 2 of 2026. Results will be published in the next Quarter 4 (year-end) report.





Case studies

Co-designing Rotherham Council's Tenant Engagement Framework 2026

Tenant Engagement is how Rotherham Council's housing services connects with its tenants. At its core, it is about listening to people's experiences, capturing their ideas, and acting on their feedback. It makes sure tenants have real opportunities to scrutinise services, influence decisions about their homes, and play an active role in shaping their neighbourhoods.

The Housing Tenant Engagement Framework 2026 is the Council's main strategic document that underpins this work. It sets out the approach and priorities for delivering excellent tenant engagement in Rotherham over the next four years.

The Council saw developing the framework as an opportunity to do things differently, working alongside tenants to design a framework that genuinely reflects their priorities.

Together, a programme of co-design and co-creation was undertaken to develop fresh aims, meaningful outcomes, and a shared set of values to guide the work and support a stronger, more inclusive approach to tenant engagement over the next four years.

What We Did

Between spring and autumn 2025, the Housing Tenant Engagement team ran 13 co-design workshops with 26 of the Council's regularly engaged tenants. A mix of online and in person sessions were offered, alongside tailored support where needed.

Alongside tenant only sessions, which were facilitated by the Tenant Engagement Team to keep early discussions tenant led, the Service also brought together experienced tenant representatives, a national Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) consultant, and key council stakeholders including the Cabinet Member for Housing and senior management.

These workshops allowed collaborative work with everyone, from tenants to senior leaders, to explore what excellent engagement should look like, develop proposed aims and outcomes for wider consultation, and agree the shared values that will guide the approach over the next four years.

After the initial in-person sessions, a targeted survey was sent to a large sample of tenants across wards via text message and email. At the same time, Rotherfed were active in the community, encouraging tenants throughout the borough to complete a paper version of the survey and offering support to anyone who required help to take part.

A total of 107 tenants responded. 80 tenants chose to share their diversity information, which included:

- 6 tenants from ethnic minority backgrounds
- 59 tenants who reported having a disability
- 26 tenants under the age of 45.

Of those who shared this information, 46 identified as female, 29 as male and 1 as non-binary.

The survey results helped shape the final aims and outcomes. The results also ensured the framework recognises and addresses potential barriers faced by tenants across all protected characteristics, supporting a more inclusive and accessible approach to tenant engagement.

Feedback from the consultation was used to finalise the Tenant Engagement Framework. Tenants from the main panels were then invited to review the final version to ensure it reflected what matters most to them. This can be read here Tenant Engagement Framework 2026.

Stella Parkin (Tenant Chair of the Housing Involvement Panel) told us:

"Working alongside other tenants to help shape this framework has been a real pleasure. We've shared our views and experiences and worked closely with the Tenant Engagement Team to build something we're genuinely proud of."

What happens now

Over the coming months, tenants on the Screen Team communications panel will help raise awareness of the framework and ensure it is shared widely and in accessible ways.

Work is also taking place with Housing Teams and partners at RotherFed to co-design an action plan that will deliver the agreed aims.

Tenant involvement will continue as this develops, with the Housing Involvement Panel playing a key role in monitoring progress and holding the organisation to account as the framework is implemented.

St George's Day celebration event

Following the emergence of St George's flags and emblems appear across communities in summer / early autumn 2025 and the divisive response this provoked, Rotherham Council undertook a period of consultation in September 2025. The consultation concluded that of the 837 respondents:

- 67% were in favour of the flags
- However, when asked what sentiment the flags portrayed 26% of respondents felt they had racist connotation, 32.6% felt they showed defensive/assertive patriotism and only 8.2% felt they represented inclusive pride
- When asked about the appetite for a St George's Day celebration 18% responded favourably, with 1.6% responding negatively.

Based upon the results of the consultation the core brief for the event was:

- **Collective creation** – a visual demonstration of how community in all its forms unites us.
- **A proud and defiant celebration of our identity** – the English flag is placed front and centre in the celebration.
- **Representation above rhetoric** – a subtle expression that the English Flag belongs to all our communities, and all communities in Rotherham are welcomed, supported and recognised.

The event formed part of a much wider and ongoing conversation led by the Corporate Communications team and relied heavily on working with teams across the Council where trusted relationships were already in place, providing support and reassurance to enable people to participate. It was important that the event felt like an invitation to all communities.

The event took place at Clifton Park on Saturday 18 April, the weekend prior to the official St George's Day on 23 April. The programme centred the St George's Cross flag as a large-scale Land Art installation with members of the public helping to create the flag using emblems of the diverse cultural life in Rotherham. The event including food and music which represented the many countries where St George is also patron saint as well celebrating traditional English cultural heritage through Morris Dancing and community choirs.

The event was attended by over 2,500 people, including from a diverse range of background to celebrate a shared national identity.

Following the event, a film that was first commissioned in 2020 for Yorkshire Day – Our Rotherham – was updated with images from St George's Day Celebrations. The film was originally written by young people across the borough and focuses on the values, experiences and memories that unite us regardless of our backgrounds. These sentiments continue to be important to us as the discussions related to national identity continue to play out across social media channels.

The final film can be viewed here: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1521771692875916

An independent evaluation of the event revealed:

- 87% of respondents rated the event four or five stars, with half awarding a maximum five-star score; a strong result for a new event.
- 85% visited the park specifically for the celebration, with 86.7% attending from Rotherham postcodes. This confirms the event's ability to attract local footfall.
- Ethnic minority respondents gave exclusively four and five-star ratings; a positive signal that the inclusive programming approach is resonating with Rotherham's diverse communities. Rotherham St. George's Day Celebrations Evaluation 2026
- 90% of respondents felt the celebration helps bring people together, and 96% said they would like to see the event return every year.

Feedback from attendees included:

"The fact it is free for all and getting the community together."

"It's great to have shared experiences with people within the community who you wouldn't ordinarily mix with."

"We moved to Rotherham and will not leave. We came from a city which did not provide the community feel Rotherham does. We feel that any bad press Rotherham gets is not justified anymore. The council works hard for families and the community".

Annex: Long-term measures of success – data sources

KPI	Outcome Measure	Data Source
1	An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
2	An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with the Rotherham borough as a place to live	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
3	An increase in footfall in the town centre	Measure from MRI On Location Footfall
4	A decrease in the percentage of vacant units in the town centre	Measure taken from town centre use quarterly survey conducted by Rotherham Council planning team
5	An increase in the proportion of people optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
6	An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area during the day	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
7	An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area after dark	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
8	An increase in the percentage of sites classed as (acceptably) free of litter and rubbish	Measure from APSE, Rotherham Council's Land Audit Management System (LAMS)
9	An increase in the value of Rotherham's economy	Measure from Office of National Statistics (ONS) Regional gross domestic product (GDP): all International Territorial Level (ITL) regions, measure is specifically Gross domestic product (GDP) per head at current market prices, pounds

10	An improvement in the skills of residents in the borough	Measure taken from Office of National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey: Annual population survey (APS) QMI - Office for National Statistics
11	An increase in the proportion of the working age population who are in work (or actively looking for work) in Rotherham	Measure taken from Office of National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey: Annual population survey (APS) QMI - Office for National Statistics
12	An increase in the number of businesses in Rotherham per 10,000 residents	Composite Measure of business Counts (Local Units) taken from the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR) / Office of National Statistics (ONS) Population estimates
13	An increase in the proportion of eligible 2-year-olds taking up an early education place as soon as possible	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
14	An increase in the proportion of pupils passing the phonics screening in year 1	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
15	Improve GCSE grades in the borough relative to the national average	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
16	An increase in the number of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan in mainstream schools	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
17	Maintain the number of suitable homes that are available for care leavers	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
18	An increase in the proportion of children in care living within 20 miles of home	Rotherham Council internal measure (Children's Services)
19	An increase in the proportion of adults supported by social care who feel they have control over their daily life	National Statutory Return from Adult Social Outcomes framework ASCOF3A indicator, populated from the Adult Social Care Survey undertaken annually

20	An increase in the proportion of adults who felt their Safeguarding outcomes were at least particularly met	Rotherham Council internal measure (Adults)
21	An increase in the number of people supported to live healthier lifestyles through weight management and help to stop smoking	Rotherham Council internal measure (Public Health)
22	An increase in the proportion of households supported who were prevented or relieved from homelessness	National Statutory Homelessness Legislation definition.
23	An increase in the number of new homes delivered with council support	Rotherham Council internal measure (Housing)
24	An increase in the proportion of council homes meeting 'Decent Homes' standard	National Decent Homes Standard/TSM technical definition – Internal measure (Housing)
25	An increase in the proportion of residents who feel that the Council keeps them informed	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
26	An increase in the proportion of residents who feel that the Council acts on their concerns	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
27	An increase in satisfaction with specific council services (Waste collection; street cleaning; road maintenance; pavement maintenance; sport and leisure services; services and support for older people; services and support for children and young people; parks and green spaces)	Rotherham Resident Satisfaction survey: Residential Satisfaction Surveys – Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
28	An increase in satisfaction with the Council as a housing landlord	National Tenant Satisfaction Measure (TSM) captured via annual survey - Internal measure (Housing)
29	The Council's workforce is more representative of the borough's population	Rotherham Council internal measure (Corporate Services)
30	A reduction in the Council's net carbon produced by operational activities, such as through vehicle emissions and energy used in our buildings	Rotherham Council internal measure (Corporate Services)

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Appendix 2 – Summary Council Plan Progress Report – Year-End Report for 2025/26 (Quarter 4 performance data and progress on YADP 2025/26)

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Outcome: Places are thriving, safe and clean</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Year Ahead Delivery Plan - actions</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">• 73% of actions are completed (19/26)
• 4% of actions are delayed by less than 3 months (1/26)
• 23% of actions are delayed by more than 3 months (6/26)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Actions complete since Quarter 2 report:</td><td>• P4 Tackle hate crime incidents and the driving factors of hate crime through the delivery of education and engagement group and individual sessions – delivered 37 group sessions that reached 991 children and young people, and 98 one-to-one interventions to individuals involved in or at risk of perpetrating hate crime.
• P7 Delivery of ward plans through ward reports being reported to Council from July 2025 – ten ward reports have been presented at Council throughout 2025/26.
• P10 Deliver cultural events in varied locations across the borough – delivered a range of cultural events across the borough with an estimated attendance of 157,504 throughout 2025/26.
• P12 Start work on the demolition of Wath library – demolition work began on 9 February 2026.
• P13 Support communities across the borough through the delivery of the Community Cohesion Grant fund – delivered throughout 2025/26 by a wide range of partners, supporting a diverse range of activities. This included a small grants programme that funded various community events to celebrate St Georges Day.
• P15 Invest £2 million into 11km of footway improvements across the borough - delivered 9.04 miles or 14.47km of footway improvements.
• P16 Complete redevelopment works at Rother Valley Country Park – the new Waterfront Café opened to the public on 17 April 2026.
• P17 Complete redevelopment works at Thrybergh Country Park – the redeveloped Lakeside Café opened to the public in February 2026.
• P18 Progress the Catcliffe Flood Alleviation Scheme – a delivery partner has now been appointed to progress the design.
• P22 Complete the procurement of the Refuse Collection Vehicles – 16 new Refuse Collection Vehicles have been procured.
• P29 Complete landscaping works to the pocket park at Snail Yard – opened to the public in February 2026.</td></tr>
</table>

	• **P30** Start work on the first phase of a Health Hub providing health-based services in the town centre – minor works began on 20 January 2026. • **P31** The development of plans to RIBA Stage 1 for the next phase of the **major housing development** in the town centre – initial designs are being developed in preparation for consideration by Cabinet in July 2026.
Actions delayed (by less than 3 months)	• **P28** Complete construction works to the **Outdoor Covered Market -** The construction of the outdoor market has been delayed due to a requirement for design changes. The works will now be complete by the end of June and will be open to the public from the 10th July 2026.
Actions significantly delayed (by more than 3 months)	• **P3** Develop and consult on tranche 2 **Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety programme** – 8 schemes are with design consultants where they are being developed to detailed design stage, with the delay in securing these contracts leading to the delay on the action. The action is now due to be complete in Quarter 2 2026/27. • **P8** Refresh the **Thriving Neighbourhood Strategy** - delayed due to the Assistant Chief Executive vacancy. Two complementary strategies will now be developed, the Neighbour Leadership Strategy (due to Cabinet in Quarter 2 2026/27) and the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy (due to Cabinet in Quarter 3 2026/27). • **P9** Implement Phase 1 of the **Our Places Fund** by starting work on the Swinton & Maltby schemes – Swinton scheme is now underway. Maltby scheme has been delayed due to additional funding, increased scope and design changes requested by Rotherham Council and start on site is now expected in Quarter 2 2026/27. • **P14** Invest £300k in **community facilities** across the borough, including Black Hut and Oaklea Retreat – works commenced on Oaklea Retreat in June 2026 and works at the Meeting Place are due to start in July. Two options being considered for the Black Hut of either refurbishing the existing building or demolishing it and replacing it with a new modular type unit. A final decision will be made once all surveys have been completed. • **P19** There are delays across some of the **flood defence/mitigation schemes** due to the requirement to obtain formal approval to carry out site investigation and/or alter existing topography from third parties. Works at Whiston are scheduled to begin in June 2026, while designs for the Eel Mires and Kilnhurst schemes are expected to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27, with Environment Agency approvals anticipated in Quarter 3 2026/27.

	• **P21** Complete the procurement of all vehicles within the **Fleet Replacement Plan** – 23 vehicles have been received and contracts in place for a further two, while one additional vehicle is awaiting contract approval. Procurement is progressing for 11 vehicles, with four more awaiting service approval of business cases. A further 62 vehicles are being reviewed by the EV Working Group. Three vehicles remain on hold, and 13 are at the early scoping stage for replacement. Procurement is now expected to be completed by September 2026.
Performance Measures	
• 75% of performance measures have achieved year-end target (6/8) • 25% of performance measures are off target (2/8)	
Measures on target	• **P5** Issue 1,000 formal enforcement actions to help address anti-social behaviour in communities - a total of 1,156 formal enforcement actions (Community Protection Notices and Community Protection Warnings) had been issued. • **P23a** Achieve 80% of the 'principal' road network - 81.59% of the local 'principal' road network is classified as 'green status' (do not require repair). • **P23b** Achieve 77% of the 'non-principal' road network - 80.46% of the local 'non-principal' road network is classified as 'green status' (do not require repair). • **P23c** Achieve 65% of the 'unclassified' road network - 70.97% of the local 'unclassified' road network was classified as 'green status' (do not require repair). • **P24** Undertake effective enforcement action for fly tipping by issuing a minimum of 60 fixed penalty notices - 68 effective enforcement actions for fly tipping were issued. • **P26** Plant at least 500 trees across the borough - 710 trees were planted.
Measures off target	• **P6** 33 adults to start a residential rehabilitation placement to receive support for drug/alcohol misuse – 19 residential rehabilitation placements were started in total. The current provider's model for identification and assessment for this intervention differed from previous years, where a dedicated worker led this activity. There was also no waiting list for this intervention, or clients assessed as suitable but unable to access it, and the delivery shortfall may be as a result of a high number last year and/or issues with the pathway. This is being addressed.

	• **P25** Increase the proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting) to 45% - provisional year-end figure was 43.9%. Impacted by nationwide capacity issues for wood recycling and seasonal impacts to the recycling percentage in winter months.

Long-term Measures of Success	
• 63% of long-term measures of success have improved since previous year baseline (5/8) • 37% of long-term measures of success have **not** improved since previous year baseline (3/8)	
Measures improved since baseline	• **KPI 2** An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live – was 75% in Aug 2024 up to 76% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 3** An increase in footfall in the town centre – was 13.6m in 2024/25, now 14.1m in 2025/26. • **KPI 4** A decrease in the percentage of vacant units in the town centre – was 25% in 2024/25, down to 24% in 2025/26 (lower is better). • **KPI 6** An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area during the day – was 85% in Aug 2024, up to 86% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 8** An increase in the percentage of sites classed as (acceptably) free of litter and rubbish – was 88% in 2024/25, up to 95% in 2025/26.
Measures not improved since baseline	• **KPI 1** An increase in the proportion of people satisfied with the Rotherham borough as a place to live – was 66% in Aug 2024 down to 58% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 5** An increase in the proportion of people optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre – was 27% in Aug 2024, down to 26% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 7** An increase in the proportion of public that feel safe when outside in their local area after dark – was 57% in Aug 2024, down to 54% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure).

Outcome: An economy that works for everyone	
Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Actions	
• 93% of actions are complete (13/14) • 7% of actions are delayed by more than 3 months (1/14)	
Actions complete since Quarter 2 report:	• **E1** Start construction on the **Templeborough Business Zone** Project – construction began on site 8 June 2026. • **E2** Support up to 20 businesses to improve shop units through the new **'shop unit grants' programme** – 46 shop unit grants were accepted across the town centre, Dinnington, Maltby, Swinton and Wath. • **E6** Adoption of the **Employment and Skills Strategy** – endorsed by Cabinet on 15 December 2025 and approved by the Strategic Partnership group on 21 January 2026. • **E7** Support a minimum of 455 people to access employment through the **Employment Solutions Service** - 471 people have been supported to access training or paid employment through the Employment Solutions Service. • **E8** Develop and implement an **apprenticeship action plan** - work is ongoing and includes targeted engagement with relevant stakeholders, schools and universities • **E9** Support 25 young people aged 16-25 into paid employment through **internships and traineeships** with Children's Capital of Culture – supported 45 young people into paid employment throughout the festival year. • **E13** Completion of a Strategic Case in relation to the **Rotherham Gateway (Mainline Station)** Masterplan – a Programme Business Case has been completed and submitted to SYMCA in January 2026. • **E14** Work with regional partners to support SYMCA in their work to develop the Outline Business Case for the new **railway station at Waverley** – work is ongoing, with completion expected in March 2027. • **E15** Work with regional partners to support SYMCA in their work to construct a new **tram-train stop at Magna** – the new stop opened to the public on 9 April 2026. • **E16** Consult on draft designs for **City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement** active travel and bus priority proposals on Fitzwilliam Road and Broom Road – consultation commenced in May 2026. • **E17** Develop and deliver a programme of **work experience**, supported internships, apprenticeships and graduate schemes – a programme continues to be implemented and developed through regular engagement with schools, colleges, universities and local businesses, including the introduction of One Council placements across services in the Council.
Actions significantly delayed (by	• **E3** Deliver the programmed upgrades to **business centres** – works are progressing, with roofing works at Century Business Centre starting in June 2026. Fire stopping works at Dinnington Matrix and Century Business

more than 3 months)	Centre are due to commence in July 2026, with plans developed to minimise disruption to tenants and business users. Fire stopping works at Fusion in Templeborough are now complete.

Performance Measures	
• 100% of performance measures have achieved year-end target (3/3)	
Measures that met year-end target	• **E4** Help 70 businesses to start up – 83 businesses were helped to start up through Launchpad and Business Centres. • **E5** Provide advice and support to 500 local businesses – 522 local businesses have received advice and support. • **E12** Increase the proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council as a percentage of the workforce to 1.5% - the proportion of new starter apprenticeships created within the Council increased to 1.68% of the workforce.

Long-term Measures of Success	
• 50% of long-term measures of success have improved since previous year baseline (2/4) • 25% of long-term measures of success have **not** improved since previous year baseline (1/4) • 25% of long-term measures of success are N/A - do not have data for the current reporting period (1/4)	
Measures improved since baseline	• **KPI 10** An improvement in the skills of residents in the borough (% of 16-64 population of Rotherham have an RQF2 or higher) – was 76.8% in Apr 2024, up to 84.3% in Apr 2025. • **KPI 11** An increase in the proportion of the working age population who are in work (or actively looking for work) in Rotherham – was 74.4% in Apr 2024, up to 75.5% in Apr 2025.
Measures not improved since baseline	• **KPI 12** An increase in the number of businesses in Rotherham per 10,000 residents – Was 340 in 2024, down to 329 in 2025.
Measures are N/A – Data unavailable	• **KPI 9** An increase in the value of Rotherham's economy – ONS data due to be published July 2026. There is also a 3-year lag in this data, meaning the impact of any actions in this Council Plan will not be reflected until 2029.

Outcome: Children and young people achieve	
Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Actions	
• 73% of actions are complete (11/15) • 27% of actions are delayed by more than 3 months (4/15)	
Actions complete since Quarter 2 report:	• **C1** Work with children and young people to deliver events throughout 2025 for the **Children's Capital of Culture** - delivered more than 1,000 events and activities, celebrating Rotherham becoming the world's first Children's Capital of Culture. • **C3** Improve **4 play areas** as part of the Children's Playground Programme - improvements took place at Chestnut Grove play area in Dinnington, Rosehill Park Play Area, Thrybergh Country Park and Rother Valley Country Park. • **C4** Submit a bid to The Cruyff Foundation for a **multi-use games area** by Kimberworth Park Partnership – submitted in March 2026. • **C6** Provide food vouchers to children eligible for **free school meals** during the school holidays - 141,748 free school meal vouchers were delivered. • **C9** Support 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges to enhance their **career provision** – all schools continue to work closely with the Council's Careers Consultants and the South Yorkshire Careers Hub.
Actions significantly delayed (by more than 3 months)	• **C8** Deliver **independent travel training** to at least 30 children and young people - 20 young people have been trained. Target not met due to issues with staff resources and sign-off delays. A new Independent Travel Training Practitioner has been appointed and capacity has increased. • **C16c** Submitting the registration of a **fifth two-bedroom residential children's home** to make sure Children in Care and young people can stay in the borough – Capital work is now complete but registration remains pending following challenges in recruiting a registered manager. Registration now expected in Quarter 2 2026/27. • **C16d** Submitting the registration of a **sixth two-bedroom residential children's home** to make sure Children in Care and young people can stay in the borough – following engagement with Ward members and residents, additional due diligence was undertaken, which led to the delay in the submission of a planning application. Capital works commenced in May 2026 and submission of registration is now expected Quarter 3 2026/27.

	• **C17** Plan the implementation of the **Families First Partnership Programme and the Family Help Strategy** - the needs assessment has been completed but the threshold document is being designed following engagement with communities to ensure that the language is accessible for families to understand. This is due to be completed in Quarter 2 2026/27.

Performance Measures	
• 83% of performance measures are on target (5/6) • 17% of performance measures are not at expected level (1/6)	
Measures on target	• **C5** Commission the voluntary and community sector to deliver 850+ universal youth work sessions so that young people have access to activities across the borough – a total of 1,356 sessions were delivered across the year. • **C11** Deliver 100% of Baby Packs to eligible Rotherham Families who have requested one – 100% of eligible families who requested a pack have received one. • **C12** Provide health visitor checks to at least 85% of eligible children for their 2-2.5yr checks - 91% of eligible children have received their 2 - 2 1/2-year check in Quarter 4 2025/26. • **C14** Children's Centres to deliver 1,900+ support sessions to families with children aged 0-5 years – a total of 2,762 sessions were delivered across the year. • **C15 I**ssue 73% of Education, Health and Care Plans within 20 weeks ensuring children receive effective support when needed – 78.3% of plans were issued within 20 weeks.
Measures not at expected level	• **C13** Ensure at least 90% of families register their children within 6 months of birth through **Family Hubs -** 2025/26 year-end figure shows that 80.3% of babies born between 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025 were registered with a Family Hub within six months of birth.

Long-term Measures of Success	
• 50% of long-term measures of success have improved since previous year baseline (3/6) • 17% of long-term measures of success have **not** improved since previous year baseline (1/6) • 33% of long-term measures of success are N/A - do not have data for the current reporting period (2/6)	
Measures improved since baseline	• **KPI 13** An increase in the proportion of eligible 2-year-olds taking up an early education place as soon as possible – was 86.2% in 2024/25, up to 91.2% in 2025/26.

	• **KPI 17** Maintain the number of suitable homes that are available for care leavers – was 94.1% in 2024/25, up to 94.9% in 2025/26. • **KPI 18** An increase in the proportion of children in care living within 20 miles of home – was 78.2% in 2024/25, up to 81.7% in 2025/26.
Measures not improved since baseline	• **KPI 16 -** An increase in the number of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in mainstream schools – was 42.3% in 2024/25 down slightly to 41.9% in 2025/26. However, it should be noted the number of children with an EHCP educated in mainstream primary and secondary settings has grown from 1,383 to 1,538, though the overall proportion has slightly decreased as the total EHCP population has grown from 3,623 to 4,062. This reflects both rising demand and a deliberate shift in the system towards resourced provision attached to mainstream schools, which has seen a 29% increase in children supported in this way.
Measures are N/A – Data unavailable	• **KPI 14 –** An increase in the proportion of pupils passing the phonics screening in year 1 - Academic year measure • **KPI 15 –** Improve GCSE grades in the borough relative to the national average - Academic year measure

Outcome: Residents live well	
Year Ahead Delivery Plan Actions	
• 95% of actions are complete (19/20) • 5% of actions are delayed by less than 3 months (1/20)	
Actions complete since Quarter 2 report:	• **R1** Commissioned an **Active Hub** (Every Move Counts) to support people with long-term health conditions to access physical activity opportunities. • **R5** Complete the building work for **Castle View Day Service** - building works were completed in May, and the building was formally opened on 11 June 2026. • **R6** Delivered the **Rothercare analogue to digital switchover** for over 5,000 residents - The switchover is now fully complete. Delivery is ahead of the national January 2027 deadline. • **R8** Agreed an updated **Domestic Abuse Strategy -** The refreshed Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026/27-2028/29 was approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership and endorsed by Cabinet on 13 April 2026. • **R9** Delivered the **Learning Disability Strategy priorities** for 2025 - Supported over 50 residents with Learning Disabilities and Autism into employment-related activity, relaunched the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Preparing for Adulthood programme continues to embed the voice of young people across all workstreams. • **R10** Deliver the Council's **Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme**, providing up to £126.12 to working households in receipt of council tax support - the scheme has been delivered for 2025/26 with the discount applied to all Council Tax Support claimants. • **R13** Complete the Council new build project at **Warden Street, Canklow –** this was completed in Quarter 4 2025/26. • **R14a** Completed the Council new build project at **Albert Road and Princess Street**. • **R14b** Completed the Council new build project at the Former Ship Inn Site, **Swinton**. • **R14e** Start groundwork on new homes at **Wath** – the scheme started on site in Quarter 4 2025/26. • **R14g** Deliver **75 new Council homes** through acquisition - 85 homes have been delivered through the acquisitions workstreams throughout 2025/26. • **R14h** Bring at least 30 **long term empty homes back into use** through Council support - 36 empty homes have been brought back into use throughout 2025/26, exceeding the target of 30. • **R16** Agree a new **Housing Allocations Policy** – approved by Cabinet in September 2025.

	• **R17** Complete **full stock condition surveys** to 6,000 properties - 6,490 surveys were completed throughout 2025/26.
Actions delayed (by less than 3 months)	• **R14d** Start groundwork on new homes at Eastwood – start on site is take place in Quarter 1 2026/27.

Performance Measures	
• All performance measures have been achieved (7/7).	
Measures on target	• **R3** Provide 8,500 NHS Health Checks for Rotherham Residents – 8,624 Health Checks were delivered. • **R4** Support the Rotherham Ambition for a Smoke Free Rotherham by supporting 1,000 Rotherham residents to set a Quit Date – 1,494 residents have been supported. • **R11** Ensure that a minimum of 70% of Domestic Abuse referrals are actively engaged in any support offered – in Q4 84% of referrals were actively engaged (up from 75% in Q3). • **R12** Increase the proportion of new claims for Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support are dealt with within 14 days of receipt of all necessary information to 98% - at year end the rate was 98.14%. • **R18** Expand the Council's temporary accommodation portfolio to at least 173 homes – the portfolio consisted of 173 homes by the service deadline in Quarter 2. • **R19** Maintain the proportion of council housing repairs completed 'Right 1st time' to achieve at least 93% - the position at year end was 95.4%. • **R20** 50% of council homes to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) C energy performance rating – the year end position was 61.1%.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Long-term Measures of Success</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">33.3% of long-term measures of success have improved since previous year baseline (2/6)
33.3% of long-term measures of success have not improved since previous year baseline (2/6)
33.3% of long-term measures of success are N/A - do not have data for the current reporting period (2/6)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Measures improved since baseline</td><td>KPI 20 An increase in the proportion of adults who felt their Safeguarding outcomes were at least partially met – was 97.0% in 2024/25, up to 97.6% in 2025/26.
KPI 22 An increase in the proportion of households supported who were prevented or relieved from homelessness. – Was 85.2% in 2025/26, up to 89% in 2025/26.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Measures not improved since baseline</td><td>KPI 23 An increase in the number of new homes delivered with council support – In 2025/26 the council delivered 184 council homes as part of a smaller programme compared to the previous year (213). As this is lower than the number of homes in the year previous, it is marked as not improved, however this is in line with the approach to deliver 1,000 council homes.
KPI 24 An increase in the proportion of council homes meeting 'Decent Homes' standard – In 2024/25 result was 92%, down slightly to 92.4% in 2025/26.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Measures are N/A – Data unavailable</td><td>KPI 19 An increase in the proportion of adults supported by social care who feel they have control over their daily life - data from the Department of Health and Social Care is due Autumn 2026.
KPI 21 An increase in the number of people supported to live healthier lifestyles through weight management and help to stop smoking - a combined total of 3,487 interventions were delivered in 2025/26, creating the baseline for this measure.</td></tr>
</table>

Social Care Performance Measures	
• 58% of measures are currently on target (7/12) • 17% of measures are not applicable in Quarter 4 (2/12) • 25% of measures do not have a target (3/12)	
Measures on target	• **SC2** Number of new admissions to residential care homes for older people as a rate per 100K population. • **SC3** Number of new admissions to residential care homes for older people. 116 new admissions of older people into residential care, 34 over the quarter 2 target of 82. • **SC4** Proportion of Adults who were enabled to be independent after short term at home support. • **SC6** Number of 0-17year old children who are a Child in Need as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population. • **SC7** Number of 0-17year old children with a child protection plan as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population. • **SC8** Number of 0-17year old children in care as a rate per 10,000 of the Rotherham 0-17yrs population. • **SC12** Proportion of children and young people being referred to social care services for a second of subsequent time within 12 months.

Outcome 5: One Council that listens and learns	
Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Actions	
• 79% of actions are complete (11/14) • 21% of actions are delayed by more than 3 months (3/14)	
Actions complete since Quarter 2 report:	• **1** Increased the number of services available digitally by implementing **calendar booking and payment upfront online** functions including digitalising pest control appointments – Throughout 2025/26, 169 new online forms were created with a further 167 amended or updated. • **6** Refresh the Council's **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy** – the strategy was renamed the Inclusion Strategy and agreed at Cabinet in February 2026 following consultation. • **7** Develop and launch a **new Rotherham Plan** for the Rotherham Together Partnership – this was endorsed by partner organisations in May and launched at the Rotherham Together Partnership showcase in June. • **8** Deliver the next phase of a staff and Elected Member learning and development programme for **strengths-based working** – training for 80 staff members took place during July 2025 and a Community of Practice has been established for continued staff development and support. • **9** Procure and implement **new consultation software** to improve the Council's approach to consultation – the new system went live from 1 April 2026, pilots were undertaken in Quarter 4. • **10** Embed the **Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening Co-Production Board** (RASCAL) within the approach to change across adult social care – the RASCAL Board meets monthly and played a key role in co-producing the next Adult Social Care Strategy. • **11** Co-design a new look **tenant engagement framework** that strengthens tenant influence – the framework is live on the Council website following a series of engagement sessions. • **13** Refresh of the Council's **recruitment approach** – in Quarter 4 the Council attended 19 careers and employability events, received 112 work placement applications (resulting in 61 placement offers across 16 services) and saw an increase in applications from 15.25% in Quarter 4 2023/24 to 15.86% in Quarter 4 2025/26. • **15** Deliver 10 engagement events with education establishments and communities to improve awareness and **promote the benefits of renewables**, carbon reduction, energy management and green skills and jobs – a total of 30 events have taken place.

	• **16** Develop a full business case for the procurement and delivery of a **Local Area Energy Plan** for Rotherham – a business case has been created, followed by the inclusion of this project within the Climate Emergency Annual Report. • **17** Work with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to progress the next phase of the **Public EV Infrastructure Strategy** and identify an external funding source – a funding source and proposed approach has been identified and SYMCA will now be responsible for publishing this in Quarter 1 2026/27.
Actions significantly delayed (by more than 3 months)	• **2** Implement a **new IT system** (Confirm) – delayed due to the complexity of data development, cleansing, analysis and migration, alongside competing operational demands. The remaining elements are now planned for delivery during 2026. • **12** Complete **Employee Opinion Survey** 2025 and increase the participation rate to greater than 50% - survey was delivered in accordance with timescales and achieved 49% completion rate (1% below the action target) with outcomes communicated with Council staff, Elected Members and Trade Unions. • **14 Install two solar (PV) panels** on five town centre properties – procurement activity is ongoing to identify solar suppliers, to now include installations. By bringing this into one procurement, it will create delays on this scheme but will provide economies of scale/better value for money and a more proactive approach to future installations. Completion is now expected Quarter 3 2026/27.

Performance Measures	
• 33% performance measures are on target (1/3) • 67% performance measures are off target (2/3)	
Measures on target	• **4** Respond to 85% or above of complaints closed within timescales - target met with year-end figure at 85%.
Measures off target	• **3** Customer telephone wait time in the corporate contact centre to under 3 minutes. Wait times at year end were 4 minutes 31 seconds, Quarter 4 was challenging with weather events and staff numbers. Staff levels have now been increased to an appropriate level but due to training time, this did not have a positive impact on call wait times during the quarter. • **5** Reduce the number of complaints relating to street cleaning, grounds maintenance and waste management to less than 190. The number of complaints at year end was 411, 183 relate to Waste Management. The service has experienced significant change during 2025/26, which disrupted

	service delivery. While stabilisation plans are expected to reduce complaints, the introduction of a new complaints process and resident form may result in higher reported numbers.

Long-term Measures of Success	
• 71% of long-term measures of success have improved since previous year baseline (10/14) • 22% of long-term measures of success have **not** improved since previous year baseline (3/14) • 7% of long-term measures of success are N/A - do not have data for the current reporting period (1/14)	
Measures improved since baseline	• **KPI 25** An increase in the proportion of residents who feel that the Council keeps them informed – up from 45% in Aug 2024 to 50% in Jan 2026. • **KPI 27b** An increase in satisfaction with street cleaning – up from 48% in Aug 2024 to 51% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27c** An increase in satisfaction with road maintenance – up from 29% in Aug 2024 to 33% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27d** An increase in satisfaction with pavement maintenance – up from 41% in Aug 2024 to 44% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27e** An increase in satisfaction with library services – up from 52% in Aug 2024 to 57% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27f** An increase in satisfaction with sport and leisure services – up from 40% in Aug 2024 to 49% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27g** An increase in satisfaction with services and support for older people – up from 38% in Aug 2024 to 39% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 27h** An increase in satisfaction with services and support for children and young people – up from 33% in Aug 2024 to 38% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI27i** An increase in satisfaction with parks and green spaces – up from 65% in Aug 2024 to 71% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 29** The Council's workforce is more representative of the borough's population *[Overall proportion of employees]* – Between 2024/25 and 2025/26, the proportion of Council employees has increased; disabled 10.6% to 11.30%, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) 5.6% to 6.42%, and under 25s 3.40% to 3.49%.
Measures not improved since baseline	• **KPI 26** An increase in the proportion of residents who feel that the Council acts on their concerns – down from 52% in Aug 2024, to 41% in Jan 2026.

	• **KPI 27a** An increase in satisfaction with waste collection – down from 89% in Aug 2024 to 70% in Jan 2026 (Resident Satisfaction survey measure). • **KPI 28** An increase in satisfaction with the Council as a housing landlord – down from 78.2% in 2025/26 to 77.6% in 2025/26.
Measures are N/A – Data unavailable	• **KPI 30** A reduction in the Council's net carbon produced by operational activities, such as through vehicle emissions and energy used in our buildings – data available in Q2 2026/27.

Appendix 3

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 – Year-end Report for 2025/26.	
Date of Equality Analysis (EA): June 2026	
Directorate: Policy, Strategy and Engagement	**Service area:** Policy, Performance and Intelligence
Lead Manager: Katie Stead	**Contact:** katie.stead@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)**
Katie Stead	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager
Chloe Harrop	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Corporate Improvement Officer
Oscar Holden	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 2025-2030 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 runs until the end of March 2030.

A Year Ahead Delivery Plan is produced annually to ensure progress is made towards delivering the outcomes in the Council Plan. The Year Ahead Delivery Plan for 2025-26 was agreed by Cabinet in May 2025 and ran until the end of March 2026. This is the second progress report to Cabinet for the 2025-26 financial year and summarises the year-end position.

The report focuses on progress made in delivering the 89 priority actions and meeting the 27 headline performance measures contained within the Year Ahead Delivery Plan. It also summarises performance against a suite of long-term measures of success. It brings together wider information, key facts and intelligence to explain how the Council is working and performing, including timelines and case studies to demonstrate 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 2025-30 is provided here.

Population

- The borough's population is ageing with 54,357 residents aged 65 or over (2024 mid-year population estimates). At 19.7% of the total population, an increasing proportion of residents fall within this age bracket, which is also above the national average of 18.7%. This proportion of the population aged 65 or over is forecast to increase further to around 21% by 2030, with a particularly large increase in the number of people aged over 75.

- Population estimates suggest the population is continuing to increase in its diversity. The 2021 census indicates 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 2024/25.

- Rotherham's ethnic minority population is highly concentrated within the inner areas of the town centre in areas such as Boston Castle, Rotherham East and Rotherham West where 63.3% of the residents across the three wards are from White British backgrounds. The outer areas of Rotherham, however, are 93.6% White British in 2021. 39.7% of residents from ethnic minority backgrounds live in areas that are amongst the most deprived 10% in England with that figure increasing for certain backgrounds (Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2025). Whereas 21.4% of the borough's total population lives in the 10% most deprived areas.

- There is a decreasing trend in the number of residents who hold religious beliefs. In the 2021 Census, 39.8% of residents identified as holding no religious beliefs, compared to 22.5% in 2011. The number of people reporting Christianity as their religion has decreased from 66.5% in 2011 to 49% in 2021. The number of people reporting their religion as Muslim has increased from 3.7% in 2011 to 5.1% in 2021.

Economy

- 22% of Rotherham residents live within the 10% most deprived areas of England and the borough is amongst the 14% most deprived local authority areas in England. 17,772 children were living in "absolute low income families (before housing costs)" (Department for Work and Pensions, 2024/25).

- According to the Office of National Statistics Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings in 2025, Rotherham women's gross full-time earnings averaged £572 per week, which equates to 75% of men's full-time earnings locally and 80.4% of women's full-time earnings nationally.

- During the 2024 Council Plan consultation as part of the counter exercise, the majority of respondents (90.3%) agreed that the Council should help to create new jobs, compared to not delivering this service (9.7%).

Health and wellbeing

- The 2021 Census recorded Rotherham as having 56,177 residents with a long-term health problem or disability with 9.8% responding that this limits their activity a lot, above the England average of 7.3%. There was an overall decrease in people with a disability from 12% in 2011 to 9.9% in 2021, but despite this health inequality remains.

- Life expectancy in the most deprived areas of Rotherham is 9.9 years lower for men and 9.5 years lower for women than in the least deprived. Gaps in healthy life expectancy are greater at over 18 years for men and nearly 20 years for women.

Resident Satisfaction Survey

The Council Plan 2025-2030 includes performance measures from the Resident Satisfaction Survey. The 2026 survey results are set out below:

- **Satisfaction with Local Area as a Place to Live –** 76% of respondents reported feeling 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their local area as a place to live. This is higher than the national average (72%) and regional average (67%).

- **Satisfaction with Rotherham as a Place to Live** – 59% of respondents said that, overall, they were ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ satisfied. Respondents aged 18-24 (64%) and older respondents aged 65 and over (64%) were most likely to feel satisfied with Rotherham as a place to live. Respondents aged 25-34 (53%) had the lowest level of satisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live. Dissatisfaction with Rotherham as a place to live was highest amongst people aged 45-54.

- **Feelings of Safety** – 86% of respondents in Rotherham said they felt ‘very safe’ or ‘fairly safe’ during the day when outside in their local area. Feelings of safety in the local area after dark were 54%. A similar percentage of men (87%) and women (85%) felt ‘very safe’ or ‘fairly safe’ during the day. There was a significant difference between men and women’s feelings of safety after dark – 61% of men but only 48% of women said they felt ‘very safe’ or ‘fairly safe’.

- **Feelings of Optimism** – 54% of respondents reported feeling ‘very optimistic’ or ‘fairly optimistic’ about the future of Rotherham as a place to live, the average result for this indicator 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 (65%) and respondents aged 55-64 years were least optimistic (47%). Fewer respondents felt optimistic about the future of Rotherham Town centre, with 26% of respondents across the borough either ‘very optimistic’ or ‘fairly optimistic’. 38% of respondents were not optimistic about the town centre. People aged 35-44 years were the most optimistic about the future of Rotherham town centre (34%).

- **Keeping Residents Informed** – 50% of Rotherham respondents said that the Council keeps residents ‘very well’ or ‘fairly well’ informed about the services and benefits it provides. This is similar to the most recent national result (49%) and regional result (48%). Younger respondents aged 18-24 (60%) and older respondents aged 65+ (55%) were 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 –** 41% 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 lowest response across all surveys and lower than both the national average (53%) and regional average (50%).

- **Provision of Value for Money** – 35% of respondents would ‘tend to agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that the Council provides value for money. This is the lowest result for this indicator across all surveys and lower than the percentage observed nationally (38%) and regionally (36%). 32% of respondents expressed a neutral opinion.

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 outcomes in the Council Plan and associated Year Ahead Delivery Plan. Updates are obtained from directorates in relation to actions being taken to consider equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) for each of the Year Ahead Delivery 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.
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 measures and case studies. As part of this monitoring process, services are required to specifically 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. This is 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 2025-2030, various consultation exercises took place between September and November 2024. There were 1,963 interactions across all engagement methods. The consultation was part of an ongoing dialogue between the Council and members of the public. Engagement with residents took place 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. Customers are consulted and engaged with 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. Between October 2025 and January 2026, a

	statistically representative random sample of 500 Rotherham residents (aged 18 or over) was polled by 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 the 2026 survey above. Some performance measures are based on customer perceptions of the quality of the service received.
Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s)consulted and key findings)	Staff at all levels were consulted in the development of the new Council Plan 2025-30. Engagement with key directorate colleagues is ongoing, in the development of the Year Ahead Delivery Plans and through quarterly progress reviews for applicable actions / milestones and performance metrics. Staff also provide case studies for the year-end reports. The headlines were shared with the Service Director Group (21 May), Strategic Leadership Team (26 May) and Leader (27 May) for feedback prior to drafting the report for Cabinet. Wider Leadership events and staff briefing sessions also include highlights in relation to the process for all staff awareness.

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 outcomes, two specifically aim to meet residents' and communities' differentiated needs:

- An economy that works for everyone
- Residents live well.

Residents live well 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. This will be done by striving to achieve the best outcomes for local people, involving local residents in the things that matter to them and services are designed based on input from those who use them as well as tangible outputs such as the quality of homes and health and wellbeing of residents.

To complement this approach, an economy that works for everyone ensures that it connects residents to opportunity, providing work and education opportunities in an inclusive manner that meets the needs of its population.

There is also a priority focussed on helping people to feel safe in their community within the 'places are thriving, safe and clean' outcome. This involves 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 need it the most.

Furthermore, the underlying 'One Council' outcome encompasses two specific areas, which ensure different needs are met:

- Better customer experience
- Working in partnership with our communities.

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 work in partnership with our communities embodies our commitment to utilising a strengths-based approach 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 outcomes 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.

Places are thriving, safe and clean
Activities in this area are aimed at creating neighbourhoods where people feel safe, proud, and connected, while ensuring public spaces are well maintained and vibrant. The priorities of helping people to feel safe in their community, creating vibrant communities, better public spaces and revitalising the town centre 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 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:

- Tackle hate crime incidents and the drivers of hate crime through the delivery of education and engagement group and individual sessions: 37 group sessions were delivered throughout 2025/26, reaching 991 children and young people. 98 one-to-one interventions were delivered to individuals involved in or at risk of perpetrating hate crime.

- 10 ward reports have been provided to Council from July 2025, which have been informed by local communities. Ward profiles and census data (including details of communities with protected characteristics) have informed the development of ward plans. Ongoing conversations with Rotherham's communities have identified and recognised their strengths, understood what is important to them and jointly agreed how to tackle those priorities, including the delivery of integrated, accessible, and responsive services that meet diverse needs.

- Delivered cultural events in varied locations throughout the borough throughout 2025/26, including events such as: Rotherham Show, Signals Festival, Uplift, WoW Rotherham, Christmas Lights' Switch On, and support for ward-based community galas and festivals. There is a year-round programme of events which is underpinned by a series of programming principles which ensure events are accessible, representative of their communities and inclusive to all. This is achieved through measures including: British Sign Language interpreters for spoken word events and talks, ramp access for performance stages, ensuring representation in the creative programme, creative partnerships with target groups such as SENSE to deliver provision for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at events, Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance (REMA) to engage a more diverse range of communities for Rotherham Show and specific targeting of women, girls, trans and non-binary communities at WOW Rotherham.

- Delivered the Cohesion Grant fund with a range of partners across the borough to support local communities. This included a broad range of activity, bringing different communities together around different shared activities and interests. Some of this activity was also re-designed to mark St Georges Day, this included funding, through a small grants programme, a range of events to include communities across the borough.

- Completed redevelopment works at Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Park, this included accessible public pathways and new toilet facilities for disabled customers at Rother Valley.

An economy that works for everyone

Aims for this theme include developing the economy, enhancing skills, and connecting people to opportunities.

Contributing to these aims are a range of regeneration projects for businesses in Rotherham, supporting residents to gain skills and enhance their employment prospects, and the creation of more working opportunities for residents.

Equality analysis and monitoring will be carried out where appropriate to ensure vulnerable residents sharing protected characteristics benefit from this support.

Activity that links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes includes:

- Developed and implemented an apprenticeship action plan to support the growth of apprenticeships across the borough. Ongoing engagement with employers, schools, universities and diverse communities helps to reduce barriers to employment and increase access to apprenticeships for underrepresented groups.

- Supported 45 young people aged 16-25 into paid employment through traineeships and internships as part of the Children's Capital of Culture Programme. This programme is supported with an Equalities Impact Assessment, which focuses on ensuring that opportunities can be accessed by more marginalised groups including working with care experienced young people to provide pathways into employment.

- Implemented an Economic Inactivity Trailblazer to provide targeted support for economically inactive residents facing barriers to employment. Launched in April 2025, the programme aims to improve equality of opportunity by helping participants overcome challenges that may prevent them from accessing work, supporting progression towards sustainable employment. By the end of March 2026, 87 participants had successfully been supported into paid employment.

- Developed and delivered a programme of work experience, supported internships, apprentices and graduate schemes to ensure effective career pathways and succession planning. Increasing the number of opportunities across the borough will inform work to consider how best those from underrepresented communities and demographics can be encouraged and supported.

Children and young people achieve

Actions under this theme are aimed at ensuring that children and young people have fun things to do, enabling children and young people to thrive, and keeping children and young people safe from harm.

Activities aim to address educational inequalities through collaborative working with schools and partners, so all children are ready to attend school, learn and 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 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 fun things to do 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:

- Worked with children and young people across the borough to deliver events throughout the 2025 Festival Year, celebrating Rotherham becoming the world's first Children's Capital of Culture through more than 1,000 events and activities. The programme promoted inclusion and equality of access by supporting children and young people from diverse backgrounds to participate in initiatives including the Youth Programming Panel, Arts Awards and volunteering schemes. Particular efforts were made to engage groups who may face additional barriers to participation, including home educated children and young people through the Arts Award programme, and neurodiverse children and young people through targeted school-based activity.

- Submitted a bid to The Cruyff Foundation for a multi-use games area in the borough. Consultation has taken place between Clifton Learning Partnership and Kimberworth Community Partnership to ensure that the new facility is accessible, recognising the needs of women and girls, disabled people and low income-families.

- Provided 141,748 free school meal vouchers to support families during the school holidays, in line with the package of measures agreed through the Household Support Fund. Free School Meals are means tested and provide a targeted level of support for pupils from low socio-economic background. Schools provide support to families to ensure all eligible families can access this entitlement. An Equality Screening Assessment was also completed as part of the Cabinet report and budget monitoring arrangements in place for this funding.

- Completed building work on the Special Educational Needs and Disability centre at Eric Manns, and Rotherham Parent Carers Forum are now occupying the building and delivering services within the community. This includes providing adequate meeting and office space that will assist in the Parent Carers Forum and the Council working in Partnership and delivering positive outcomes for young people and their families.

- Supported 27 Rotherham secondary schools and colleges to enhance their careers provision. Consultation on the project is the responsibility of South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, who run the Careers Hub for the whole of South Yorkshire. All schools are supported through the project.

- Published a No Family Left Behind *(Rotherham's Commitment to Addressing Child Poverty)* Strategy in September 2025, championing initiatives and aligning stakeholders to address child poverty. The Child Poverty rate in Rotherham is 31% (2023/24). The wards with the highest number of children living in relative low-income families are Rotherham East Ward (2,445), Boston Castle Ward (1,614) and Rotherham West Ward (1,418). Harnessing resources to prevent and reduce the impact of poverty will improve the life chances and experiences of children affected.

Residents live well
Actions in this outcome are aimed at supporting better physical and mental wellbeing, assisting people to live independently, safe, and well, and to provide good quality, affordable homes for all. Within the priority for assisting people to live independently, safe, and well, actions focus on people with learning disabilities, independent living and adult social care ensuring 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 ensure that individuals sharing several protected characteristics, and potentially facing multiple barriers, can access the support they need.

Progress made which links to improving equality, diversity and inclusion outcomes include:

- Commissioned an Active Hub to establish referral support for people with long-term health conditions to access physical activity opportunities. The Active Hub has been established to support those with the opportunity to benefit clinically from physical activity. From October 2025, anyone with a long-term health condition who is currently inactive can self-refer or be referred by a healthcare professional.

- Launch a specialised support service for people who have attempted suicide. The service focuses on those who have attempted suicide and will increase local understanding of the risks to inform wider suicide prevention approaches. The Hub offers a flexible, tailored approach to each referral and assessments can be done in-person (in community venues) or by phone, to ensure they are accessible to everyone.

- The building work for Castle View Day Service was completed and opened in June. People with lived experience, carers and staff were involved in shaping both the building design and service model to ensure the environment meets the needs of people with high and complex support needs. This has informed accessible layout design, sensory-considerate spaces, and facilities that support dignity, independence and safety for people with a range of physical and cognitive needs.

- Delivered the Rothercare analogue to digital switchover for over 5,000 residents. A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to ensure people with care and support needs can continue to utilise Rothercare post the digital switchover.

- The refreshed Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy (2026/27-2028/29) was approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership and endorsed by Cabinet on 13 April 2026. The refreshed strategy will continue to improve the support available to victims and the actions taken to address perpetrators of violence and abuse. Domestic abuse (DA) causes isolation and exclusion, and by tackling domestic abuse, the wellbeing and life chances of victims and survivors is improved. Equality monitoring of DA services ensures that any barriers to access and engagement in services experienced by people from protected characteristic groups is identified and remedial actions taken. A new Equality Analysis was prepared to go alongside the Cabinet report.

- Delivered the Learning Disability Strategy priorities for 2025, which included additional funding for Supported Employment to increase capacity to support up to 100 additional residents with Learning Disabilities and Autism, improving access to employment opportunities for groups who may face barriers to work. Over 50 residents have already been supported into employment-related activity. Governance of the Learning Disability Strategy has also been strengthened through the relaunch of the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the establishment of a dedicated voice forum to ensure lived experience informs service development. The Preparing for Adulthood programme also continues to embed the views of young people, with targeted engagement helping to shape more inclusive services and improve transition experiences.

- Delivered the Council’s Local Council Tax Support Top Up scheme throughout 2025/26, providing up to £126 to working households in receipt of council tax support. Access to the scheme is governed by the Council’s Local Council Tax Support Scheme which was approved by Cabinet with its own equality impact assessment. The scheme is open to those residents who are financially vulnerable and due to the criteria outlined in the Council’s Local Council Tax Support policy are eligible for support. The Council ensures that a wider variety to access the support are available.

- Continued delivery of the Council’s Home Delivery Programme through new build developments across the borough, supporting the provision of affordable and accessible housing to meet diverse local needs. The programme responds to strategic challenges including housing affordability, homelessness and diverse need within the borough by delivering a mix of one-bedroom homes, larger homes, bungalows, accessible and adaptable properties for households with additional needs and wheelchair users, and accommodation designed to support older people to live independently for longer.

One Council that listens and learns

The One Council theme is focussed around ensuring a better customer experience, working in partnership with our communities, and supporting a workforce that is ambitious. 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’s Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy, now renamed the Inclusion Strategy, was agreed at Cabinet in February 2026. This followed consultation with

residents and community groups across the borough. The strategy sets out a clear ambition to reduce barriers to participation in all aspects of life across the borough. It is structured around four equality objectives: working together, responsive services, welcoming places, and becoming an employer of choice. • The Rotherham Adult Social Care Always Listening Co-Production Board (RASCAL) continues to meet monthly and is now well embedded within Adult Social Care's approach to service change. The Board is co-chaired by a member with lived experience alongside the Co-Production Lead, strengthening shared ownership and ensuring effective governance. RASCAL has played a key role in co-producing the next Adult Social Care Strategy, including shaping the approach to community engagement. A clear process is in place to ensure that any adult social care work with potential impact on people who draw on services, carers, families or friends is considered through the RASCAL board, providing assurance that lived experience and customer voice are meaningfully captured and used to inform decision-making. • Co-designed a new tenant engagement framework that strengthens tenant influence in Rotherham and empowers tenants to effectively shape council housing services. Participation was encouraged from a diverse range of tenants and offered tailored support to remove barriers to participation. Workshops were delivered both online and in-person, ensuring accessibility and flexibility. A dedicated online session was also delivered for autistic tenants, shaped around their communication preferences and needs. • The Workforce Plan sets out a key action 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.
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 – Year-End Report for 2025/26.
Directorate and service area: Policy, Strategy and Engagement; Policy, Performance and Intelligence
Lead Manager: Katie Stead
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**
Chris Paddock	Interim Strategic Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement	16 June 2026
Cllr Chris Read	Leader of the Council	22 June 2026

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	09/06/26
Report title and date	Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update – Year-end Report for 2025/26. Cabinet 6 July
Date report sent for publication	22/06/26
Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	15/06/26

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?	Unknown	The Council continues to invest £300k in community facilities across the borough to sustain and increase the participation, activities and engagement within them. This includes the Black Hut and Oaklea Retreat. Development of a full business case for the procurement and delivery of a Local Area Energy Plan for Rotherham, including a review of potential external funding opportunities will identify opportunities for decarbonisation.	The Council has supported 46 businesses to improve shop units in the town centre and on other principal high streets through the new 'shop units grant' programme which will incur carbon emissions due to construction processes.	Climate Impact Assessments required for all Cabinet reports.	All emissions from operational buildings are monitored and reported publicly. Borough-wide emissions are reported on annually, with a two-year lag.
Emissions from transport?	Unknown	The Fleet Replacement Plan is underway with 23 vehicles received and another 11 vehicles currently progressing through procurement. The Independent Travel Training Programme has trained 20 young people	Work has continued with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority regarding the development of the Transforming Cities Fund programme. The new tram-train stop at Magna opened in April 2026. The Strategic Case for the Mainline Station Project is completed. All these	Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.	All council transport emissions are monitored and reported publicly. Borough-wide emissions are reported on annually, with a two-year lag.

		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.	schemes are expected to reduce transport emissions. As part of the Local Neighbourhood and Road Safety Programme, schemes in 8 out of 12 wards are being developed to detailed design phase. The 20 mph zones which work to decrease emissions are included in these schemes. Work is progressing with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to progress the next phase of the public EV (electric vehicle) infrastructure strategy and identify an external funding source. The Employment Solutions Service has supported 842 people to access employment which will result in an increase of carbon emissions related to commuting and job industry emissions.		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Decrease	The proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting) for 2025/26 is 43.9% against the target of 45% but is an increase on the 37.1% reused in 2024/25. This is slightly below the target for	There may also be increased waste generated as part of construction schemes though it is not currently possible to quantify this.	Improved information and data to take further action in reducing waste, improving recycling rates and reducing contamination.	The council monitors and reports on waste and recycling data.

		the year; however, the data is provisional and the finalised recycling rate figures are based on the three months previous so figures are likely to change and will be updated as/when they are received. Data now also includes Household Waste Recycling Centre recycling.		Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.	
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Decrease	The Council's temporary accommodation portfolio has expanded by 173 homes, which will increase emissions through having a higher number of domestic properties in use throughout the borough. The commitment to provide the remaining planned children's in-house residential homes to meet the needs of Rotherham children in care and help make sure they stay in the borough has seen the opening of a third, and fourth, two-bedroom home, which will have a carbon impact in the near future. The fifth and sixth two-bedroom homes are due to open in 2026/27.	The Council brought 36 long term empty homes back into use, which will increase Carbon emissions through having an increased number of domestic properties in use throughout the borough. The Council has delivered 85 new homes through acquisition either from the private sector housebuilders or direct from the open market. These houses will incur an increase in emissions from domestic buildings, however in the case of buildings being taken up by existing residents this may not be significantly different to current domestic emissions from those residents. The new homes include: • Under-floor heating – improves the efficiency of	The proportion of council housing with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated C is 61.1%, which has exceeded its target of 50%. A programme is being developed to deliver the warmer homes funding to improve energy efficiency of circa 1,100 properties over the next three years. Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.	Work is ongoing to 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.

		The Council continues plans to install two solar (PV) panels on five town centre properties (Tom Burgess House, Arthur Wharton House, Elizabeth House, Portland House; Millford) to provide a revenue income or saving, funded by the Decarbonisation Recycle Fund.	the air source heat pump (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.		
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Large scale developments and improvements are expected to have significant effects on carbon emissions. Construction projects expected to increase emissions include:	The works detailed in the previous column will increase overall borough emissions.	Introduction of further SPDs (supplementary planning documents) relevant to climate change – SPDs can elaborate on Local Plan policies, giving developers additional technical guidance, speeding up applications and resulting in better	Embodied carbon emissions must be estimated for all new corporate Council building projects from 1st April 2026. The Council may consider setting targets for embodied carbon in its corporate buildings in the future.

		• Our Places Fund programmes in Wath and Dinnington. • The delivery of our ambitious Council Homes Programme has seen new build projects completed in Warden Street in Canklow, Princess Street and Albert Road, the former Ship Inn Site in Swinton, Maltby, Wath, and on the former Albert Club in West Melton. Homes being built from Quarter 1 2026/27. • Completing the building work for Castle View Day Service, and at Eric Manns. • The submission of a bid to the Cruyff Foundation in support of a new multi-use games area in the borough will require construction and land redevelopment if successful.		quality development for the community and environment. A full business case has been developed for the procurement and delivery of a Local Area Energy Plan for Rotherham, including a review of potential external funding opportunities. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.	The council does not currently monitor or report on construction emissions for other types of building projects.

		• The improvement of 4 play areas as part of the Children's Playground Programme. • Completion of the Royal Institute of British Architects Stage 1 development of plans for the next phase of major housing in the town centre and submitting the 'Regeneration Plan' in response to the Government's new grant fund 'Plan for Neighbourhoods' (formally known as Long Term Plan for Towns). • Completion of the landscaping works to the pocket park at Snail Yard. • The Whiston Brook, Eel Mires Dyke an Kilnhurst, and Catcliffe Flood Alleviation Schemes. • The redevelopment works at Rother Valley Country Park.			

		• The investment of £1.66 million into footway improvements across the borough to deliver 14.47km of footway repairs. • The demolition work of Wath library to make way for new facilities.			
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	710 trees were planted across the borough by the end of the 2025/26 financial year.	Improvements in the approach to weed control and removal, as well as sustainable management of verges and greenspaces to encourage biodiversity and increase wildflower areas, with potential (but likely negligible) impact on carbon capture.	Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.	The Council currently has little data related to carbon sequestered via trees, limiting our understanding of the planting required to offset emissions.

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. There have been some delays to the flood alleviation schemes in Catcliffe, Eel Mires Dyke, Kilnhurst and Whiston Brook.

Delivery of the Year Ahead Delivery Plan should help build residents' broader resilience, including residents' capacity to deal with climate change.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures: The ‘One Council that listens and learns’ outcome has a focus on reducing harmful levels of carbon emissions to limit the impacts on the climate and the environment. Actions within this outcome encompass plans for the reduction of emissions. The ‘places are thriving, safe and clean’ outcome also includes actions focussed on flood alleviation projects and flood resilience measures for communities in the worst-affected areas of the borough. Given that this is a progress report, and implies no direct recommendations or decisions, there are no relevant direct emission impacts to consider. Where progress on certain actions has implied a specific definable impact on emissions, this has been included indicatively and an overall likely impact provided. The majority of larger schemes will have had separate climate impact assessments undertaken as part of their approval process.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Fiona Boden Head of Policy, Performance and Intelligence Policy, Performance and Intelligence, Policy, Strategy and Engagement Choose an item.
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	Directorate Year Ahead Delivery Plan trackers and Performance Data for Quarters 3 and 4 2025/26.
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: CIA664 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

Agenda Item 8

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 06 July 2026

Report Title
Draft Street Trading Policy

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?
No, but it has been included on the Forward Plan

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report
Andrew Bramidge, Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)
Alan Pogorzelec, Licensing Manager
01709 254955 or alan.pogorzelec@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
The effective regulation of street trading is central to the continued regeneration and economic vibrancy of the Borough. This report proposes a regulatory approach that would see the control of street trading achieved through the use of consents issued by the Council in accordance with a Street Trading Policy.

In order to introduce the framework, the Council must first adopt Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. Cabinet is asked to authorise officers to commence a period of consultation in relation to the adoption of Schedule 4 and approve a draft Street Trading Policy which will be consulted on at the same time. A further report will be presented to Cabinet later in the year outlining the outcome of the consultation and making a final recommendation with regard to the adoption of Schedule 4 and the introduction of a Borough-wide Street Trading Policy.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approve consultation to determine whether the Council should adopt Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

2. Approve consultation on the draft Street Trading Policy, as outlined in the report.

3. Note that, following consultation, a future report will be presented to Cabinet in late 2026, outlining the final recommendations with regard to the adoption of Schedule 4 and the introduction of a Borough-wide Street Trading Policy.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1	Draft Street Trading Policy
Appendix 2	Equalities Assessment
Appendix 3	Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers
None.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None.

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Draft Street Trading Policy

1. Background

1.1 Uncontrolled street trading can adversely affect local communities and undermine the economic stability of an area and the businesses that operate within it.

1.2 The current approach to regulating street trading within Rotherham is inconsistent. Street Trading is currently being utilised by a small number of traders that operate at locations within Rotherham using permissions provided many years ago, or through the misuse of parking bays and car parks.

1.3 Street traders are currently able to operate with minimal regulation and without appropriate consideration of the consequences of their activities on other local businesses (particularly those that trade from retail premises). In addition, the absence of a clear framework means that the way that street traders operate currently is not transparent, equitable or fair. In addition, the introduction of a street trading framework will allow well managed traders to develop and flourish, further supporting business growth and employment opportunities.

1.4 In order to effectively regulate street trading, the Council must first adopt Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. The adoption of this legislation, together with the introduction of a clear Street Trading Policy, will provide the Council with the framework to ensure that street trading is controlled, fair, appropriate and contributes to business growth throughout the Borough.

1.5 Cabinet are asked to consider the adoption of the relevant legislation and review the draft Policy. Cabinet are also asked to authorise officers to commence a period of consultation on both aspects as outlined in section 4 of this report.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The control of street trading in Rotherham is currently achieved through a combination of powers provided by Highways and Planning legislation. The control of street trading is not the primary purpose of this legislation, and so it is largely ineffective.

2.2 Although there is limited regulation of street traders through food hygiene and trading standards legislation, in general the traders that operate currently are not bound by any requirements regarding the safety and suitability of the unit that they trade from, the quality of the products that they supply or the hours of operation (and the consequential impact that this may have on the local area).

2.3 The ineffectiveness of the current approach has led to a small number of traders establishing themselves as a semi-permanent presence within the Borough or during particular events (events in Rotherham Town Centre or matches at the New York Stadium for example). In addition, the lack of transparency about how the current traders operate has created a situation whereby new businesses that seek to trade on the Borough's streets are unable to do so, resulting in missed opportunities for traders to enhance the offer to residents during major events and to support wider business growth.

2.4 The Council recognises the positive impact that well managed street trading can have on the local area, and the wider Borough. Furthermore, it is considered likely that some smaller or niche traders may utilise street trading as a way of developing their business and growing their customer base. This may lead to the business establishing itself as a more successful, more permanent presence in Rotherham.

2.5 In order to address the issues identified above, and to assist with new business development within the Borough, the Council believes that it is necessary and important to introduce a new framework that will promote the benefits of street trading, whilst at the same time protecting local people and neighbourhoods from the negative effects of the current approach.

2.6 The Council has the option of utilising the provisions within Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (referred to hereafter as "Schedule 4"), which would allow far more effective control over street trading within the Borough.

2.7 The provisions within Schedule 4 allow the Council to designate a street according to one of three statutory designations:

- Prohibited street – street trading is prohibited at all times.
- Licence street – street trading is prohibited without a licence granted by the Council.
- Consent street – street trading is prohibited without the consent of the Council.

2.8 Where a street is not designated according to one of the above categories, the Council is not able to regulate trading on that street (except for using existing powers within Highways and / or Planning legislation).

2.9 Street Trading Consents and Street Trading Licences are similar in nature and are both very effective at controlling street trading. Consents have all of the benefits of licences but are much more flexible and allow for a quicker more dynamic response to issues that may affect trading, such as safety or security concerns or events taking place within an area.

2.10 Although not required by the legislation, it would be best practice for the discharge of the provisions within Schedule 4 to be done in accordance with a policy that sets out the Council's approach to street trading in Rotherham.

2.11 The Street Trading Policy will allow the Council to ensure that trading takes place in an appropriate manner and without adverse impact on the local community (for example by minimising nuisance and regulating the number and location of traders within an area).

2.12 The Policy will also allow the Council to set out conditions and expectations that would apply to street traders, such as:

- the safety and suitability of trading units
- the standard of hygiene for traders selling food items
- waste disposal
- trading times and limitations on trading in certain areas
- background checks on traders.

2.13 As certain locations are expected to be in high demand (for example those in Rotherham Town Centre), the draft Policy makes it clear that in some cases the limitations on the number and locations will mean that trading can only take place from a designated pitch or pitches.

2.14 To use the provisions within Schedule 4, the Council must first adopt the legislation. The process by which this must be done is set out in law, but in summary it will include:

- Undertaking consultation with key stakeholders with regard to the adoption of Schedule 4.
- Provision of notice to the Highways Authority and South Yorkshire Police.
- Publication of a public notice in the local press.
- Consideration of any comments received during the consultation period.
- If appropriate, the adoption of Schedule 4 by full Council.
- Publication of a notice confirming the decision to adopt Schedule 4.

2.15 As has been outlined above, it would be best practice to develop a Street Trading Policy that sets out the Council's approach to regulating street trading within the Borough. A draft Policy has been produced and is attached to this report as Appendix 1. It is proposed that the Policy is subject to a period of public consultation at the same time as the consultation on the adoption of Schedule 4. The outcome of the consultation and recommended next steps with regard to both of these elements will then be presented to Cabinet after the consultation has closed and the responses have been collated and analysed.

2.16 Schedule 4 makes it clear that the Council may charge such fees as is considered reasonable for the grant or renewal of a street trading licence or a street trading consent. It is difficult to quantify the costs that may be associated with the administration of a street trading framework within Rotherham. The most similar existing process is that of Pavement Licences issued under the Business and Planning Act 2020. This legislation allows Councils to charge fees up to £500 for new Pavement Licence applications and £350 for the renewal of existing licences.

2.17 With this in mind, it is proposed that the fee for a new consent is set at £500. The initial consent would be valid for a two-year period and will allow the Council to fully consider the impact and costs of the new framework and for any adjustments to be aligned with the annual budget and fee setting process.

Whilst full payment would normally be required in advance, in to support traders, the Council will accept the payment of the two-year consent fee by instalments (£170 payable on application, then three further payments of £110 due 6, 12 and 18 months after the consent is issued. In order to enable the instalment mechanism, traders will need to agree to setting up a direct debit arrangement. If a trader opts to pay by instalments, then the consent will be issued until the date that the first instalment becomes due, it will then be extended by the appropriate period once the instalment has been paid. The consent will lapse if the direct debit defaults and the instalment is not paid by other means by the due date and the trader will be required to apply for a new consent in order to continue to trade.

2.18 The Council recognises that the nature of street trading is such that some traders may only require a consent for a one-off event, or for a short period of time. In view of this, the Council is proposing to introduce lower fees for consents that last for a shorter period of time. The fees charged comprise an application fee and a contribution to the enforcement and monitoring of the street trading framework, and as a result the fee charged increases with the duration of the consent. The proposals for shorter term consents are as follows (these fees cannot be paid by instalments and must be paid in advance):

- one day consent £40
- one month consent £120
- three month consent £160
- six month consent £220
- one year consent £340

2.19 The fee for the one-day consent has been set at a low level as the Council recognises the importance of street trading for some new businesses. It is possible that the cost of the one-day licence may not cover the administrative cost of issuing the licence, but the Council is keen to support new businesses as they develop and as this is a new approach, full costs and overall levels of recovery are unknown. The suitability of this approach will be reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process.

2.20 The Council will charge an administration fee if the trader wishes to make any administrative amendments to the consent during the period that it is valid (for example and change of name or address). The fee will be comparable to the fees charged for administrative changes to other licences or permits that are issued by the Service (currently £28).

2.21 The proposal regarding the fee and the charging structure will be included in the consultation. The final fee structure will be confirmed and agreed when the Policy is brought back to Cabinet for approval later in the year (subject to the outcome of the consultation).

2.22 Although the provisions within Schedule 4 will significantly improve the Council's ability to regulate street trading in Rotherham, it is important to note that there are a number of activities that are not considered to be street trading and as result will fall outside of the framework outlined in this report. These exemptions include:

- Trading by any person that holds a Pedlar’s Certificate issued under the Pedlars Act 1871 provided that the person is acting as a pedlar and not a street trader (Pedlar’s Certificates are issued by South Yorkshire Police).
- Trading in a market or fair.
- Trading in a trunk road picnic area.
- Trading as a news vendor.
- Trading which is carried on at a premises used as a fuel filling station or is carried on at premises used as a shop or in the street adjoining premises so used and as part of the business of that shop.
- Selling items as a roundsman.
- Trading in accordance with a Pavement Licence (issued under Highways Legislation or the Business and Planning Act).
- Authorised street collections.

2.23 It should also be noted that if the provisions were adopted, it would be recommended for there to be a period of transition that would allow existing traders to adapt to the new framework and obtain relevant permissions if required.

2.24 Three approaches have been considered with regards to the control of street trading. With the exception of option one, all options will require the adoption of Schedule 4 and should be supported by a Street Trading Policy. The three approaches are outlined below.

2.25 a) <u>Designate all streets in the Borough as “Prohibited Streets”</u>

Designating all streets as prohibited streets will mean that street trading cannot take place in any part of the Borough at any time under any circumstances. As has already been said, street trading is beneficial to the local economy, provided it is effectively regulated. Indeed, in some circumstances the provision of street trading would be desirable and something that the Council would be keen to promote (for example, during an event). This option is not recommended.

2.26 b) <u>Designate all streets in the Borough as “Licence Streets”</u>

This option will see the introduction of a statutory framework that will allow the Council to implement conditions, limitations and other requirements that will allow the effective regulation of street trading. Under this option, street trading will only be permitted if the trader is in possession of a licence issued by the Council.

However, although there are benefits to this option, the statutory nature of the process restricts the Council’s ability to vary or remove licences due to security, safety or operational reasons. For example, if circumstances were such that it would be undesirable to permit street trading in a particular area at a particular time (due to security or safety concerns), then the Council would be unable to vary a licence or prevent street trading taking place as these reasons are not specified within the legislation. This would mean that the Council would be unable to take urgent action as a result of specific local circumstances. Therefore, this option is not recommended.

2.27 c) Designate all streets in the Borough as "Consent Streets"

This option will allow the Council to effectively control street trading across the Borough through the issuing of consents. Consents will be issued in accordance with a Street Trading Policy, and the Council will have the ability to apply conditions, limitations and other requirements (similar to the licences referred to in option three above).

The Council has the option of giving different designations to different streets across the Borough (e.g. designating some streets prohibited streets, and others as consent streets), and this option has been considered. However, this approach could potentially restrict the Council's ability to deal with applications on a case-by-case basis. For example, a general prohibition on street trading in a particular area would prevent the trading from taking place even if the individual circumstances meant that such trading was desirable on a particular occasion (for example during a special event).

The use of consents will have the same benefits as the use of street trading licences, but their use will allow the Council to vary or remove a consent if this is required due to operational, safety or security reasons (which would not be possible if licences were to be used). The ability to effectively regulate street trading, combined with the additional flexibility that consents afford means that this option is the preferred approach. **This is the recommended option.**

2.28 All of the above approaches would require a level of enforcement in order to ensure that the specific requirements relevant to each approach are being adhered to. There will be requirement for enforcement in the first year as the requirements are phased in.

2.29 Enforcement of the street trading framework will primarily fall to the Council's Licensing Service, and this activity will be undertaken in addition to the existing enforcement activity that is undertaken by the officers within the service. However, there will be an expectation that other Council teams will assist with enforcement of the framework where the opportunity arises.

2.30 Enforcement activity will include, but is not limited to, identification of traders operating without the relevant consents, failure to adhere to consent conditions and non-compliance with the requirements of individual consents (e.g. trading times and locations not being adhered to).

2.31 Enforcement will be undertaken in accordance with the Council General Enforcement Policy, with the ultimate sanction being the removal of a street trading consent and / or the prosecution of an individual trader.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 There are two options that have been considered.

3.2 Option 1 – the Council does not consult on the adoption of Schedule 4 and the implementation of a Street Trading framework.

3.3 This may arise either because Cabinet chose not to introduce the framework or decides to introduce the framework without consultation.

3.4 This option is not recommended for the following reasons:

3.5

1. The current arrangement is ineffective and inconsistent. The effective regulation of street trading is considered to be a contributor to the Borough's regeneration plans and its continued economic success.

   A failure to adopt Schedule 4 and a Street Trading Policy would allow this approach to continue, and the issues / concerns identified within this report will not be addressed.

2. Choosing to adopt Schedule 4 and introducing Street Trading Policy without having first consulted on them would open the Council up to legal challenge via judicial review. In addition, by not taking the views of stakeholders into account, the Council increases the likelihood of there being unintended consequences introduced by the policy (which may have a detrimental impact on the economic health of local businesses and the Borough in general).

3.6 Option 2 – consult on a proposal to adopt Schedule 4 and a Street Trading Policy.

This option will enable the Council to give consideration to introducing a street trading framework that has been developed after taking into account the views of all stakeholders that could potentially be affected by the policy.

The Council would also have the confidence that any policy introduced would withstand a legal challenge and would best deliver the aims and objectives of the Street Trading Policy.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 If approved by Cabinet, officers will commence a formal consultation exercise within three weeks of the decision. The consultation will last for six weeks, and include the following:

- Online consultation via the Council's website.
- Direct consultation with any existing street traders that the Council is aware of.
- Consultation with groups representing communities and businesses in the local area.
- Consultation with groups representing children and young people, vulnerable adults and those sharing a protected characteristic.

4.2 Following the consultation period, the responses will be analysed and collated and a report presented to Cabinet for consideration with a recommendation regarding the adoption of Schedule 4 and the approval of a Street Trading Policy (dependent on the outcome of the consultation).

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The consultation will commence by the end of July 2026 and will continue until the end of September 2026.

5.2 A report regarding the findings of the consultation will be presented to Cabinet in late 2026 or early 2027, following analysis of consultation responses.

5.3 As referred to in section 2 above, there is a statutory process that must be followed should the decision be made to formally adopt Schedule 4. Further detail on the timelines associated with this will be provided in the report that is presented to Cabinet following the consultation.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 This report proposes introducing a range of fees for a new Street Trading consent. These are detailed in 2.17 and 2.18. These amounts are not final and may change as a result of consultation. It is not envisaged that any charging will take place before 1st April 2027. This timing would allow the proposed fee to be considered as part of the annual Budget and Council Tax Report and approved by full Council if agreed.

6.2 It is not known how much income this new fee will generate and whether it will cover the costs of administering and enforcing the licences. This will be considered as part of the next update to Cabinet.

6.3 There are no implications for procurement introduced by this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 Section 3 Local Government [Miscellaneous Provisions] Act 1982 provides the power for the Local Authority to resolve that Schedule 4 to the Act shall apply to their district and, if a council so resolves, that the Schedule shall come into force in their district on such day as may be specified in the resolution.

7.2 Schedule 4 of the Act relates to street trading which is defined as the selling or exposing or offering for sale of any article (including a living thing) in a street. Paragraph 2.22 of this report outlines the activities under Schedule 4 which are not deemed to be street trading.

7.3 The Local Authority cannot pass a resolution unless a notice of intention has been published in a local newspaper, a copy has been served on the chief of police for the area and on the responsible highway authority, and where applicable the consent of the highway authority or relevant corporation has been obtained. Schedule 4 sets out the publication requirements and detail as to representations which can be made to the Local Authority in relation to the proposed resolution.

7.4 Schedule 4 Paragraph 9 sets out the provision around the setting of fees. A district council (which includes a Metropolitan Council) may charge such fees as they consider reasonable for the grant or renewal of a street trading licence or a street trading consent.

7.5 Adopting a Street Trading Policy will ensure that the Local Authority operates consistently and provides transparency to those who wish to apply, which in turn minimises the risk of legal challenge in relation to the decision-making process.

7.6 Consultation is legally required as set out within Schedule 4 once a decision has been made to adopt the provisions and pass a resolution; there are also strict notification requirements. There is no legal requirement to consult prior to this point but it is recommended, particularly given that the adoption of a specific policy is also being considered. To consult at this point ensures transparency and allows the views of businesses, residents, stakeholders etc to be taken into account.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 This report is seeking the approval of Cabinet to undertake a period of consultation with regard to the control of street trading, and as such there are no HR implications introduced by this report.

8.2 The administration of the Street Trading Policy (if introduced) will be undertaken by the Council's Licensing Service. The introduction of a framework is not expected to result in excessive demands being placed upon the service, and therefore at this stage any demand will be met utilising existing resources.

8.3 The need for additional staffing resources will be reassessed after the first year; any increase in staff numbers will be funded through the application fees associated with the framework. Fees will be reassessed if additional staff are required and will be set at a level that ensures full cost recovery (which will mean that fees may increase after year one).

8.4 The enforcement of the street trading framework will primarily be undertaken by the Licensing Service, however there would be an expectation that other services would offer support as appropriate (for example, the Street Safe and Trading Standards teams). The involvement of partners such as South Yorkshire Police will also be requested where appropriate, although it is accepted that the involvement of the police may not always be possible.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 This report is seeking approval to consult (rather than a decision to adopt the legislation or policy), therefore there are not thought to be any direct implications for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

9.2 However, the proposed street trading framework will help to protect children and vulnerable people through the restrictions / conditions that it will introduce. For example:

- Applicants seeking permission to trade on the street will be required to provide a Disclosure Certificate from the Disclosure and Barring Service (basic level). This will allow the Council to assess the suitability of applicants prior to providing permissions to trade.

- Restrictions with regard to the locations and times that traders can trade (not trading outside schools / colleges at certain times or on certain days).

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 An initial screening assessment has been carried out, and this indicates that the proposals within this report will not have any implications for equalities or human rights.

10.2 A full consultation process will be undertaken prior to any decision being made to adopt the legislation or approve the Street Trading Policy; this will include groups representing those that share protected characteristics. Any comments received will be fully considered prior to a decision being made.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 This report is seeking the approval of Cabinet to undertake a period of consultation with regard to the control of Street Trading, and as such there are no implications for CO2 emissions and climate change.

11.2 However, if the proposal is introduced, conditions will require a consent holder to dispose of waste in accordance with Environmental legislation – a failure to do so may result in the consent being withdrawn.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 There are no implications for partners that are introduced by the proposals within this report.

12.2 As referred to above, it may be the case that the Licensing Service request support from partners such as South Yorkshire Police with regard to the enforcement of the street trading framework (if introduced). There is however no expectation that support will be provided as it will depend on the resources that are available.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 A failure to effectively manage street traders within the Borough could have an adverse impact on the regeneration activity taking place within the Borough and the economic stability of businesses that operate in areas that are attractive to street traders (Rotherham Town Centre for example).

13.2 The introduction of the framework will address this risk but will itself present additional risks related to the efficient administration and enforcement of the street trading framework. As has been referred to above, in the first year it is expected that this activity will be met using existing resources – this will be reviewed at the end of year one and any additional resources will be funded through the fees that are charged as part of the framework (if adopted).

13.3 Any incidental costs associated with the introduction and implementation of a street trading framework will be met from within the Licensing Service budget (these costs include those associated with advertising/public notices, consultation etc.).

14. Accountable Officers

Alan Pogorzelec, Licensing Manager

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	John Edwards	19/06/2026
Executive Director of Corporate Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	19/06/2026
Service Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	17/06/26

Report Author: Alan Pogorzelec, Licensing Manager
01709 254955 or alan.pogorzelec@rotherham.gov.uk Alan Pogorzelec, Licensing Manager
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Appendix 1

Rotherham MBC
Street Trading Policy

(DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION)

CONTENTS PAGE

Introduction

The aim of this Street Trading Policy ("the Policy") is to enable the Council to take a consistent and transparent approach regarding the control of street trading within the Rotherham Borough.

It is anticipated that the approach will create a street trading environment which complements premise-based trading, is sensitive to the needs of residents, provides diversity and consumer choice.

This Policy relates to all street trading activities within the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham.

Whilst each application will be dealt with on its own merits, this Policy gives prospective applicants an early indication as to whether their application is likely to be granted or not. It also provides prospective applicants with details of what is expected of them should an application be granted.

The Policy recognises the importance of street trading in Rotherham and that it can add to the vibrancy and vitality of the area whilst not adding to nuisance, crime, and disorder, or cause other problems.

This Policy will be subject to monitoring and review after five years or more frequently should legislative changes deem this necessary. However, the Licensing Service will regularly review the policy and make any changes to reflect minor, administrative or legislative changes or to amend any inconsistencies between the legislation and the policy. Any significant changes (such as a significant change to the application process) will only be made after appropriate consultation and with the approval of the Council's Cabinet.

The overall objectives of this Policy are to:

- Ensure that any permitted street trading is properly regulated as to where, when, and how it takes place.
- Prevent obstruction of the Borough's highways.
- Ensure the safety of the public and of the traders permitted to trade.
- Ensure any activities do not cause nuisance or annoyance to the public and those traders surrounding the permitted street trader.
- Protect public health through the control of street trading.
- Ensure that appropriate safeguarding measures are in place for children and vulnerable persons.
- Ensure that traders operate within the law and act fairly in their dealings with the public.

Policy Application

Street Trading means the selling, exposing, or offering for sale of any article in a street. The term 'street' includes any road, footway, or other area to which the public have access without payment (this can include private land and car parks).

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (hereafter referred to as "the Council" or "Rotherham Council") has adopted Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1982 which means that consent is required before trading in certain places.

This Policy applies to all street trading activity in Rotherham. The policy does not apply to:

- activities such as placing goods for sale on the street from a shop, street cafes operating from fixed premises or the siting of "A" boards on the street (as this is not within the remit of the Act), or
- activities which are not considered to be street trading, including:
    - Trading as a pedlar under the authority of a 'Pedlars Certificate.'
    - Trading conducted by a roundsman.
    - Trading in a charter market or a statutory market.
    - Trading as a news vendor (newspapers and periodicals).
    - Trading at a petrol station.
    - Trading in a trunk road picnic area provided by the Secretary of State under section 122 of the Highways Act 1980.
    - Trading on or at premises used as a shop or in a street adjoining premises so used and as part of the business of the shop.
    - The operation of facilities for recreation or refreshment under Part VIIA of the Highways Act 1980.

As a matter of policy, a Street Trading Consent will not be required for the following activities:

- Sales of articles by householders on land within the curtilage of their property, for example garage sales.
- Goods from working farms or smallholdings sold at the premises where they were produced.
- Trading as part of an established travelling fair where permission for the event has already been granted by the Council.
- Trading as part of a market where permission for the market has already been granted by the Council.

Street Designation

The Act states a Local Authority can designate its streets in three ways; these are:

- ‘Consent Street’ – which is a street in which street trading is prohibited without the consent of the local authority.
- ‘License Street’ – which is a street in which street trading is prohibited without a license granted by the local authority.
- ‘Prohibited Street’ – which is a street in which street trading is prohibited.

The Council has adopted Schedule 4 of the Act for the whole of its areas and on XXXXXXXXX made a Resolution to determine that all streets within the Rotherham Borough are designated as ’Consent Streets’ with effect from XXXXXXXXXX. The effect of this designation is that street trading in any street within this area is not permitted without first obtaining a Street Trading Consent from the Council.

It is a criminal offence to engage in street trading in a Consent Street without authorisation.

Food Traders

In addition to having a Street Trading Consent, any traders selling food must be registered with the appropriate Food Authority as a food business. If you operate a mobile food vehicle, you should be registered with the council where your vehicles are kept, this is not where you trade. All traders must be registered before applying and be able to provide evidence of your registration when applying for a Street Trading Consent.

Whether a trader is hot or cold food a current Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate will still be required.

Most but not all, food businesses get a food hygiene rating, ratings range from 0 to 5, with 5 being the best. Ratings are allocated by inspectors following their inspection of your business, a sticker will be given stating your food hygiene rating, and this must be displayed where customers can see it.

As a food trader we would expect you to achieve and maintain a minimum Food Hygiene Rating of a ‘3’.

Existing businesses whose food hygiene rating falls below a ‘3’, will automatically suspend their current Street Trading Consent. The Consent will come out of suspension if and when the minimum food hygiene rating is regained. Continued suspension may result in the Consent being terminated.

New applicants will be required to supply evidence of their existing food hygiene rating of a ‘3’ or above, or their ‘awaiting inspection’ status.

All food businesses will be checked to ensure they are registered, and their hygiene rating or inspection verified.

Mobile Traders

Mobile traders must move from position to position remaining stationary for no longer than 20 minutes to initially attract customers and thereafter only long enough to serve customers present. The vehicle must move on as soon as the last customer has been served, and no other customer is clearly awaiting service.

The Consent Holder must ensure that any stopping position does not infringe any parking or traffic requirements or cause obstruction of the highway and does not present any dangers to other road users or pedestrians.

A Street Trading Consent does not allow trading in Council owned car parks. Additional permissions would be required from Parking Services.

Mobile street traders must not stop within 100 metres of any school, measured from the main entrance to the school grounds, during the school day from an hour before and an hour after without the written consent of the school. Any written consents obtained from the school must be provided at the application stage.

The use of Chimes and other audible signals:

- Should be operated between the hours of noon and 7pm.
- Should be operated solely for informing members of the public that the commodity is on sale from the vehicle.
- Should be operated as not to give reasonable cause for annoyance to persons in the vicinity.
- Should operate producing a noise level in any direction of no more than L_{Amax} 80dB (at 7.5m)
- Should not operate with a playing time lasting more than 12 seconds.
- Should be played once only on the approach to each stopping place, and only once when the vehicle is stationary, and never at intervals of less than 2 minutes.
- Should not be played more often than once every 2 hours in a particular length of street. A ‘particular length of Street’ should normally be interpreted as being a length of street up to 500 metres long.
- Should not be played when in sight of another vendor whether moving or stationary, which might reasonably be taken to be in the street for trading purposes.
- Should not be played in areas where people may be especially sensitive to their sound. In particular, they should not be played:
    - Within 50m of any hospital or similar institution Within 50m of a school during school hours.
    - Within 50m of a place of worship on a Sunday or other recognised days of worship.

Mobile ice cream vans are vehicles adapted for the sale of ice cream and only sell ice cream, cold soft drinks, cold sandwiches, confectionary, crisps, and frozen lollipops.

Static Street Trading

Static Street Trading is trading in one site for more than 20 minutes. If a trader wishes to move around various parts of the borough, they are required to apply for the appropriate Mobile Street Trading Consent.

Static Street Trading is where a pitch is identified, and a Consent Holder trades only from that pitch within the terms and conditions of the Consent issued.

These pitches are usually very specific, and traders are given consent based on the detailed plan submitted with their application.

It would be up to the trader to locate a pitch and make an appropriate application with the Council.

Applicants must contact the appropriate services prior to submitting an application to discuss any issues they may have and whether any other permissions are required.

It is not possible for traders to move pitch, even just a short distance, without the prior consent of the Council.

A Multiple Static Site Consent can be requested for traders who wish to trade in more than one location on a different day(s) of the week under the same Street Trading Consent. A total of two trading pitches will be authorised.

All applications will be dealt with under their own individual merits, however when determining an application, the proximity of existing nearby shops, cafes, and other trades that primarily trade in the same articles will be taken into account.

Sale of Alcohol

To sell alcohol, as well as having to hold a Street Trading Consent, licence authorisation under the Licensing Act 2003 would also be required. Where authorisation is granted under the Licensing Act 2003 conditions may be attached to the Street Trading Consent. These conditions may include but are not restricted to the following:

- The trader adopting a challenge 25 policy.
- Restrictions on the sale of alcohol in open containers
- Times at which alcohol may be sold, and the locations not to be near schools, voluntary or third sector services.

Any street trader wishing to sell alcohol should contact the licensing team for further information.

Commercial Selling of Vehicles on the Highway

The commercial selling of a vehicle on the highway falls within the scope of street trading and therefore a Street Trading Consent is required from Rotherham Council.

Additional restrictions are set out in Section 3 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. This states that a person is guilty of an offence if at any time, acting in the course of a business selling motor vehicles, leaving two or more motor vehicles parked within 500 metres of each other on a road(s) where they are exposed or advertised for sale.

Trading on Private Land

Where your proposed trading pitch is on privately owned land you must seek permission from the relevant landowner. You must provide us with a letter or email from the landowner confirming you have permission to trade on their land, including the days and times of permitted trade. We will require the landowners' details for verification purposes.

Unregistered land is land that has not been recorded in the Land Registry, which is the official database of land and property ownership in England and Wales. Unregistered land may have no clear title or evidence of ownership, or it may have been inherited or transferred informally over time. Trading on unregistered land without authorisation can expose you to legal risks and liabilities, such as legal proceedings from the owner of the land. If a Street Trading Consent is to be considered we may request further documentation to be signed and agree to trading at your own risk, for these types of requests we will always seek advice from our legal department before any decisions can be made.

The onus is on the applicant to research the proposed trading site, i.e. planning permission, legal right to trade, food and safety, waste provisions, highway restrictions etc.

Trading on National Highways' Trunk Roads

Any consent issued to trade on a National Highways operational assets (such as the A57), will be subject to the following additional conditions and restrictions:

- Applications will automatically be refused if there are any safety or environmental concerns.
- Semi-permanent structures such as 'portacabins' or sheds will not be erected in any of the laybys and must be in a position to leave at a moment's notice.
- A Street Trading Consent will not supersede National Highways right to ask a Street Trader to move or cease trading if they feel there are safety or environmental concerns.
- Vehicles/trailers should be sited in an 'ox bow' type layby where grass or concrete areas separate the layby from the main carriageway.
- All vehicles/trailer units must be removed at the end of each working day.
- No flags or signs are to be placed on National Highways land.
- All litter must be removed at end of each working day.
- Any Street Trader can be asked to move or cease trading by National Highways, the local authority or emergency services without notice.
- National Highways reserve the right to close any of the laybys on both a temporary and a permanent basis, Street Traders will have no right to recompense.

Street Trading in a Town or District Centre

Where appropriate, the Council will issue street trading consents that will permit trading from specific streets or pitches within a town or district centre within the Borough.

Any consent issued for such areas may be subject to additional conditions or restrictions, which may include limitations as to the number, location and trading times.

There may be times when the permitted area will be unavailable due to utility, maintenance or construction works. This is a normal function of the Highways Authority and utility companies and will not, therefore be subject to compensation.

For special events which may take place within these areas, the Council may issue a notice suspending or revoking all street trading consents for a particular area and / or period of time. No compensation will be offered for relocation or removal of a street trading consent under these circumstances.

Businesses may be permitted to place up to one ‘A’ board on the highway – this should not exceed 800mm in height and 500mm in width. ‘A’ boards and other free standing pavement signs should be placed, either in an area 600mm immediately in front of their stall or in line with an adjacent line of bollards. It should be remembered that at least 1.8m of clear footway must be retained between the board and the stall or bollards/obstruction, and boards should allow at least 450mm clearance between the board and the kerb edge.

External tables and chairs may only be used upon written approval from the Council.

Application Process

An application for a Street Trading Consent cannot be given tacit approval, as it is in the public interest that the Council must undertake checks before any application can be granted. Consents will be provided in writing to the person named on the application form.

Any application for a Street Trading Consent must meet the following criteria:

- The applicant must be over 17 years of age.
- The name of the business must not be the same as, or be similar to, that of an existing static retail business or another street trader

The application must be submitted with the following documents and information:

- A completed and signed Street Trading Consent Application Form
- The appropriate application fee, a non-refundable fee of £100, is payable for an initial enquiry to carry out checks including the suitability of a proposed location. If the site is not approved the £100 fee will be retained to cover administrative costs. If the application is approved the applicant must submit the balance of the relevant fee before the Council will issue the Street Trading Consent.
- A recent passport size photograph of all Consent Holders.
- Applicants must have obtained a valid basic DBS check dated within 6 months (see section 17 for more information on DBS's)
- Proof of identification for name and address (you cannot provide one form of identification for both:
    - Proof of name: current passport, birth certificate, current UK, or EEA photocard driving licence, or benefit letter.
    - Proof of address: utility bill or bank statement issued within the last 3 months, current council tax year bill, UK driving licence, tenancy agreement or mortgage statement.
- Proof of right to work in the UK: a current passport, drivers' licence, residence permit or a bank statement.
- In respect of an application for a Consent to trade from a fixed site, a location plan of where the vehicle or stall will be positioned in an appropriate scale to identify the exact location of the vehicle or stall and surrounding areas and streets. The plan must clearly identify the proposed street trading site, and the ground dimensions it will cover.
- Where the Consent area is on private land written approval is required from the landowner including trading days and times.
- Colour photographs of the vehicle/stall from which trading is proposed to take place, the images must show the front, back and side of the vehicle/stall.
- Dimensions of the vehicle or stall and any identifying marks, e.g. vehicle registration etc.
- Gas safety certificate for any trailer or vehicle.
- Vehicle test certificate
- Declare you have registered as a food business (where appropriate).

- If trading in food, evidence and details of any food hygiene qualifications, food hygiene score rating or awaiting inspections status.
- Any permissions or consents already granted about your proposed operation, for example, planning consents, late night refreshment premises licence, cafe licence or waste disposal agreement.
- A valid certificate of insurance policy covering third party and public liability risks for at least £5 million, which must cover street trading.
- Any other additional information specified on the application form or requested by the Licensing Service that may reasonably be required in order to assess the suitability of the applicant, trading unit or site.

Once all the above documents and relevant application fees have been submitted the Council will conduct all necessary checks and consultations before deciding on whether to grant a Street Trading Consent.

Other than judicial review, there is no statutory right of appeal against a decision to refuse to grant, amend, vary, or revoke a Street Trading Consent.

Street trading consents will be issued subject to a number of conditions, these will be applied to consents on a case by case basis. The general conditions outlined at Appendix A will normally apply to all consents, however the Council reserves the right to add, amend or omit conditions to individual consents as is considered necessary.

Following receipt of an application, advice may be sought from the Highways Authority with regards to the size of the layby and to ensure that there is safe access and egress.

Applicants shall ensure that any location supports the aims and objective of this Policy and should take the following into account when deciding on a location.

- Traffic flow – applicants should ensure there are enough potential customers to sustain a business.
- Size of layby – applicants should ensure there is sufficient room for numerous cars/lorries, etc.
- Proximity to competition – applicants must consider current trading of similar goods in the area. Street Trading Consent will normally be refused where there is similar trading of goods in the area.
- Toilet facilities – applicants must consider such facilities are provided if selling hot food and drinks.
- Access to and egress from layby – applicants must ensure that there is safe access into and egress from the layby.
- Crossing a carriageway – applicants must ensure that customers are not obliged to cross a carriageway to access the layby.

Renewals

Street Trading Consents that have not been renewed by their expiry date will automatically cease to exist and trading must cease until such time as a new Street Trading Consent has been granted.

All renewal applications must be submitted a minimum of 20 working days prior to the expiry of the current Street Trading Consent to allow for processing of the application. A completed renewal form and application fee will need to be submitted.

Generally, no further consultation will be necessary when dealing with a renewal application, however the Council reserves the right to consult where there are or have been concerns raised in the previous Street Trading Consent period.

Applications for renewal of a Street Trading Consent will be granted once proved that no substantiated complaints have been received regarding:

- The manner in which the Consent Holder has conducted their business.
- The Consent Holder or any authorised assistant's conduct
- Where no relevant objections have been received
- In addition, a new criminal record disclosure will only be required every 3 years.

The majority of documents requested in the initial application process will need to be produced at every renewal.

Checks will be made to ensure there have been no changes from the original application, these checks will include verification of any permissions granted including the trading location.

The responsibility for ensuring renewal of Street Trading Consents rests solely with the Consent Holder, the Council is not obliged to send out reminders. If a renewal application and fee are not submitted, then the Street Trading Consent will lapse.

A renewal application will not be accepted after the expiry of any existing Street Trading Consent. The effect of this will be that a trader will not be permitted to trade until a new application and fee has been submitted and the Street Trading Consent is granted.

Street trading consents will be issued subject to a number of conditions, these will be applied to consents on a case by case basis. The general conditions outlined at Appendix A will normally apply to all consents, however the Council reserves the right to add, amend or omit conditions to individual consents as is considered necessary.

Transfers and Amendments

Street Trading Consents are non-transferable, the Consent Holder may employ any person to assist in the conduct of the business but may not let, assign, or part with his/her interest or possession under this Street Trading Consent or any part thereof but he may surrender it at any time. The rights granted by the Street Trading Consent cannot be sublet, transferred, or shared with any other person or party and is personal to the Consent Holder.

No amendments (e.g., date changes, location, type of stall or van) may be made without the prior written consent of the Council.

Any Street Trading Consent which is valid but is no longer required should be surrendered to the Council in writing.

Fees

The fees associated with the Street Trading framework will be periodically reviewed by the Council.

Additional charges may be made for the recovery of reasonable costs associated with the collection of refuse, cleansing of streets or other remedial work required due to the acts or omissions of a street trader.

Should the Consent Holder wish to vary the Street Trading Consent at any time during the duration of the Street Trading Consent, an administration fee will be charged. The administration fee will be in line with administration fees charged for other licences and consents issued by the Licensing Service.

Where a Street Trading Consent is surrendered during the life of the Consent, no refund will be made unless there are exceptional circumstances.

If a Street Trading Consent is revoked by the Council due to a change in external circumstances (e.g. closure of a street due to roadworks) then a pro rata refund will be issued of any fee paid (excluding instalments that are due but not paid by the time of the revocation). Deductions may be taken from the remaining balance before refunding the Consent Holder for the reasonable cost of repair to any damage caused, removal of any discarded materials, additional cleansing costs, along with appropriate administration fees.

If a Street Trading Consent is revoked by the Council due to breaches of conditions or non-compliance with this policy by the Consent Holder, no refund will be made by unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Payment must be made in full when the application is submitted. The only exception to this is for 2 year consents where the trader opts to pay by instalments. In these cases, the consent would be issued until the date that the next instalment falls due and will be extended once each instalment is paid, If an instalment is not paid within 28 days of it becoming due, then the consent will lapse and the trader will be required to apply for a new consent.

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

Whether you have been convicted of any relevant offence, we will ask for a basic DBS disclosure to be submitted with each application. Any convictions or proven criminal behaviour will be assessed. A basic disclosure will be required every three years once an application is granted.

Guidance regarding basic checks, including how to apply and the information disclosed on a basic certificate, please visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-checks

If any convictions are recorded on the certificate, the application will be referred for further internal evaluation to determine a decision.

See Appendix B for guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions.

General Data Protection Regulations

The Council is committed to compliance with all applicable Data Protection Law. This includes the Data Protection Act 2018, the Data Protection Act 2018 is the UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Further information about our use of personal information can be found on the Council's website. www.rotherham.gov.uk

Enforcement

Where activities are conducted without a Street Trading Consent or where conditions are breached, the Council will look to gather evidence and take enforcement action as appropriate.

The Highway's Authority and South Yorkshire Police have the power to remove any obstructions from the highway.

Any enforcement action will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's General Enforcement Policy, and in particular will be:

- Proportionate in applying law and seeking compliance.
- Consistent in approach.
- Targeted towards Consent Holders not complying with their Street Trading Consent and conditions or unlawful activity.
- Transparent in helping Consent Holders to understand what is expected of them.

APPENDIX A

STREET TRADING CONSENT STANDARD CONDITIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 SCH. 4

The Street Trading Consent will stipulate the Consent Area, the type of vehicle or stall, and description of goods, any other relevant information, and additional conditions. The Consent Holder must comply with all conditions outlined in this Policy. Failure to comply with any condition attached to the Street Trading Consent May result in the revocation of such Consent.

Rotherham Council reserves the right to alter or amend these conditions at any time.

1. Consent holders shall notify the Council of any changes to their details such as name, address, telephone number or email address as soon as it occurs. A fee is applicable for amendments.
2. The consent holder will be issued with a Street Trading Consent, certificate, and conditions.
3. The Consent Holder shall at all times have a copy of the Street Trading Consent available for inspection on request to any Police Officer or Officer of the Council.
4. The Certificate must be clearly displayed on the vehicle or stall and must be visible to the public and customers.
5. Where the Consent Area is on private land where the public have access without payment, there is a requirement to have a Street Trading Consent. The applicant for the Consent must first obtain prior written approval from the landowner and this must accompany the application.
6. Where the Consent area is on council land, unless approval is obtained from the council, no street trading activities will be allowed.
7. The grant of a Street Trading Consent shall not be deemed to give any approval or consent which may be needed under any Byelaw, enactment, or regulation other than schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.
8. The Consent Holder shall meet all statutory duties and obligations placed upon them relevant to the nature of the street trading e.g., planning consent, Health, and Safety at Work Act 1974, Environmental Protection Act 1990, Food Safety Act 1990, Food Safety and Hygiene Regulations 2013, Regulations (EC) No. 852/2004, The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, and the Licensing Act 2003. This list is not exhaustive, and it is the responsibility of the Consent Holder to ensure full compliance of all relevant legislation particularly any relevant Highway legislation.
9. The Consent Holder is not and shall not hold themselves out as being the servant or agent of the council whether orally or in writing.

10. The Consent Holder shall not hold themselves out as having the power to make, vary, discharge, or waive any byelaw or regulation of any kind.
11. It is the duty of the Consent Holder to establish the ownership of the land to which the Street Trading Consent relates and seek permission from the owner to trade from that location. This may involve additional restrictions and payment for which the Council are not responsible.
12. Consent Holders and authorised assistants must be 17 years of age.
13. The Consent Holder must have a valid insurance policy for public liability providing cover to a minimum amount of £5,000,000, a certificate of which must be produced upon application.
14. There may be times when the permitted area will be unavailable due to utility, maintenance or construction works. This is a normal function of the Highways Authority and utility companies and will not, therefore be subject to compensation.
15. Nothing contained in these conditions shall relieve or excuse the Consent Holder or his/her employees or agents from any legal duty or liability and the Consent Holder shall indemnify the Council in respect of all claims, actions, demands, or costs arising from the Street Trading Consent.
16. No damage shall be caused to the public highway as a result of the street trading activity taking place and the Consent Holder shall reimburse the council of any costs in repairing any damage caused.
17. The Consent Holder shall not sell any type of food, goods, or merchandise other than that specified in the Street Trading Consent.
18. The Consent Holder must confine the selling of goods and merchandise within the approved consent area and will not be permitted to erect additional tables, awnings, or any other structure.
19. There shall be no sale of goods that are likely to conflict with those provided by nearby shops and premises.
20. No live animals (e.g., mammal, reptile, fish, or bird) shall be permitted to be sold from any stall or vehicle.
21. The Consent Holder shall not knowingly allow the sale of any counterfeit/fake material and shall comply with any relevant Trading Standards legislation.
22. The Consent Holder shall not knowingly allow the sale of any goods prohibited for sale by Rotherham Council. We have a range of items that are excluded, details can be obtained from the Licensing Service.
23. No trading of hot food or drinks shall be permitted before 5am or after 11pm or sales of alcohol unless a Premises Licence has been issued or a Temporary Events Notice served on the Council and objected to, in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

24. The Consent Holder shall not hold any auction or like sale.

25. Trading may only take place on the days and during the times specified on the Street Trading Consent.

26. The Consent Holder shall trade only from the consent area indicated on the Street Trading Consent.

27. A Consent Holder may employ any other person(s) to assist them in trading without a further Consent being required.

28. Consent Holders and any authorised assistant(s) shall ensure that the public and authorised officers are always treated with courtesy. Consent Holders shall ensure that their authorised assistant(s) are competent, courteous, and helpful.

29. The Consent Holder shall conduct a risk assessment to ensure that highway safety is not compromised and shall not prevent the Highways Authority, National Highways, and utilities from undertaking its duties.

    (Please note works such as excavations can be carried out without prior notice. The Council will revoke a Street Trading Consent following any reasonable request from the Highways Authority and National Highways (where applicable)).

30. The Consent Holder shall conduct their business in such a manner to ensure they do not:

    - Cause a nuisance to the occupiers of adjoining properties.
    - Cause an obstruction to the vehicles or pedestrians on the highway.
    - Cause a danger to occupiers of adjoining properties or to other users of the highway.
    - Cause annoyance or inconvenience to the users of the highway.

31. A Consent Holder may trade in a Consent Street from a vehicle or stall. The Consent Holder shall only trade from a vehicle or stall described in the Street Trading Consent.

32. Any vehicle or stall used must be positioned entirely within the approved Consent area.

33. Any vehicle or stall used by a Consent Holder in the course of street trading shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with any relevant legislation and to the satisfaction of all reasonable requirements of the Council and (where applicable) National Highways as to its construction, safety, appearance, and any display of advertisements. A high standard of presentation and appearance will be expected.

    In addition, the Consent Holder shall maintain the stall or vehicle in a clean state at all times and its structure shall be kept in good order, repair, and condition.

34. Any motor vehicle used for the purpose of Street Trading shall be in a roadworthy condition and have the relevant documents i.e. insurance, tax, and MOT to make the use of that vehicle on a road legal.

35. The vehicle or stall shall not be left unattended at any time and shall always be supervised by a person over the age of 17 years.

36. Outside of the permitted daily trading period the Consent Holder shall remove the approved vehicle or stall from the Consent area together with any and all objects or things of any nature whatsoever placed by the Consent Holder in the Consent area (whether directly and ancillary to street trading or otherwise) which for the avoidance of doubt shall include (but shall not be limited to) planters, ornamental devices of any description, furniture, portable or other fencing, waste bins, heating and lighting apparatus, unless the Council has agreed otherwise previously in writing.

37. The Consent Holder or authorised assistant(s) shall remove the vehicle/stall and goods within a reasonable time after the expiry of the time for trading specified in the Street Trading Consent.

38. The Consent Holder or authorised assistant(s) shall remove the vehicle/stall and goods for so long as may be necessary in the event of an emergency or in exercise of the council's highways power and duties, if reasonable required to do so by an authorised officer.

39. No Consent Holder shall trade at their authorised Consent area on dates when road closure directives are in place for special events other than with the permission of the organisation applying for the closure order.

40. The Consent Holder or authorised assistant(s) shall not make any excavations or indentations of any description whatsoever in the surface of the highway or place or fix any equipment of any description on or in the said surface.

41. External tables and chairs may only be used upon written approval from the Council after first obtaining the appropriate highways permission from the highway's authority.

    (Please note 'the highway' includes the carriageway and a portion of the footway and the verge, the highway is not just the road.)

42. The Consent Holder and the vehicle/stall must comply with all relevant road traffic and highways legislation. Possession of a Street Trading Consent does not override parking restrictions or other traffic regulations.

43. A Consent Holder shall not leave their vehicle or stall in the street in which they trade, apart from in an approved parking space, except for the purpose of loading and unloading goods. Such loading and unloading shall be conducted as quickly as possible and the vehicle removed immediately on completion. This condition shall not apply when waiting restrictions are in force.

44. All businesses have a legal responsibility under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and other related legislation to safely contain and legally dispose of any waste produced from your business. You may be prosecuted should you not comply with these requirements.

45. The Consent Holder and authorised assistant(s) must provide adequate refuse storage adjacent to the sale area. The storage must be a substantial construction, waterproof and animal proof. The trade waste must be removed at the end of each working day or if the amount of refuse warrants it, when the container is full, whichever is the sooner. Public litterbins are not to be used.

46. The Consent Holder and authorised assistant(s) will be responsible for keeping the area surrounding the vehicle or stall in a clean and tidy condition.

47. The Consent Holder shall make such provisions as are necessary to prevent the deposit on any street of solid or liquid refuse and no discharge shall be made into any surface water drains.

48. Layby traders shall ensure that the whole of the layby and adjacent verge/footpath (but not the carriageway) to a distance of 10 metres be kept free of litter and refuse at all times, whilst resident.

49. The Consent Holder or authorised assistant(s) shall comply with any directions given by the council from time to time regarding the handling, storage, and removal of refuse.

50. No advertisements shall be displayed on the consent area that relates to any goods, commodities, or services other than what is approved in the Street Trading Consent.

51. No advertising is permitted other than on the stall or vehicle. The fixing of signs or marking of the highway or street furniture is specifically prohibited by the Highway's Authority.

52. No poster, advertisement, signage or decoration of an unsuitable material or nature shall be displayed, sold, or distributed on or about the vehicle or premises. For example, any material in breach of the Obscene Publications Act 1959, any material that is considered indecent, scandalous, offensive, or likely to be harmful to any person likely to purchase it.

53. Signage and similar material must not have the appearance of a traffic sign, or be of such a nature as to distract motorists and other road users on the highway,

54. A-Boards, flags or any other signage are not to be placed on National Highways land.

55. A-Boards should not exceed 800mm in height and 50mm in width. A boards and other free standing pavement signs should be placed, either in an area 600mm immediately in front of their stall or in line with an adjacent line of bollards. At least 1.8m of clear footway must be retained between the board and the stall or bollards/obstruction, and boards should allow at least 450mm clearance between the board and the kerb edge.

56. Any lighting provided at the Consent area by the Consent Holder must be approved by Rotherham Council. If the Consent Area is located on, or adjacent to the public highway, the lighting must also be approved by the highway's authority. Strobe lights will not be used in any circumstances.

APPENDIX B

Guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions for Street Trading

The Policy and guidelines relate to applications for the grant or renewal of a Street Trading Consent, as well as current holders of those authorisations.

These guidelines do not deal with every type of offence, and do not prevent the Council from taking into account offences not specifically addressed in the guidelines or other conduct, which may be relevant to an individual's application.

Each application will be decided on its own merits and will be assessed whether an applicant is a suitable person to hold or to continue to hold a Street Trading Consent. Unspent convictions or conduct of applicants will take the following into consideration:

- Whether the conviction/incident is relevant.
- The seriousness of the offence/incident.
- The length of time since the offence/incident occurred.
- Whether there is a pattern of offending behaviour or similar conduct.
- Whether a person's circumstances have changed since the offence/incident occurred, and the circumstances surrounding the offence/incident, and the explanation offered by that person.

Where an applicant has been convicted of a criminal offence, the Council cannot review the merits of the conviction.

The following are given as guidance to certain categories of offences for new applications or renewals of Street Trading Consents:

Dishonesty

Holders of a Street Trading Consent must be persons who can be trusted. It is easy for a dishonest trader to take advantage of the public. Members of the public using Street Trading outlets expect the trader to be honest and trustworthy.

For these reasons, a serious view will be taken of any unspent convictions involving dishonesty. In general, a new applicant or renewal application is unlikely to be granted a Street Trading Consent where an application is made within 3 to 5 years of a conviction or from the date of release from a period of imprisonment.

Violence

Street traders will have close contact with the public, therefore, to minimise any risks, a serious view will be taken where offences of violence involve a loss of life, a Street Trading Consent will be refused.

In other cases, a period of 3 to 10 years, free of convictions, or from the date of release from a period of imprisonment, depending upon the nature and seriousness of the offence(s), will generally be required before an application is likely to be considered favourably.

Drugs

Where an applicant as a conviction for an offence that relates to the supply or importation of drugs and the date of the conviction or the release date from a period of imprisonment is less than 5 to 10 years before the date of the application, a Street Trading Consent will be refused. After 5 years from a conviction or the date of release from a period of imprisonment, the circumstances of the offence and any evidence which shows that a person is now suitable to hold a Street Trading Consent will be taken into consideration.

An application will normally be refused where the applicant has a conviction for an offence relating to the possession of drugs and the date of the conviction or the release date from a period of imprisonment is within 3 to 5 years of the date of the application. After a period of 3 years from conviction or the date of release from the period of imprisonment, consideration will be given to the circumstances of the offence and any evidence to show that an applicant is a suitable person to hold a Street Traders Consent.

An application will normally be refused where an applicant has more than one unspent conviction for offences related to the possession of drugs and the last conviction or the date of release from the period of imprisonment is less than 5 years before the date of the application.

Sexual and Indecency Offences

As the holders of Street Trading Consents (for example those who sell ice cream), have access to children, applicants who have unspent convictions for rape, indecent assault, any sexual offence involving children and any unspent conviction for an offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 will normally be refused a Street Trading Consent.

Where an applicant has a conviction for a sexual offence such as indecent exposure, they will normally be refused a Street Trading Consent until they can show a substantial period usually between 5 and 10 years free of any such convictions from the date of conviction or the date of release from the period of imprisonment.

When considering applications, the Council may take into account any information of a sexual nature which does not amount to a criminal offence that is brought to its attention where that information may indicate that an applicant may not be a suitable person to hold a Street Trader Consent. It will normally require a period of not less than 5 years free of such incidents from the date on which the incident occurred or, if more than one from the date of the last incident.

Motoring Convictions

In most cases, motoring offences are unlikely to be relevant when deciding if any applicant for a Street Trading Consent is a suitable person. However, there may be instances where the nature of the Street Trading is such that, by its very nature the applicant is required to drive (for example ice cream sellers) or the offences are of a serious nature.

In those cases, an applicant for a Street Trading Consent would be expected to show a period usually between 3 and 5 years of any such offences from the date of conviction or the date of release from the period of imprisonment.

Formal Cautions and Fixed Penalty Notices

For the purposes of these guidelines, the Council will take into account cautions and penalty notices, however the longer the period since the caution/penalty notice was imposed the less relevance it is likely to have.

Appendix 2

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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: Draft Street Trading Policy	
Directorate: **Regeneration and Environment**	**Service area:** Community Safety and Street Scene
Lead person: Alan Pogorzelec	**Contact:** Alan Pogorzelec
Is this a: [X] **Strategy / Policy** [ ] **Service / Function** [ ] **Other** **If other, please specify**	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
We are recommending that Cabinet approve a period of consultation on the following: • adoption of legislation that will allow the Council to regulate street trading, and • approval of a draft street trading policy. This screening assessment is limited to this recommendation.

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.**

Appendix 2

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?** We have tried to consider the impact that the policy and adoption of the legislation would have on those that will be affected by the policy. This includes current traders, members of the public and local businesses. We have done this by applying the draft policy requirements and framework to those traders that we are aware of that currently undertake an element of street trading, and also thought about the likely impact of this on local businesses and residents. There is no empirical data that we can use as part of this assessment, however we will be undertaking a full equality analysis following the consultation that is carried out (subject to the approval of Cabinet).
• **Key findings** The policy have an impact on local businesses, current traders and members of the public. Although we expect that this impact will be a positive for residents and local businesses (by ensuring fairness and a more effective regulatory framework), we accept that those traders that currently undertake an element of street trading may consider that they are adversely affected by the proposal as they are now subject to regulation that they previously would not have been. The proposal to undertaken consultation on a policy may result in concern from all of those that would be affected by the policy and regulatory framework should it be introduced. As we only have limited information regarding those traders that currently undertake street trading, and those that use their services, it cannot be said with certainty that there will not be an impact on any person that has a protected characteristic. We should therefore be mindful of this when carrying out the consultation and ensure that this is taken into consideration by Cabinet when making the final decision with regard to the adoption of the policy and regulatory framework.
• **Actions** 1. We should undertake comprehensive consultation prior to any further decision being made in relation to the formal adoption of the policy and Schedule 4.

2. The consultation must include consultation with groups representing those that share a protected characteristic. 3. This information should inform a full equality analysis that will be carried out in advance of any final decision being made by Cabinet / Council.	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	1/8/2026 (following completion of the consultation)
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	1/9/2026
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Alan Pogorzelec (Licensing Manager)

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Andrew Bramidge	Executive Director (Regeneration and Environment)	24/4/26
Councillor John Williams	Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy.	21/4/26

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	14/4/26
Report title and date	Draft Street Trading Policy
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 – 6th July 2026
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	22/4/2026

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 3, Draft Street Trading Policy

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?	Decrease		Conditions would be attached to consents that require holders to dispose of waste in accordance with environmental legislation.		
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: The proposed conditions will ensure that those given consent to trade on the streets will be required to dispose of their waste in accordance with environmental legislation. A failure to do this may result in the consent being withdrawn.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Alan Pogorzelec Licensing Manager Community Safety and Street Scene Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	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.	n/a
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 630 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer

Agenda Item 9

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 06 July 2026

Report Title
Financial Outturn 2025/26

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

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Executive Director of Corporate Services

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

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The report provides a detailed outline of the final revenue and capital outturn position for 2025/26.

The Council set a balanced budget position for 2025/26 as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 approved at Council on 5th March 2025. A Revenue Budget of £359.0m was set for General Fund services, this excludes schools' budgets and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) position was based on sound financial assumptions at the time, factoring in budget contingencies for service demand pressures, in particular within Social Care, Home to School Transport and the impact of the Local Government Pay Award.

However, demand and market pressures in relation to Children's residential placements and placement types, and the cost and complexity of care packages in Adult Social Care have continued to increase. Market prices have increased at above inflation levels, which in turn has placed further pressures on the Council's Budget.

The Local Government Pay Award was agreed at 3.2% at all pay bands up to senior officer. The impact was £2.3m above the budget allocated when setting the Council's Budget. The Council has no control over the level of pay award agreed.

The December Financial Monitoring Report 2025/26 submitted to Cabinet on 9th February 2026 outlined that the Council anticipated an overspend of £3.4m. This forecast position was also outlined in the Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 report which was submitted to the same Cabinet meeting and also to Council on 4th March 2026. The overspend was proposed to be funded from Council Reserves. However, the report noted the Council's intention to further improve the outturn position, if possible, which would see a lower value call on reserves.

The actual financial outturn position reflects an overspend of £0.3m, an improvement of £3.1m from the December Financial Monitoring reported to February Cabinet. This improvement was a result of service areas delivering further savings ahead of year-end, maximising grant allocations, improvements in income and the Council generating further savings in Treasury Management.

The Council's final overspend position of £0.3m has been funded by £0.3m of the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve as approved within the Budget and Council Tax Report 2026/27.

Following approval of the 2026/27 Budget, the global economic position has remained volatile. Economic market sentiment has been heavily influenced by the Middle East conflict leading to steepening energy costs, and commentators anticipate a growing risk of inflation. These financial challenges are being regularly reviewed as part of the Council's ongoing Medium Term Financial Planning.

The Housing Revenue Account had an underspend of £4.3m. As a result of this the HRA use of reserves was able to be reduced from £7.2m to £2.9m. 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 £15m against the Budget for 2025/26. Capital expenditure (programme delivery) in the year increased from the previous years to £150.6m (2024/25 outturn was £140.6m).

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the revenue outturn position for 2025/26.

2. Note the required transfer from HRA reserves decreased by £4.3m following the revenue and capital outturn position.

3. Note the carry forward of the combined surplus schools balance of £2.395m in accordance with the Department for Education regulations.

4. Note the reserves position set out in paragraphs 2.15 to 2.16.

5. Note the capital outturn, funding position and programme variations as set out in paragraphs 2.17 to 2.25.

List of Appendices Included
Appendix 1A to 1D – Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30
Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix 3 – Carbon Impact Assessment

Background Papers
Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 Report to Council on 5th March 2025
Budget Monitoring, May 2025 to Cabinet July 2025
Budget Monitoring, July 2025 to Cabinet September 2025
Budget Monitoring, September 2025 to Cabinet November 2025
Budget Monitoring, November 2025 to Cabinet January 2026
Budget Monitoring, December 2025 to Cabinet February 2026
Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 Report to Council on 4th March 2026
Finance Update to Cabinet on 8th June 2026

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

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Financial Outturn 2025/26

1. Background

1.1 This report sets out the Council's revenue, capital, HRA and schools outturn position in 2025/26. 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 2025/26 of £359.0m and a 5-year Capital Programme of £750.138m.

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 2025/26, 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 £5.7m. This position was largely due to the following pressures and mitigating actions:

- Underlying placement pressures within Children and Young People's Services (CYPS), £6.2m.
- Grant maximisation, including the use of in-year funding slippage within Children and Young People's Services, £3.2m.
- Savings achieved through staff vacancies and turnover within CYPS, £0.4m.
- Underlying and rising demand and complexity of care packages within Adult Social Care (ASC), £7m.
- Reduced cost of staffing in ASC due to vacancies and grant maximisation, £1m.
- Reduced spend on homelessness, furnished homes and employment support as vacancies and grants offset spend, £1m.
- Within Regeneration and Environment (R&E), overspends in Waste of £0.9m, Markets £0.5m and Home to School Transport £0.4m offset by overachievement of income in Streetworks £0.7m, vacancies £0.6m and capitalisation of staff costs £0.3m.
- Finance and Customer Services (F&CS) generated savings from higher income in Registrars, maximisation of grants and contributions and savings in relation to vacancies.

2.2 Central Services delivered an underspend of £5.4m. This was a result of the £5.4m Social Care contingency approved within the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 being used to offset the £6.2m placement overspend within the CYPS outturn position, as planned. In addition, savings generated within the Council's Treasury Management Strategy offset the impact of the Local Government Pay Award and in year inflationary pressures.

2.3 The final outturn was an overspend of £0.3m funded by the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve. Whilst there were no plans to use the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve in the Budget & Council Tax Report 2025/26, the final use was £3.1m less than anticipated in the approved Budget & Council Tax Report 2026/27. 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 2025/26**

Table 1 below provides a summary of the Revenue Outturn for 2025/26. This is followed by a summary of the position by Directorate which includes an explanation of the key variances.

Directorate	**Budget 2025/26**	**Outturn 2025/26**	**Variance over/under (-)**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**
Children and Young People Services	76.5	79.1	2.6
Adult Care, Housing & Public Health	147.4	152.2	4.8
Regeneration and Environment Services	55.8	55.3	-0.5
Finance and Customer Services	37.7	37.0	-0.7
Assistant Chief Executive	9.2	8.7	-0.5
Central Services	32.4	27.0	-5.4
Directorate Forecast Outturn	**359.0**	**359.3**	**0.3**
Use of Reserves			-0.3
Final Outturn Position			**0.0**
Dedicated Schools Grant			2.3
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)			-4.3

2.5 Children and Young People Services Directorate (£2.6m overspend)

2.5.1 The Children & Young People Services had a budget pressure of £2.6m at the end of March 2026. In the main the overall budget pressures in CYPS relate to continued demands on children in care placements.

2.5.2 The reported year-end position includes the impact of in-year actions implemented to mitigate overall cost pressures, including maximising or redirecting the use of grant funding and delay in recruitment. The following section summarises the key budget variances across CYPS for the year.

2.5.3 Children's Social Care was overspent by £4.7m and is mainly attributable to cost pressures within the children in care placements budget. The following are key points to note relating to the children in care placement budgets:

- The number of children in care is 475 at the end of March 2026 – this is a reduction of 6 compared to 481 at the beginning of the year. This continues the downward trend in children in care numbers since 2022.
- The final placement budget pressure was £4.9m. This includes several one-off mitigations applied during the year (e.g. grant maximisation, funding slippage and additional income). Excluding these, the underlying pressure was £6.2m.
- External residential placements remain the primary cost driver. At year end, 44 children were in external residential provision, against a budgeted number of 24. Pressures are compounded by a growing proportion of children with complex needs requiring high-cost placements.
- Occupancy in RMBC-owned residential homes was 81% (3x vacant beds) at year end, down from 87% the previous month. The aim is to be fully occupied at all times, to mitigate the call on external placements, though this will not always be possible.
- The number of children in foster care (including RMBC carers, family and friends, and independent fostering agencies) increased to 306 at the end of March, up from 289 in February.
- The year-end placement numbers and underlying recurrent costs continue to present a significant financial risk for 2026/27. Work is underway to strengthen placement budget projections, alongside clearer actions to mitigate cost pressures.

2.5.4 An overall underspend of £2.1m is reported across other service areas in CYPS including Education & Inclusion, Family Help, and Commissioning, Performance & Quality. The underspend is mainly attributable to staffing turnover / vacancies, increased external income, reduced home to school transport costs and reduction in locum and agency staff spend and grant maximisation measures.

2.6 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Budgets

2.6.1 A surplus balance position of £2.4m is reported for 2025/26 for all maintained schools with delegated budgets (including 3 stand-alone nursery schools). Under the regulations, the surplus balance will be carried forward and is ring-fenced for use by maintained schools. The reported position is inclusive of 3 schools that reported a year-end deficit. A budget recovery plan will be agreed with these schools to bring the budget back in balance over an agreed timescale.

2.6.2 A year-end deficit of £2.3m is reported across centrally retained DSG budgets, primarily driven by High Needs / Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) pressures. The following explain the main budget variances for the year:

- High Needs (£3.6m overspend) – Reflects increased demand within the SEND system, including rising numbers of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) in mainstream and specialist settings, alongside inflationary cost pressures.
- Other Central DSG (£1.3m underspend) – this is mainly attributable to increased early years funding for childcare and nursery entitlement for 2-year-olds and under 2's.

The above centrally retained DSG overspend of £2.3m has been transferred into the DSG Reserve account. The overall DSG reserve position as at 31st March 2026 is a cumulative deficit of £2.9m, which will be carried forward to 2026/27 under the DSG statutory override regulation. Work has been completed on agreeing the 2026/27 high needs budget, which shows a planned deficit of £5.5m for the year. However, this will be updated on completion of the SEND Reform Plan.

2.7 Adult Care, Housing & Public Health (£4.8m overspend)

2.7.1 The overall directorate is reporting a £4.8m overspend at the end of March 2026. This is made up of a £1m underspend in Neighbourhoods, a £5.9m overspend in Adult Social Care and £0.1m underspend in Public Health. Neighbourhoods covers the non-HRA housing services that the Council provides, such as homelessness and temporary accommodation.

2.7.2 The Adult Social Care (ASC) overspend of £5.9m was caused by a £7m overspend on rising demand and complexity of care packages. The main area of overspend was working age adults, especially people with learning disabilities and people with mental health need as packages increased significantly in the year in terms of demand and cost. There was a 14% rise in the number of people needing mental health support compared to 1% increase overall.

2.7.3 The overspend on placements was mitigated in part by staffing budgets that were under budget by £1m.

2.7.4 The Housing service (non-HRA) underspend of £1m consists of an underspend on homelessness and temporary accommodation of £0.5m and furnished homes of £0.3m and £0.2m on salary costs. This has arisen largely due to additional grant income that was received in year, therefore not allowing new homelessness schemes to be delivered across the full financial year, creating an underspend.

2.7.5 The Public Health underspend of £0.093m was caused mainly by reduced administrative costs.

2.8 Regeneration and Environment (£0.5m underspend)

2.8.1 The Directorate’s final outturn was a £0.5m underspend, which is a £1.3m improvement from the December financial monitoring update. The main underspends, overspends and reasons for movement are explained below.

2.8.2 The Markets service had a £0.5m overspend because of income shortfalls which is a similar position to previous years. This is likely to continue into next financial year as the development of the markets complex continues.

2.8.3 The Waste service did not fully deliver the £0.5m route optimisation saving approved as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. As work progresses on the route optimisation plan that will increase the efficiency of waste rounds, the position with regards to the delivery of this saving will become clearer. The Service overspent by £0.9m overall, with £0.3m relating to the saving and

£0.6m to refund garden waste customers, which was not included in the previous report.

2.8.4 The final outturn for Home to School Transport was a £0.4m overspend. As at the 31st March 2026, the service was operating 345 routes for 1,293 passengers and there were 211 parental payment travel solutions in place.

2.8.5 These overspends are offset by a £0.4m underspend in Community Safety and Regulation owing to vacancies and delays in implementation of the new Street Safe Team. Licensing also had a £0.2m underspend as a result of vacancies, which is a similar position to last year. The Regeneration team is capitalising staff salaries of project managers delivering the capital programme, resulting in a £0.3m underspend.

2.8.6 The Directorate utilised an additional £0.3m of grants to improve its position compared to the December forecast, to support the overall Council position. Streetworks and Enforcement had income higher than budget by £0.7m, largely generated from road closure fees, which improved by £0.2m in the final quarter as utility companies carried out more work. There was also £0.4m improvement in Culture, Sport and Tourism as the income outturn was higher than expected in Country Parks and cafés.

2.9 Finance and Customer Services (£0.7m underspend)

2.9.1 Corporate Services was underspent by £0.86m at year-end. There are a number of financial pressures across the services, particularly around Post and Print and recruitment challenges within Legal Services leading to continued use of Locums at a premium. However, there have been savings achieved in relation to vacancy management, higher income in Registrars and maximisation of grants and contributions. These actions have mitigated the financial pressures and delivered an overall underspend to support the wider Council outturn.

2.9.2 As well as the above, Property and Facilities Services (PFS) had a broadly balanced outturn of £0.1m overspent. This was a £0.3m worsening from the previous report to Cabinet as delays in capital programmes caused the Building Consultancy service's income to decrease by £0.6m, which was largely offset by a £0.3m improvement in Catering Services income.

2.9.3 Overall the 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.

2.10 Assistant Chief Executive (£0.5m underspend)

2.10.1 The underspend at outturn is the consolidated result of underspends in-year from vacancies and savings on non-staff expenditure, despite a number of underlying budget pressures.

2.11 Central Services (£5.4m underspend)

2.11.1 Central Services delivered an underspend of £5.4m resulting from the £5.4m social care contingency approved within the Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26. Savings were made in year from the Treasury Management function totalling more than £7.6m, however, these savings have been used to offset wider Council impacts such as inflationary pressures in year and the impact of 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 2025/26.

2.11.2 Central Services has continued to see pressures as a result of higher base costs, high and volatile inflation, high real living wage increases and the impact of the 2025/26 Local Government Pay Award. 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 inflation, energy and pay. As such these impacts have been controlled within the existing budgetary provision.

2.11.3 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 2025/26, approved at Council 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. For example, the cost of levies for 2025/26 was set at £13.5m at the outset of 2025/26.

2.11.4 The budget as approved at Council on 5th March 2025 included provisions, allocations for inflation, pay award and anticipated cost pressures. These budgets were held centrally at the start of the year and allocated to services as costs were confirmed and incurred. The table below sets out the headline reasons for the movement between opening budgets and the final budget that has been reported against in this report.

Table 2: Budget Movements during 2025/26

	Opening Budget 2025/26	Pay Award / Fees & Charges Income Inflation	Contract Inflation & Central Provision Allocations to Services	Service Transfers between Directorates	Final Budget 2025/26
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
CYPS	**68.8**	2.0	5.7	-0.0	**76.5**
ACH&PH	**135.9**	2.0	9.5	-0.0	**147.4**
R&E	**48.6**	2.5	4.9	-0.2	**55.8**
FCS	**35.1**	2.4	1.3	-1.1	**37.7**
ACX	**8.3**	0.6	0.1	0.2	**9.2**
CS	**62.3**	-9.5	-21.5	1.1	**32.4**
TOTAL	**359.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**359.0**

2.12 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (£4.3m underspend)

2.12.1 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 £4.3m.

2.12.2 The overall underspend largely relates to £0.3m increased rental income, £0.1m fee income and £3.8m shared savings in repairs and maintenance. The shared savings are a contractual refund from repairs contractors based on the profits they made during the previous year, once those have been confirmed and audited. The income for shared savings covers two years as it is the confirmed element for 2024/25 and an estimate of what will be receivable in 2025/26. As there is a degree of uncertainty around these savings the Council is not able to set spending plans against them; as such they are transferred to reserves and used to benefit the HRA Business Plan over the medium term.

2.13 Delivery of Savings

2.13.1 A total of £7.494m of savings were scheduled to be delivered in 2025/26. It is confirmed that £7.054m of delivery was secured in 2025/26.

2.13.2 **Table 3: Delivery of Agreed Savings:**

Directorate	**2025/26 Plan (Total)**	**Secured as at 31st March 2026**	**2026/27 Still to be Delivered**
Children and Young People Services	6,163	6,163	0
Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	600	600	0
Regeneration and Environment	731	291	440
Total	**7,494**	**7,054**	**440**

2.13.3 All outstanding savings will be carried forward to 2026/27 and delivery will continue to be reported to Cabinet on a regular basis. There has been a shortfall in the delivery on the Route Optimisation saving within Waste Management, that has meant that the full value of the saving has not been achievable in 2025/26. However, the key actions to deliver the saving have been completed and the full value of the saving should be deliverable in 2026/27. There has been a shortfall in savings to be generated from increased income within Culture, Sport and Tourism across the Country Parks. However, given the completion of the new Café at Rother Valley Country Park and refurbished Café at Thrybergh Country Park it is expected that this income stream will continue to grow.

2.14 Schools Outturn 2025/26

2.14.1 School balances at the end of 2025/26 for the Council's maintained schools was £2.395m. This represents the net surplus balances (i.e. unspent budgets), for all maintained schools (excluding the Pupil Referral Unit). This represents a reduction of £0.069m on the previous year.

2.15 Reserves

2.15.1 The Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26 approved the use of £0.4m from Treasury Management Savings Reserve to support the Budget Strategy. The Financial Monitoring Report 2025/26 submitted to Cabinet on 9th February 2026 was based on the financial monitoring position as at December 2025, which outlined that the Council anticipated an overspend of £3.4m. The overspend was to be funded from Reserves as approved at Council as part of the Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 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.

2.15.2 The table below sets out movements in reserves and the reserves position as at the outturn 2025/26 compared against the updated expected position set out in the Budget and Council Tax Report 2026/27.

2.15.3 The bullet points below explain the reasons for movements in reserves.

- Whilst there were no plans to use the Budget and Financial Strategy Reserve in the original Budget & Council Tax Report 2025/26, the Budget and Council Tax Report 2026/27 approved the use of £3.4m to fund the 2025/26 outturn position. However, given the final outturn position was an overspend of £0.3m, the actual use was £3.1m less than anticipated in the approved Budget & Council Tax Report 2026/27.

- A new PFI Leisure Reserve was created to manage the requirement to carry over between years balances in relation to the Leisure PFI, to ensure payments are made within the requirements set out in the contract. It was anticipated that a drawdown would be required from this reserve to fund in-year costs. However, the contract had a small underspend at year-end and as such this was moved to the reserve to fund future years' expenditure.

- The estimated Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) Grant scheme costs were between £1.7m and £1.9m, to be funded by a combination of the Household Support Fund and the Local Council Tax Support Grant Reserve. The final cost was £1.7m, which was primarily met from the Household Support Fund. This has reduced the 2025/26 call on the LCTS Grant Reserve.

- The Council has used £0.4m from Treasury Management Savings Reserves as planned, and an additional £0.4m was used to fund the cost of staff time relating to capital projects, funded from the allocation transferred to reserves in 2024/25 to cover future years' costs.

- The Selective Licensing Reserve is held through the lifetime of the scheme to ensure that fees from landlords are used to fund the administrative costs of the scheme. A small surplus from 2025/26 will be carried forward into 2026/27 to fund future years' costs.

2.15.4 In summary, this means that the total of Corporate Reserves balance at the Financial Outturn 2025/26 is £53.8m, which is £3.3m more than the £50.5m estimated in the Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 report. The individual reserve balances are shown in the table below. The Budget and Council Tax Report 2026/27 planned for a £2.8m increase to reserves in 2026/27. Based on the 2025/26 financial outturn position, that will leave a total of £56.6m Corporate Reserves at the end of the 2026/27 financial year.

2.15.5 The Corporate Reserve balances are shown in the table below.

Table 4: Total Corporate Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2026

	Projected Balance at 31 March 2026 (per Budget Report 26/27)	Actual Balance as at 31 March 2026	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
General Fund Reserves			
Budget and Financial Strategy	8.0	11.1	3.1
Business Rates	4.0	4.0	0.0
PFI Reserve - Leisure	0.2	0.6	0.4
Corporate Revenue Grants Reserve	3.1	3.1	0.0
Local Council Tax Support Grant	0.6	0.8	0.2
Collection Fund Income Guarantee Grant	0.0	0.0	0.0
Treasury Management Savings	7.4	7.0	-0.4
Local Plan Reserve	2.2	2.2	0.0
Selective Licensing Reserve	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total	**25.5**	**28.8**	**3.3**
General Fund Minimum Balance	**25.0**	**25.0**	**0.0**
Total General Fund	**50.5**	**53.8**	**3.3**

2.16 Capital Reserves

2.16.1 The total earmarked and un-earmarked capital reserve balances at the end of 2025/26 are shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5 Capital Reserves as at 31 March 2026

	Balance as at 31 March 2026	Committed Resources	Un-earmarked as at 31 March 2026
	£m	£m	£m
Capital Receipts Reserve			
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0
Housing (Corporately held)	26.4	26.4	0.0
HRA	8.5	8.5	0.0
Sub-Total	**34.9**	**34.9**	**0.0**

Capital Grants – Unapplied			
General Fund	80.6	80.6	0.0
HRA	6.6	6.6	0.0
Sub-Total	**87.2**	**87.2**	**0.0**
Major Repairs Reserve – HRA	**10.9**	**10.9**	**0**
Total	**133.0**	**133.0**	**0.0**

2.17 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2025/26

2.17.1 The outturn on the Capital Programme was £150.614m (2024/25 £140.590m). The final Capital Programme Budget was £165.620m split between the General Fund £98.555m and HRA £67.065m with underspend and slippage of £15m.

2.17.2 The level of slippage on the Capital Programme is low given the scale and size of the programme. The outturn position shows that 91% of the planned expenditure has been delivered. The Council continues on its improvement journey in terms of Capital delivery, with work underway to review the delivery side of the Capital Programme, in order to identify areas for improvement which is starting to filter through to the outturn position reported.

Table 6 Capital Outturn 2025/26

Directorate	**2025/26 Budget**	**2025/26 Outturn**	**2025/26 Variance**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**
General Fund Capital			
Children and Young People Services	9.894	7.949	-1.945
Assistant Chief Executive	0.439	0.267	-0.172
Adult Care & Housing	11.727	10.017	-1.710
Finance & Customer Services	11.057	8.439	-2.618
Regeneration & Environment	65.438	60.657	-4.781
Total General Fund Capital	**98.555**	**87.329**	**-11.226**
Total HRA Capital	**67.065**	**63.285**	**-3.780**
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**165.620**	**150.614**	**-15.006**

2.18 Children and Young People Services

2.18.1 The CYPS Capital Programme outturn has a variance of £1.945m against the approved budget of £9.894m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Children's Residential Homes, £0.113m slippage. The Council have one property due to have work started in quarter 1 2026/27 following some delays in finalising the design to then allow for planning approvals.
- Primary Schools, £0.77m slippage. This relates to one project where work is completed but the Council needs to agree the final account payment to be made in July 2026.
- Special schools, £1.115m slippage. The budget has slipped on special schools due to delays in delivery on Wales Residential Centre and Newman Whiston as the schemes are awaiting final approval from Department for Education so work will now take place in 2026/27.
- Schools Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Life Cycle Programme, £0.595m budget brought forward. Positively and through strong contract management by the Council, there has been increased spend on capital upgrade works by the PFI provider during the year. The budget has been amended to reflect expenditure for 2025/26.
- School condition works, £0.723m slippage. The Council has a number of schemes which came to light later in the year; the complexity of the work content means the Council need to carry out design work and procure an external contractor to deliver. In addition, the work itself is major work, meaning that it needs to be completed during school holidays so it was adjusted to take place in the Easter and Summer holidays in 2026.

2.18.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered.

<u>Schools Condition works</u>

- Broom Valley School – concreate window repairs in 2 phases.
- Blackburn Primary – basement damp proofing works.
- Eastwood Village – defective work rectification.
- Herringthorpe Junior & Infants – extraction system.
- Herringthorpe Primary – access control security gates and security. improvements to vehicle access / pedestrian gate.
- Rawmarsh Aspire – roofing works.
- Rawmarsh Rosehill – fencing and repointing works.
- Todwick Primary – asbestos removal.

<u>Places at mainstream schools</u>

- Provided an additional 210 school places at Waverly Junior Academy.

<u>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency</u>

- New SEND provision created on mainstream sites was finalised in year with Thurcroft Junior Academy, Winterhill and Maltby Manor Academy provisions successfully opening.

- Installation of modular classrooms at Kelford School and the development of a second site at Elements Academy. In total this resulted in an increase of 54 special school places.
- Improvement works have commenced across the three sites occupied by Aspire Pupil Referral Unit. This has included works to improve accessibility, and the curriculum offer at Catcliffe and Hutton Park. Further works are planned in 2026/2027 at the main Rawmarsh site.
- 36 successful capital accessibility small grants schemes from mainstream schools, improving mainstream school provision for pupils with SEND.

2.19 Adult Care & Housing

2.19.1 The Adult Care & Housing Capital Programme outturn had a variance of £1.710m against the approved budget of £11.727m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Fair Access to All (Aids and Adaptations Privates – Disabled Facilities Grants), slippage £0.2m. This project provides physical adjustments and equipment to properties such as level access showers, ramps and handrails to support people to continue to live in their homes. This is due to slow progress with work delivery which is dictated in part by the customer.
- Rothercare Digital Switchover, slippage of £1.036m. The Council's external provider did not achieve delivery plan targets, resulting in spend slipping into 2026/27.
- Castle View care units, £0.732m slippage. The properties are completed and are in the progress of being furnished with a view to being ready to occupy by the end of April 2026.
- Furnished Homes, overspend by £0.231m due to increased demand for this service in year.

2.19.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered.

- 4,042 adaptations works completed to private properties. Works include installation of level access showers, ramps, ceiling hoists, stairlifts, extensions, handrails, door widening and dropping of kerbs.

2.20 Assistant Chief Executive

2.20.1 The Assistant Chief Executive Capital Programme outturn had £0.171m of underspend and slippage against the approved budget of £0.439m.

2.20.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

- 102 projects supported across the borough through the ward allocations, broken down as follows:-
    - North – 32 projects
    - South – 40 projects
    - Central – 30 projects

2.21 Finance and Customer Services

2.21.1 The Finance & Customer Services Capital Programme outturn had £2.618m of underspend and slippage against the approved budget of £11.057m. The main items contributing to this position are:

- Building Decarbonisation, slippage of £0.627m. This is due to additional design work which has needed approval. The Riverside House Canopy has been designed but is being reviewed due to site concerns relating to the turning circles at the far end of the canopy. This is therefore being reviewed with technical colleagues in the Design Team.
- Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure, slippage of £0.216m. This is due to delays in awarding the contract and additional work required by Northern Powergrid.
- Rotherham Markets solar panels, £0.1m saving. The Council held a small contingency for this scheme which has not been required.
- Education Information Technology (IT) replacement project, £0.77m slippage. This is an ongoing 2 year programme of work and initial recruitment to the project team took longer than expected.
- Financial Information Technology (IT) replacement project, £0.220m slippage. This is an ongoing 2 year programme of work and project go live has slipped into Autumn 2026.
- Community Facilities, £0.299m slippage. This scheme is making improvements to community facilities; additional design work and additional asbestos surveys have been required.
- Strategic Acquisitions, £0.151m slippage. This funding is being held to support work to deliver the Gateway Station.
- Waverley Medical Centre, £0.509m slippage. Work is fully completed but agreement on the final account is yet to be finalised and paid.

2.21.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Digital Investment

- Replacement of the Council's data back-up capability, providing a single, robust, and secure data recovery solution aligned with industry best-practice.
- Procurement and installation of a replacement virtual compute platform, providing server/data processing capacity for the next 5 years.
- Delivered a programme of end-user laptop, monitor and mobile phone refresh, alongside provision of new equipment totalling over £1.2m.
- Procured and implemented a replacement IT Service Desk system, with a scheduled go-live in quarter 1 2026/27.
- Introduced new and standardised hybrid meeting room capability within Riverside House.
- Implemented a digital social care records system for use in adult social care settings and the Reablement Service.

Property and Facilities

- Civic Theatre – flat roof, windows to annexe and theatre renewed and new LED lighting installed.
- Cranworth Centre - windows replaced.
- Herringthorpe Stadium – track repairs completed.
- Waleswood Caravan Park – pitch repairs completed.
- Holy Trinity Church – boundary wall works completed.
- Moorgate Crofts – roofing repairs completed.
- Rotherham Markets – solar panels installed.
- Waverley Medical Centre - now built and operational.

2.22 Regeneration & Environment

2.22.1 The Regeneration & Environment Capital Programme outturn had slippage of £4.781m against the approved budget of £65.438m. The main variances contributing to this position were:

Planning, Regeneration and Transport

- Major road schemes, £1.783m slippage. There are a number of major road schemes that are ongoing and will run into 2026/27 due to more challenging requirements for design and consultation.

- Forge Island Commercial Development, slippage of £0.962m. The project is complete and the slippage relates to the fit out of the remaining unoccupied units which is driven by the successful delivery of new tenants.

- Business Centres at Century and Matrix, £0.348m slippage. Work is ongoing to install fire stopping works, lighting, toilet refurbishment and roofing works. The cost of the firestopping works was higher than expected once work was scoped and procured and this required additional approval before work could be awarded. In addition, the roofing works were more extensive than expected and it was advised by the contractor that work is not carried out until there was better weather.

- Wath Regeneration £0.363m and Healthcare Hub Phase 1 £0.541m, accelerated spend. Both projects had budget slipped into 2026/27 earlier in the year but have now commenced delivery sooner than planned.

Culture, Sport and Tourism

- Treeton Saint Helen’s Church, £0.139m slippage. Work is completed but the final account is to be agreed and paid.

- Playgrounds, £0.133m slippage. One site is completed and three more will complete in 2026/27.

Community Safety & Streetscene

- Drainage and flood alleviation programme, slippage of £1.66m. This has been caused by unexpected complexities in the design process and ongoing negotiations for access to land for surveys.

- Street Lighting Programme, £0.306m slippage. This is an ongoing programme to replace street lighting and signs which become obsolete during the year.

2.22.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

Planning, Regeneration and Transport

- Landscaping works have been completed at Snail Yard Pocket Park and the site has been opened to the public.

- Thrybergh Country Park's Lakeside Cafe opened to the public 12th February 2026. The inside has been extensively refurbished, with a new outdoor terrace looking out across the lake. The refurbished building includes fully accessible toilets and entrances for people with mobility needs.

- Park and Ride facility at Parkgate became operational in May 2025.

- Town Centre Regeneration – Opening of the first eateries at Forge Island in April and July 2025 respectively.

- Completion of the phase one £4 million Towns and Villages Fund programme. Work at Brinsworth has now completed which concludes the Towns & Villages programme.

- 50 shopfront grants have been offered to businesses, to help boost appearance of high streets and encourage business footfall. 48 have been accepted across the town centre, Dinnington and Maltby. This greatly exceeds the target of 20.

- Work with regional partners to support South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) in their work to develop the Outline Business Case for the new railway station at Waverley has taken place, and work is on track with expected completion of an outline business case in March 2027.

- A new tram-train stop opened at Magna on 9th April 2026, with long-term aims of increasing access to economic activity. The station provides a modern and accessible gateway to the Magna Science Adventure Centre in Rotherham and strengthens public transport links between Rotherham and Sheffield.

- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) Broom and Fitzwilliam Transport schemes have both gone out to second rounds of consultation, including proposals for investment in neighbourhood streets.

- West Bawtry Road structure was completed on 6th March 2026.

Culture, Sport and Tourism

- Waleswood Caravan and Camping Park - Tent Field Drainage, with extra drainage added due to wet spots and 10 x caravan pitches resurfaced.

- Water Splash facility at Clifton Park - The water splash facility at Clifton Park opened to the public on the week commencing 21st July 2025.

- Redevelopment works at Rother Valley Country Park have been completed, with the Waterfront Café and Events Space now open to the public. The new venue, offering stunning waterfront views and a first-floor events space with balcony, has been warmly received by visitors and is currently nominated for two design awards. Parking facilities have also been expanded and upgraded.

- Redevelopment works at Thrybergh Country Park have been completed, including improved access and play facilities, with new accessible pathways around the lake and a fully refurbished play area. The refurbished café also opened in February 2026, offering a contemporary breakfast, brunch and afternoon menu, alongside afternoon tea, Sunday lunches and event catering.

- The target to plant 500 trees was exceeded, with 710 planted in quarters three and four, an increase on the previous year’s total of 597.

- Herringthorpe and Rosehill Tennis Courts have been surfaced with fencing completed, and nets, posts and line markings installed.

- As a part of the Children’s Playground Programme, Thrybergh Country Park and Rosehill are now complete. Facilities are fully accessible and free, so provide an affordable day out option for families to enjoy.

Community Safety & Streetscene

- The Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Team has progressed with the development of two Video Management Software (VMS) prototypes, which will be installed and tested over the early part of 2026/27. The learning gained from this work will directly inform and strengthen the final procurement exercise and delivery.

- The CCTV Team have collaborated with The Council’s Principal Drainage Officer to purchase and deploy cameras across nine locations within the borough, with the purpose of monitoring and recording flood-risk areas to inform planning and strengthen flood response. A further ten locations are now being considered following the success of the initiative.

- Rotherham Council has been named one of the best in the country for pothole repairs, road condition, smart investment and best practice.

- The Council has repaired 94 footways including Micro Asphalt surface treatment and resurfacing schemes, as a part of the Highway Repair Programme 2025/26.

- The repair of 124 unclassified roads has been delivered this year. Unclassified roads are rated 70.97% in good (green) condition status, above the 65% target and better than national average.

- Completed new CCTV installations at College Road (9th March), improving visibility at Vicarage Lane and enhancing town centre coverage.

- In the last 12 months delivered 220 CCTV installations borough-wide, improving crime deterrence, supporting investigations and convictions, and providing strong value for money by aligning investment with risk, intelligence and community safety priorities.

2.23 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

2.23.1 The HRA Capital Programme outturn had a variance of £3.780m against the approved budget of £67.065m. The main variances contributing to this position were:

- Adaptations to public sector homes, £0.510m overspend. This is a demand led service delivering mandatory major adaptations to Council owned homes. Demand has been higher than budgeted for and the Council have also seen an increase in material costs and the complexity of jobs.

- Environmental work, £0.262m slippage. Excessive bad weather has caused phase 4 of the programme to be delayed and work will now take place slightly later than planned and carry into 2026/27.

- External works, £2.186m underspend. The Council commenced the Warm Homes scheme delivery in early 2026. This was delayed due to Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) providing the grant agreements later than expected. It is expected that the Council would need to repay the grant that it has not spent in year to DESNZ.

- Structural works, £0.667m overspend. There has been an increased number of properties requiring structural works during the year.

- Information Communication Technology (ICT) upgrade, £0.362m slippage. The upgrade of the ICT system for document management is ongoing and will now be completed in 2026.

- Major Voids, £1.781m 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.

- New Build programme, £2.153m slippage. A number of schemes including Addison Road, Maltby, Bushfield Road and Valley Drive are underway and will continue into 2026-27, however they have not progressed as quickly as hoped.

- Refurbishments of existing homes, £1.142m underspend. The programme has seen some savings due to lower cost for work, omitted properties and right to buy properties which are excluded from the programme once an application is made to buy the property.

- Strategic Acquisitions, £0.342m underspend. This is an ongoing programme to purchase properties completed on the open market. Some schemes will see the properties complete in 2026/27 including those at Poppyfields and Sorby Park. The Council does not control when private developers complete the schemes.

2.23.2 As part of the outturn position the following key outputs have been delivered:

Strategic Housing Growth and Development Programme

- Over £12m secured in external grant funding to support the Housing Delivery Programme. This represents a 100% success rate and exceeds the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan Assumption for non-HRA funding by more than £2m.

- 114 homes delivered in year with HRA capital investment. The Strategic Housing And Development Team had a target to deliver 100 new homes this financial year, which has been exceeded. This was made up of 41 Market Acquisitions, 44 Section 106 Acquisitions, and 29 new homes delivered by the Council on Council Owned sites.

- The Council new build schemes at West Melton (10 homes) and Ship Inn (4 homes) delivered over 100% of their commitment on Social Value. Developers supported the growth of responsible regional businesses and invested in the local supply chain as part of the project.

- Delivery of 13 new homes at Canklow, Warden Street as part of a joint development with Adult Social Care. The scheme included a 4-bedroom bungalow for families on the Housing Register with acute needs. The strategic assets will not only provide rental income but fit-for-purpose accommodation to meet the needs of vulnerable residents.

- Days to let reduced for new build homes (Small and Medium Enterprise (SME), Section 106, Council Build) has reduced to 12.4 days, compared to 25.8 days in July. This decreases risk, increases income to the Housing Revenue Account, and decreases additional costs related to empty sites (for example, site security).

- As of the end of March 2026, 788 new homes have been delivered. The Council are on track to deliver their 800th new home in April 2026.

Improvements and investment in Council Housing stock

(note - outputs subject to slight change pending agreement on final account)

- 266 properties had replacement kitchens and/or bathrooms and associated electric works.

- A total of 1,654 properties have had replacement boilers and/or central heating systems. A total of 5 properties had work carried out to their district heating system and one site had boiler house upgrade works.

- 492 properties had their thermal efficiency increased by loft insulation top ups.

- 460 properties received over £5,000 investment to bring them back to a lettable standard via the major void process.

- 628 properties have had external work improvements which can include work to the roof, rainwater goods and soffits and facias.

- 134 properties have had structural works undertaken.

- 2,104 properties have had additional ventilation work and an additional 75 properties have had damp and mould treatment / works. A further 60 properties have had humidity sensors installed which will prevent and give early warning of potential damp and mould issues in future.

- 104 fire doors have been replaced across the estate.

- 2,497 properties have received adaptations work which can include handrails and grabrails to a full level access wet room / shower facility. The adaptations will allow customers to remain living independently in their homes.

- The environmental programme delivered 8 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.

2.24 Funding of the Capital Programme 2025/26

2.24.1 £150.614m of capital expenditure was funded as shown in the table below:

Table 7 Funding of the Capital Programme 2025/26

Funding Stream	Outturn £m
Grants and Contributions	40.867
Unsupported Borrowing	43.466
Capital Receipts	0.867
Revenue Contributions	0.138
Total Funding - General Fund	**85.338**
Grants and Contributions	7.474
Unsupported Borrowing	20.986
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	23.551
Useable Capital Receipts	3.808
Revenue Contributions	9.457
Total Funding - HRA	**65.276**
Total	**150.614**

2.24.2 **Capital Receipts Outturn 2025-26**

2.24.3 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.

2.24.4 In 2025/26 General Fund Capital receipts of £0.938m have been generated as shown in the table below. Although £0.074m 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 8 – General Fund Capital Receipts Received in 2025/26

Description	Total as at 31st March 2026 £m
Miscellaneous	-0.864
Total Capital Receipts (Excluding loan repayments)	**-0.864**
Repayment of Loans	-0.074
Total Capital Receipts	**-0.938**

2.24.5 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.

2.25 Updated Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30

2.25.1 The Capital Programme 2026/27 has been reset at £180.682m split between the General Fund £109.727m and HRA £70.955m.

2.25.2 The 2026/27 programme has decreased overall by £30.224m from the position reported to Cabinet in February 2026. The movement is based on the latest profiles of expenditure against schemes, following the 2025/26 outturn position, factoring in slippage from 2025/26 and new grant funding.

Table 9: Updated Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30

Directorate	**2026/27**	**2027/28**	**2028/29**	**2029/30**	**Total**
	Budget	**Budget**	**Budget**	**Budget**	**Budget**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
General Fund Capital					
Children and Young People's Services	12.132	9.962	14.389	7.020	43.503
Regeneration and Environment	74.427	56.381	10.834	2.582	144.224
Adult Care & Housing	7.449	7.760	6.927	1.760	23.896
Policy, Strategy and Engagement	0.630	0.210	0.210	0.210	1.260
Corporate Services	15.089	27.305	17.868	7.805	68.067
Total General Fund Capital	**109.727**	**101.618**	**50.228**	**19.377**	**280.950**
Total HRA Capital	70.955	61.557	57.256	127.862	317.630
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**180.682**	**163.175**	**107.484**	**147.239**	**598.580**

Table 10: Funding of the approved Capital Programme

Funding Stream	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Budget
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
Grants and Contributions	56.032	44.460	13.967	3.400	117.859
Unsupported Borrowing	53.555	57.015	36.115	15.977	162.662
Revenue Contribution	0.140	0.143	0.146	0.000	0.429
Total Funding - General Fund	**109.727**	**101.618**	**50.228**	**19.377**	**280.950**
Grants and Contributions	6.536	6.188	0.000	15.246	27.970
Unsupported Borrowing	1.036	15.282	20.488	58.362	95.168
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	32.416	27.803	28.768	29.555	118.542
Capital Receipts	14.779	4.736	0.000	15.741	35.256
Revenue Contribution	16.188	7.548	8.000	8.958	40.694
Total Funding - HRA	**70.955**	**61.557**	**57.256**	**127.862**	**317.630**
Total	**180.682**	**163.175**	**107.484**	**147.239**	**598.580**

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 Executive Director of Corporate 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 2026/27 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 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 No direct HR implications arising from this report. It is noted that there are some recruitment challenges in some specialist areas which will continue to be considered further as part of workforce planning.

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 2025/26. Any equalities and human rights impacts from service delivery have been or are detailed as service budgets and 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 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, Service Director – Financial Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	Named Officer	Date
Chief Executive	John Edwards	19/06/26
Executive Director of Corporate Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	12/06/26
Service Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	17/06/26

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Capital Programme General Fund 2026/27 to 2030/31

Directorate	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
Adult Care & Housing	7,449,473	7,759,576	6,926,976	1,760,000	23,896,025
Children & Young Peoples Serv	12,131,646	9,962,190	14,389,224	7,019,842	43,502,902
Corporate Services	15,089,314	27,305,701	17,867,892	7,804,436	68,067,343
Policy, Strategy and Engagemen	629,504	210,040	210,040	210,040	1,259,624
Regeneration & Environment	74,427,401	56,380,799	10,833,511	2,581,995	144,223,706
Total	**109,727,338**	**101,618,306**	**50,227,643**	**19,376,313**	**280,949,600**

Funding:

Funding Stream	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
4) Grants and Contributions	56,032,339	44,460,201	13,966,964	3,399,725	117,859,229
6) Revenue Contributions	140,000	143,000	146,000	0	429,000
7) Unsupported Borrowing-C	47,480,326	49,664,857	33,543,261	14,216,588	144,905,032
8) Unsupported Borrowing-S	6,074,673	7,350,248	2,571,418	1,760,000	17,756,339
Total	**109,727,338**	**101,618,306**	**50,227,643**	**19,376,313**	**280,949,600**

Capital Programme General Fund 2026/27 to 2030/31

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
Adult Care & Housing	Adult Services	Adult Services	Assistive Technology	Assistive Technology Equipment	801,733	680,000	0	0	1,481,733
				Rothercare Digital Switchover	1,036,339	0	0	0	1,036,339
				Sub-Service Total	**1,838,072**	**680,000**	**0**	**0**	**2,518,072**
			Extra Care Housing	Castle View Adult Care Units	467,441	998,358	0	0	1,465,799
				Castle View Day Care Centre	925,160	366,953	0	0	1,292,113
				LD accommodation	0	1,567,265	0	0	1,567,265
				Sub-Service Total	**1,392,601**	**2,932,576**	**0**	**0**	**4,325,177**
			REWS Equipment	REWS Capital	190,000	190,000	0	0	380,000
				Sub-Service Total	**190,000**	**190,000**	**0**	**0**	**380,000**
			Service Area Total		**3,420,673**	**3,802,576**	**0**	**0**	**7,223,249**
		Service Total			**3,420,673**	**3,802,576**	**0**	**0**	**7,223,249**
	Neighbourhood Capital Programm	Fair Access to All	Aids and Adaptations (Private	Adapts - LOT1 - Private Majr	441,884	0	0	0	441,884
				Adapts - LOT1 - Private Minr	233,001	0	0	0	233,001
				Adapts - LOT2 - Private Majr	336,647	0	0	0	336,647
				Adapts - LOT2 - Private Minr	202,045	0	0	0	202,045
				Adapts - OTHERS - Private Majr	604,933	0	0	0	604,933
				Adapts Extensions PRIVATES	378,490	0	0	0	378,490
				Private Adaps Bud Unall	0	2,197,000	2,197,000	0	4,394,000
				Sub-Service Total	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**0**	**6,591,000**
			Service Area Total		**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**0**	**6,591,000**
		Neighbourhd Regeneration & Re	Monksbridge Demolition	Monksbridge, Dinnington	71,800	0	0	0	71,800
				Sub-Service Total	**71,800**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**71,800**
			Service Area Total		**71,800**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**71,800**
		Service Total			**2,268,800**	**2,197,000**	**2,197,000**	**0**	**6,662,800**
	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	2,969,976	0	2,969,976
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**0**	**2,969,976**	**0**	**2,969,976**
			Service Area Total		**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**4,729,976**	**1,760,000**	**10,009,976**
		Service Total			**1,760,000**	**1,760,000**	**4,729,976**	**1,760,000**	**10,009,976**
	Directorate Total				**7,449,473**	**7,759,576**	**6,926,976**	**1,760,000**	**23,896,025**
Children & Young Peoples Serv	CYPS - RMBC	Other CYPS	Children & Families	Adaptations - Foster Care	300,000	640,000	1,179,236	1,350,117	3,469,353
				CYPS Resi Home Unallocated	66,449	0	0	0	66,449
				CYPS RESI PH II Middle Lane	28,172	0	0	0	28,172
				CYPS RESI PH III-Narrow Lane	84,014	0	0	0	84,014
				Family Help Mobile Units	280,000	0	0	0	280,000
				In House Chld's Resi-vehicles	0	0	140,000	0	140,000
				In House Resi Complex Needs	68,000	0	0	0	68,000
				Wraparound Childcare grants	284,177	0	0	0	284,177
				Sub-Service Total	**1,110,812**	**640,000**	**1,319,236**	**1,350,117**	**4,420,165**
			Kitchens - Schools	Crowden Outdoor Act Kitchen	20,766	0	0	0	20,766
				Sub-Service Total	**20,766**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**20,766**
			Service Area Total		**1,131,578**	**640,000**	**1,319,236**	**1,350,117**	**4,440,931**

		Schools	Schools - Capitalised Enh	Aston Fence Pri- Fencing	52,586	0	0	0	52,586
				Badsley Moor PR New Boiler	112,179	0	0	0	112,179
				Badsley Moor Pri - Flat Roof	30,000	0	0	0	30,000
				Blackburn Pri - Basement	7,945	0	0	0	7,945
				Blackbutn Pri - Toilet Blocks	79,894	0	0	0	79,894
				Broom Valley Pr - Heat/Water	252,275	0	0	0	252,275
				Capitalised Enhancements Unall	1,131,332	750,000	850,000	850,000	3,581,332
				CEN Asbestos removal works	33,772	0	0	0	33,772
				Eastwood Village Latent Defect	22,698	0	0	0	22,698
				Herringthorpe Pri-Security Imp	16,952	0	0	0	16,952
				Rawmarsh Aspire - Roof	92,451	0	0	0	92,451
				R'hillFenc,Drainage,SportsHall	10,738	0	0	0	10,738
				R'Marsh Rosehill - Ph2 Fencing	23,874	0	0	0	23,874
				Todwick Fire Alarm	80,000	0	0	0	80,000
				Wales Primary Fire Safety imps	10,657	0	0	0	10,657
				Sub-Service Total	**1,957,353**	**750,000**	**850,000**	**850,000**	**4,407,353**
			Schools - Prims - Major	Todwick Nursery	253,491	0	0	0	253,491
				Waverley Jnr Primary Sch Ph II	77,191	0	0	0	77,191
				Sub-Service Total	**330,682**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**330,682**
			Schools - Secs - Major	Secondary BUDGET UNALLOC	0	0	5,829,988	0	5,829,988
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**0**	**5,829,988**	**0**	**5,829,988**
			Schools - Spcls - Major	Newman (Dinnington), Refurb	1,124,204	0	0	0	1,124,204
				Newman Whiston	1,285,927	0	0	0	1,285,927
				SEND PH III Dinnington Adaptat	1,535	0	0	0	1,535
				SEND Ph IV - Wales Res Cen	468,551	0	0	0	468,551
				SEND Ph IV - W'hill Res Cen	79,795	0	0	0	79,795
				Send Ph IV ? Pru Rawmarsh	318,642	0	0	0	318,642
				SEND Ph IV- Mainstream Sch Acc	271,117	0	0	0	271,117
				Special BUDGET UNALLOC	3,400,000	6,182,190	2,000,000	2,000,000	13,582,190
				Sub-Service Total	**6,949,771**	**6,182,190**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**17,131,961**
			Schools PFI Life Cycle Program	Schools PFI Life Cycle Program	1,639,898	2,270,000	4,270,000	2,270,000	10,449,898
				Sub-Service Total	**1,639,898**	**2,270,000**	**4,270,000**	**2,270,000**	**10,449,898**
			Service Area Total		**10,877,704**	**9,202,190**	**12,949,988**	**5,120,000**	**38,149,882**
		Service Total			**12,009,282**	**9,842,190**	**14,269,224**	**6,470,117**	**42,590,813**
	DFC	DFC - RMBC	DFC - RMBC all	DFCG Unallocated	122,364	120,000	120,000	549,725	912,089
				Sub-Service Total	**122,364**	**120,000**	**120,000**	**549,725**	**912,089**
			Service Area Total		**122,364**	**120,000**	**120,000**	**549,725**	**912,089**
		Service Total			**122,364**	**120,000**	**120,000**	**549,725**	**912,089**
	Directorate Total				**12,131,646**	**9,962,190**	**14,389,224**	**7,019,842**	**43,502,902**
Corporate Services	F&CS (DUMMY)	F&CS	F&CS - REFCUS	Capital Inflation Contingency	0	0	10,563,633	2,150,000	12,713,633
				Sub-Service Total	**0**	**0**	**10,563,633**	**2,150,000**	**12,713,633**
			Service Area Total		**0**	**0**	**10,563,633**	**2,150,000**	**12,713,633**
		Service Total			**0**	**0**	**10,563,633**	**2,150,000**	**12,713,633**
	ICT & Digital Investment	Directorate ICT Investments	Directorate ICT Investments	Archives & Studies D'tal Upgra	22,000	0	0	0	22,000
				Comm Safe&SS-Cust &DigitalPlan	191,000	511,168	0	0	702,168
				Education System Replacement	962,109	0	0	0	962,109
				Finl Systm Replacement Project	645,000	1,462,852	0	0	2,107,852
				Fleet of MFD printers	73,975	76,500	0	0	150,475
				HR System Replacement	0	500,000	1,000,000	0	1,500,000
				Libraries Network	79,283	0	0	0	79,283
				Sub-Service Total	**1,973,367**	**2,550,520**	**1,000,000**	**0**	**5,523,887**
			Service Area Total		**1,973,367**	**2,550,520**	**1,000,000**	**0**	**5,523,887**
		ICT & Digital Strategy investm	ICT & Digital Strategy investm	Data Storage & Back-up	460,000	100,000	669,259	300,000	1,529,259

				Digital Innovation Fund	659,819	700,000	700,000	700,000	2,759,819
				Hardware Provisioning	1,471,401	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	5,971,401
				Network Equipment Refresh Proj	700,711	350,000	550,000	630,000	2,230,711
				Replacement of server equip	90,000	250,000	400,000	439,436	1,179,436
				Sub-Service Total	**3,381,931**	**2,900,000**	**3,819,259**	**3,569,436**	**13,670,626**
			Service Area Total		**3,381,931**	**2,900,000**	**3,819,259**	**3,569,436**	**13,670,626**
		Service Total			**5,355,298**	**5,450,520**	**4,819,259**	**3,569,436**	**19,194,513**
	Property & Facilities	Corp Property Unit	Corporate Property Cap Proj	Customer Digitalisation - AM	75,294	0	0	0	75,294
				Sub-Service Total	**75,294**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**75,294**
			Decarbonisation & Energy	Building Decarbonisation	1,000,000	5,237,343	0	0	6,237,343
				Electric Vehicle Charge Infras	500,000	744,789	0	0	1,244,789
				ElecVeh ChargingInfraExpansion	300,000	476,968	0	0	776,968
				Energy Saving Measure (B)	205,201	0	0	0	205,201
				LA Energy Saving Measures-(A)	82,044	0	0	0	82,044
				Renewable Energy Proof of Conc	200,000	400,000	400,000	0	1,000,000
				Rotherham Markets Solar Panels	55,000	44,718	0	0	99,718
				Sub-Service Total	**2,342,245**	**6,903,818**	**400,000**	**0**	**9,646,063**
			FM and Operational Buildings	BarbotHallIndEst-Cliff face	524,227	0	0	0	524,227
				C' Theatre LED StageLighting R	62	0	0	0	62
				C.Theatre RoofsWindowsAnnexe	71,939	0	0	0	71,939
				Corp Landlord Furn. Replacem.	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
				Cranworth Centre - Windows	19,990	0	0	0	19,990
				Cranworth Centre Underpinning	100,000	0	0	0	100,000
				Davies Court Fire Alarm	128,581	0	0	0	128,581
				Dawson Croft - Lift	35,000	0	0	0	35,000
				Herringthorpe Stadium - track	2,498	0	0	0	2,498
				Kimberworth The Place - Roof	226,992	0	0	0	226,992
				Kiveton Park Depot - Gate&Stor	42,079	0	0	0	42,079
				Lord Hardy Court - Windows	245,715	0	0	0	245,715
				Miscellaneous Minor Works	118,718	0	0	0	118,718
				Ops Buildings Cap Inv	2,024,401	2,010,000	2,010,000	2,010,000	8,054,401
				Riverside House - CCTV	70,000	0	0	0	70,000
				Riverside Replacement of UPS	120,000	0	0	0	120,000
				Rother Valley - Toilet Upgrade	200,331	0	0	0	200,331
				RsideHouse Furniture Replacemt	698	0	0	0	698
				Signage	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
				StLeonardChurch Din-Bound Wall	24,070	0	0	0	24,070
				StMarys BoundaryWallRepairs	8,202	0	0	0	8,202
				Wellgate Retaining Wall	106,146	105,854	0	0	212,000
				Sub-Service Total	**4,134,649**	**2,115,854**	**2,010,000**	**2,010,000**	**10,270,503**
			Property and Estates	Commercial Property Cap	549,836	75,000	75,000	75,000	774,836
				Community Facilities	1,169,432	0	0	0	1,169,432
				Demo of units 86-102 Wellgate	182,686	0	0	0	182,686
				Rotherham Station QTR	490,000	10,890,000	0	0	11,380,000
				Strategic Acquisitions Fund	280,912	1,870,509	0	0	2,151,421
				Waverley Medical Centre	508,962	0	0	0	508,962
				Sub-Service Total	**3,181,828**	**12,835,509**	**75,000**	**75,000**	**16,167,337**
			Service Area Total		**9,734,016**	**21,855,181**	**2,485,000**	**2,085,000**	**36,159,197**
		Service Total			**9,734,016**	**21,855,181**	**2,485,000**	**2,085,000**	**36,159,197**
	Directorate Total				**15,089,314**	**27,305,701**	**17,867,892**	**7,804,436**	**68,067,343**

Policy, Strategy and Engagemen	Policy, Strategy and Engagemen	Policy, Strategy and Engagemen	Policy, Strategy and Engagemen	Aston & Todwick	21,060	7,120	7,120	7,120	42,420
				Aughton & Swallownest	10,354	7,120	7,120	7,120	31,714
				Bramley & Ravenfeild	13,231	7,120	7,120	7,120	34,591
				Brinsworth	17,690	7,120	7,120	7,120	39,050
				Capt'l Inv't Ward Anst wdsetts	26,595	10,680	10,680	10,680	58,635
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Bostn Ctle	13,743	10,680	10,680	10,680	45,783
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Dinnington	23,571	10,680	10,680	10,680	55,611
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Hoober	24,691	10,680	10,680	10,680	56,731
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Keppel	24,649	10,680	10,680	10,680	56,689
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Roth East	14,360	10,680	10,680	10,680	46,400
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Roth West	21,379	10,680	10,680	10,680	53,419
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - RotherVale	16,093	7,120	7,120	7,120	37,453
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Sitwell	24,715	10,680	10,680	10,680	56,755
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Wales	9,173	7,120	7,120	7,120	30,533
				Capt'l Inv't-Ward - Wath	10,102	7,120	7,120	7,120	31,462
				Dalton & Thrybergh	21,360	7,120	7,120	7,120	42,720
				Greasborough	14,669	7,120	7,120	7,120	36,029
				Hellaby & Maltby West	16,000	7,120	7,120	7,120	37,360
				Hoober CIL	129,687	0	0	0	129,687
				Keppel - CIL	12,627	0	0	0	12,627
				Kilnhurst & Swinton East	16,530	7,120	7,120	7,120	37,890
				Maltby East	19,524	7,120	7,120	7,120	40,884
				Rawmarsh East	10,702	7,120	7,120	7,120	32,062
					887	0	0	0	887
				Rawmarsh West	15,319	7,120	7,120	7,120	36,679
				Rotherham East - CIL	331	0	0	0	331
				Rotherham West - CIL	6,968	0	0	0	6,968
				Sitwell - CIL	36,719	0	0	0	36,719
				Swinton Rockingham	17,160	7,120	7,120	7,120	38,520
				Swinton & Rockinghon CIL	9,393	0	0	0	9,393
				Thurcroft & Wickersley South	4,415	7,120	7,120	7,120	25,775
				Wickersley North	25,807	10,680	10,680	10,680	57,847
				Sub-Service Total	**629,504**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,259,624**
			Service Area Total		**629,504**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,259,624**
		Service Total			**629,504**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,259,624**
	Directorate Total				**629,504**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**210,040**	**1,259,624**
Regeneration & Environment	Community Safety &Street Scene	Comm Safety Resilience & EP	Comm Safety Resilience & EP	Capital Licensing	100,000	100,000	100,000	200,000	500,000
				CCTV Upgrade&EnhanceCapabilty	78,406	0	0	0	78,406
				Sub-Service Total	**178,406**	**100,000**	**100,000**	**200,000**	**578,406**
			Service Area Total		**178,406**	**100,000**	**100,000**	**200,000**	**578,406**
		Network Management	Drainage	Catcliffe Treeton FAS-Bridge	850,000	1,150,000	4,000,000	0	6,000,000
				Culverts Renewal Programme	13,701	0	0	0	13,701
				Highway Drainage Repairs	447,254	300,000	0	0	747,254
				Parkgate & Rawmarsh FAS	296,227	0	0	0	296,227
				Property Flood Resilience	50,087	0	0	0	50,087
				Roth Ren. and Kilnhurst FAS	165,100	0	0	0	165,100
				Unallocated Flood Alleviation	0	3,557,613	0	0	3,557,613
				Whiston FAS Construction	6,500,000	0	0	0	6,500,000
				Sub-Service Total	**8,322,369**	**5,007,613**	**4,000,000**	**0**	**17,329,982**
			Highways Delivery	2020-2024 RoadsProgramme £24m	3,288,765	3,000,000	0	0	6,288,765
				Cap Rights of way	303,442	570,600	34,000	34,000	942,042
				Capitalisation Carriageways	291,836	500,000	500,000	500,000	1,791,836

				DfT LTP CarriagewayResurfacing	2,416,922	0	0	0	2,416,922
				Multi Hog Works	301,432	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,201,432
				Pavement Improvements	1,608,478	1,200,000	0	0	2,808,478
				Sub-Service Total	**8,210,875**	**5,570,600**	**834,000**	**834,000**	**15,449,475**
			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	80,462	75,000	75,000	75,000	305,462
				Capitalisation Lighting	399,460	150,000	150,000	150,000	849,460
				Replace Obsolete Strt Lighting	52,187	40,000	40,000	40,000	172,187
				St Lighting LTP 15/16 - 19/20	200,000	0	0	0	200,000
				Sub-Service Total	**732,109**	**265,000**	**265,000**	**265,000**	**1,527,109**
			Service Area Total		**17,299,613**	**10,843,213**	**5,099,000**	**1,099,000**	**34,340,826**
		Regulation & Enforcement	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	120,872	85,600	85,600	86,000	378,072
				Plant Equipment Refresh G&S	514,288	0	0	0	514,288
				Street Scene Equip / Vehicles	106,387	0	0	0	106,387
				Sub-Service Total	**951,547**	**85,600**	**85,600**	**86,000**	**1,208,747**
			Corporate Transport	Fleet Asset Improvements	253,991	0	0	0	253,991
				Fleet Mgt System	40,928	0	0	0	40,928
				Fleet Mgt Vehicle Purchase	4,700,000	5,149,383	0	0	9,849,383
				Route Optimisation - ITS	101,700	11,700	11,700	12,000	137,100
				Sub-Service Total	**5,096,619**	**5,161,083**	**11,700**	**12,000**	**10,281,402**
			Waste Management	Bins	659,652	375,000	375,000	375,000	1,784,652
				HWRCs	164,022	899,533	0	0	1,063,555
				Sub-Service Total	**823,674**	**1,274,533**	**375,000**	**375,000**	**2,848,207**
			Service Area Total		**6,871,840**	**6,521,216**	**472,300**	**473,000**	**14,338,356**
		Service Total			**24,394,859**	**17,464,429**	**5,671,300**	**1,772,000**	**49,302,588**
	Culture, Sport & Tourism	Creative Prog and Engagement	Green Spaces	Ash Dieback Mitigation - Trees	205,589	200,000	200,000	228,995	834,584
				Clifton Park Watersplash Repla	62,124	0	0	0	62,124
				CliftonPark GardenBldg Bar-ITS	16,083	0	8,917	0	25,000
				Country Parks Bun Code	33,000	0	0	0	33,000
				Green Spaces Bun Code	21,388	0	0	0	21,388
				Green Spaces Capital Repairs	122,798	90,000	60,000	0	272,798
				Play Equip Replacement Prog	753,627	876,590	0	0	1,630,217
				RVCP Automated Parking	1,761	0	0	0	1,761
				RVCP Safety Boats	2,200	0	0	0	2,200
				Thrybergh CP Paths Improvement	1,464	0	0	0	1,464
				Treeton St Helen Church Yard	138,565	0	0	0	138,565
				Ulley CP - Club House	41,319	200,000	0	0	241,319
				Ulley CP Main Building	250,000	750,000	0	0	1,000,000
				Waleswood Camp Site	1,494	0	0	0	1,494
				Sub-Service Total	**1,651,412**	**2,116,590**	**268,917**	**228,995**	**4,265,914**
			Heritage Services	Waterloo Kiln Preservation	51,887	0	0	0	51,887
				Sub-Service Total	**51,887**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**51,887**
			Service Area Total		**1,703,299**	**2,116,590**	**268,917**	**228,995**	**4,317,801**
		Ops and Business Transformatio	Libraries	Lib&NeighHub-Kimberworth Lib	449	0	0	0	449
				Lib&NeighHub-Swinton Lib	909	0	0	0	909
				Lib&NeighHub-ThorpeHesley Lib	137,811	0	0	0	137,811
				Lib&NeighHub-Thurcroft Lib	544	0	0	0	544
				Sub-Service Total	**139,713**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**139,713**

			Service Area Total		**139,713**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**139,713**
		Projects and Partnerships	Leisure and Sport	Active Lives / Play Zones	80,000	0	0	0	80,000
				Herringthorpe AthleticsStadium	450,000	0	0	0	450,000
				Herringthorpe Val Tennis Court	16,041	0	0	0	16,041
				Leisure PFI lifecycle	346,950	500,000	500,000	500,000	1,846,950
				Rosehill Park Tennis Court	16,768	0	0	0	16,768
				Sub-Service Total	**909,759**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**2,409,759**
			Service Area Total		**909,759**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**500,000**	**2,409,759**
		Service Total			**2,752,771**	**2,616,590**	**768,917**	**728,995**	**6,867,273**
	Planning, Regen & Transport	RIDO	Business Growth	Business Centre Upgrades	71,087	0	0	0	71,087
				Century 1 - Roof Replacement	563,280	0	0	0	563,280
				Century Electric Gate	49,154	0	0	0	49,154
				Century Toilet Refurb	271,686	0	0	0	271,686
				Firestopping Works	215,390	0	0	0	215,390
				Sub-Service Total	**1,170,597**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,170,597**
			Inv & Economic Initiatives	Bassingthorpe Farm	243,003	254,687	0	0	497,690
				Bassingthorpe Farm Land Acq	0	489,816	0	0	489,816
				Forge Island Flood Defence	0	356,201	0	0	356,201
				HEHub&Rain - Aqu and Demo	0	71,818	0	0	71,818
				Public Realm Effingham Street	988,203	645,658	0	0	1,633,861
				RhamMarkets Redev (incCommHub)	11,108,984	5,303,027	4,312,294	0	20,724,305
				Riverside Gardens	4,649,249	1,264,631	0	0	5,913,880
				R'sidePrec't&Chantry Bldg Demo	0	62,734	0	0	62,734
				Swinton Library Demo	289,973	0	0	0	289,973
				Town Centre Investment	131,000	0	0	0	131,000
				Sub-Service Total	**17,410,412**	**8,448,572**	**4,312,294**	**0**	**30,171,278**
			RIDO	Civic Centres	700,000	0	0	0	700,000
				Corporation St Ph 2	87,722	0	0	0	87,722
				Corporation Street	350,000	1,223,423	0	0	1,573,423
				Dinnington RG	410,853	7,699,999	0	0	8,110,852
				Eldon Road Play Area	0	18,837	0	0	18,837
				Forge Island Comm Dev	961,557	0	0	0	961,557
				Healthcare Hub Ph1	509,998	426,777	0	0	936,775
				Healthcare Hub Ph2	200,173	0	0	0	200,173
				Maltby East	171,616	1,015,402	0	0	1,187,018
				Matlby Academy	4,648	0	0	0	4,648
				OPF Cenotaphs	288,990	0	0	0	288,990
				Our Places Fund	189,900	0	0	0	189,900
				Riverside Acquisitions	20	0	0	0	20
				Rotherham Gateway Acquisitions	8,221,930	0	0	0	8,221,930
				RotherValley CP	17,478	0	0	0	17,478
				Templeborough	3,350,091	4,326,008	0	0	7,676,099
				Thrybergh CP	27,495	0	0	0	27,495
				Town Centre Music Venue	300,000	1,844,746	0	0	2,144,746
				Water Lane Public Realm	284,637	595,438	0	0	880,075
				Wath RG	3,936,539	6,708,819	0	0	10,645,358
				Sub-Service Total	**20,013,647**	**23,859,449**	**0**	**0**	**43,873,096**
			Service Area Total		**38,594,656**	**32,308,021**	**4,312,294**	**0**	**75,214,971**
		Towns & Villages Fund	Towns & Villages Fund	Aston/Todwick	4,697	0	0	0	4,697
				Rother Vale	37,032	0	0	0	37,032
				Rotherham East	56,410	0	0	0	56,410
				Towns & Villages Fund Unall	1,082	0	0	0	1,082
				Sub-Service Total	**99,221**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**99,221**

			Service Area Total		**99,221**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**99,221**
		Transportation & Highways	Bridges	Eastwood Bridge	0	145,049	0	0	145,049
				Fleet Bridge Reconstruction	0	600,000	0	0	600,000
				Old Flatts Bridge	0	2,055,710	0	0	2,055,710
				Packman Road	24,487	0	0	0	24,487
				Structures Capital Programme	400,000	0	0	0	400,000
				Structures Maintenance	0	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000
				West Bawtry Road Embankment	75,239	0	0	0	75,239
				Sub-Service Total	**499,726**	**3,800,759**	**0**	**0**	**4,300,485**
			Connectivity	A629WrtlyRd Grt Prk Rd Pedxing	8,195	0	0	0	8,195
				Catcliffe Crossing	225,000	0	0	0	225,000
				CRSTS Crossing Prioty Schemes	13,929	0	0	0	13,929
				Pedestrian Crossings Pipeline	268,000	0	0	0	268,000
				Swallownest PedestrianCrossing	45,047	0	0	0	45,047
				Treeton Lane Crossroads	120,000	30,000	0	0	150,000
				Unallocated Connectivity	43,010	0	0	0	43,010
				Wath Road Brampton Crossing	181,091	0	0	0	181,091
				West Melton Ped Crossing	347,282	0	0	0	347,282
				Sub-Service Total	**1,251,554**	**30,000**	**0**	**0**	**1,281,554**
			CRSTS Local block funded	Capital Schemes M&E	105,982	0	0	0	105,982
				LNRS Bun Code	38,327	0	0	0	38,327
				LNRS1 - BRAMLEY 022A	2,290	0	0	0	2,290
				LNRS1 - BROOM VALLEY 023A	107,209	0	0	0	107,209
				LNRS1 - HIGHTHORNE RD KILNHURS	1,638	0	0	0	1,638
				LNRS1 - MALTBY CTR 020E	1,455	0	0	0	1,455
				LNRS1 - SWINTON 003F	15,683	0	0	0	15,683
				LNRS1 - WICKERSLEY WOOD 022B	1,839	0	0	0	1,839
				LNRS2 BRINSWORTH	111,016	0	0	0	111,016
				LNRS2 WATH	105,185	0	0	0	105,185
				LNRS2 AUGHTON & SWALLOWNEST	104,603	0	0	0	104,603
				LNRS2 DALTON & THRYBERGH	80,123	0	0	0	80,123
				LNRS2 DINNINGTON	97,574	0	0	0	97,574
				LNRS2 KEPPEL	75,249	0	0	0	75,249
				LNRS2 RAWMARSH WEST	107,451	0	0	0	107,451
				LNRS2 ROTHER VALE	93,857	0	0	0	93,857
				LNRS2 ROTHERHAM EAST	118,579	0	0	0	118,579
				LNRS2 SITWELL	119,870	0	0	0	119,870
				LNRS2 WICKERSLEY NORTH	108,527	0	0	0	108,527
				Sub-Service Total	**1,396,457**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,396,457**
			Legacy Projects	A6123 GreatEasternWay pedxing	23,386	0	0	0	23,386
				Bus Service Improvements	600,170	0	0	0	600,170
				Canklow Rotherway metering	2,064	0	0	0	2,064
				Green Arbour Rd Laughton Com R	13,072	0	0	0	13,072
				Sub-Service Total	**638,692**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**638,692**
			Local Safety Schemes	Minor Works Programme 26/27	81,000	0	0	0	81,000
				Minor Works Programme 27/28	0	81,000	0	0	81,000
				Minor Works Programme 28/29	0	0	81,000	0	81,000
				Minor Works Programme 29/30	0	0	0	81,000	81,000
				Schools Crossing Patrol	102,161	0	0	0	102,161
				Small Intervention Schemes	109,005	0	0	0	109,005
				Unallocated Local Safety S	45,000	0	0	0	45,000
				Ward Road Safety Plans	80,000	80,000	0	0	160,000
				Sub-Service Total	**417,166**	**161,000**	**81,000**	**81,000**	**740,166**

			LSTF & Smarter Choices	SY Air Quality Monitoring	44,653	0	0	0	44,653
				Sub-Service Total	**44,653**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**44,653**
			Major Schemes	A6022 Swinton to Doncaster	532,332	0	0	0	532,332
				CAZ - Bellows Road	146,372	0	0	0	146,372
				Clean Air Zones Elec Chrg Pts	933,479	0	0	0	933,479
				CRSTS Broom Wickersley Corrido	748,515	0	0	0	748,515
				CRSTS Fitzwilliam Corridor	632,314	0	0	0	632,314
				Ickles Roundabout improvement	475,472	0	0	0	475,472
				O0047 Broom Road AT	408,981	0	0	0	408,981
				Safe School Run	215,001	0	0	0	215,001
				Traff Signal renewal Prog	245,180	0	0	0	245,180
				Sub-Service Total	**4,337,646**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,337,646**
			Service Area Total		**8,585,894**	**3,991,759**	**81,000**	**81,000**	**12,739,653**
		Service Total			**47,279,771**	**36,299,780**	**4,393,294**	**81,000**	**88,053,845**
	Directorate Total				**74,427,401**	**56,380,799**	**10,833,511**	**2,581,995**	**144,223,706**
General Fund Total					**109,727,338**	**101,618,306**	**50,227,643**	**19,376,313**	**280,949,600**

Capital Programme HRA 2026/27 to 2030/31

Directorate	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
HRA	70,954,824	61,557,001	57,256,666	127,861,798	317,630,289
Total	**70,954,824**	**61,557,001**	**57,256,666**	**127,861,798**	**317,630,289**

Funding:

Funding Stream	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
3) Capital Receipts HRA	14,778,582	4,735,866	0	15,741,772	35,256,220
4) Grants and Contributions	6,536,313	6,187,552	0	15,245,754	27,969,619
5) Housing Major Repairs Allow	32,415,510	27,803,220	28,768,224	29,554,808	118,541,762
6) Revenue Contributions	16,187,998	7,548,548	8,000,000	8,957,795	40,694,341
8) Unsupported Borrowing-S	1,036,421	15,281,815	20,488,442	58,361,669	95,168,347
Total	**70,954,824**	**61,557,001**	**57,256,666**	**127,861,798**	**317,630,289**

Capital Programme HRA 2026/27 to 2030/31

Directorate	Service	Service Area	Sub Service	Project	Current Year Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget	2029/30 Budget	Total Project Budget
HRA	Neighbourhood Capital Programm	Fair Access to All	Aids and Adaptations (Public S	Adapts - LOT1 - Public Major	1,384,966	1,327,221	1,349,618	1,369,861	5,431,666
				Adapts - LOT1 - Public Minor	184,355	176,669	179,650	182,345	723,019
				Adapts - LOT2 - Public Major	1,165,005	1,116,431	1,135,271	1,152,297	4,569,004
				Adapts - LOT2 - Public Minor	139,838	134,008	136,269	138,313	548,428
				Adapts - OTHERS - Public Major	532,104	509,918	518,523	526,301	2,086,846
				Sub-Service Total	**3,406,268**	**3,264,247**	**3,319,331**	**3,369,117**	**13,358,963**
			Service Area Total		**3,406,268**	**3,264,247**	**3,319,331**	**3,369,117**	**13,358,963**
		Improving Council Housing & Ho	Asbestos	Asbestos-Testing & Removal	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,200,000
				Sub-Service Total	**300,000**	**300,000**	**300,000**	**300,000**	**1,200,000**
			District Heating	District Heating Conversions	310,000	310,000	2,000,000	3,500,000	6,120,000
				Sub-Service Total	**310,000**	**310,000**	**2,000,000**	**3,500,000**	**6,120,000**
			Electricals	Electricals	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	7,000,000
				Wharncliffe Electricals	599,077	0	0	0	599,077
				Sub-Service Total	**1,599,077**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**7,599,077**
			Environmental Programme	Environmental Bud Unall	1,500,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	7,500,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,500,000**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**2,000,000**	**7,500,000**
			External Insulation	Thermal Improvements Bud Unall	0	6,783,938	14,178,370	17,937,332	38,899,640
				Thermal Improvments	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,200,000
				Warm Homes Phase 1	6,048,824	8,276,062	3,614,880	0	17,939,766
				Sub-Service Total	**6,348,824**	**15,360,000**	**18,093,250**	**18,237,332**	**58,039,406**
			Garage Site Investment	Garages Investment	100,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	650,000
				Sub-Service Total	**100,000**	**200,000**	**200,000**	**150,000**	**650,000**
			General Structures	Capital Structural Work	1,850,000	2,000,000	1,750,000	1,500,000	7,100,000
				Sub-Service Total	**1,850,000**	**2,000,000**	**1,750,000**	**1,500,000**	**7,100,000**
			HRA support Properties	123 Narrow Lane RH	373,552	0	0	0	373,552
				Sub-Service Total	**373,552**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**373,552**
			IHMS (IT System)	ICT Hardware & Software	338,411	760,035	532,968	481,400	2,112,814
				Sub-Service Total	**338,411**	**760,035**	**532,968**	**481,400**	**2,112,814**
			Improving Council Housing	Improving Council Housing	13,771	1,699,400	0	0	1,713,171
				Sub-Service Total	**13,771**	**1,699,400**	**0**	**0**	**1,713,171**
			Major Voids Capital Prog	Lot 2 - Major Voids	2,800,000	7,700,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	14,900,000
				Mears - Major Voids	4,900,000	0	4,500,000	4,500,000	13,900,000
				Sub-Service Total	**7,700,000**	**7,700,000**	**6,700,000**	**6,700,000**	**28,800,000**
			Refurbishments	Brampton Re-roof	792,272	0	0	0	792,272
				Damp & Mould Eradication Work	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,500,000
				Design & Appraisal	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	200,000
				East Herringthorpe Re-roof P3	2,235,332	460,268	0	0	2,695,600
				Fitzwilliam windows & doors	1,282,669	0	0	0	1,282,669

		Henley & Homes Re-roof	1,623,220	0	0	0	1,623,220
		Kimberworth Park Re-roof P7	1,350,000	0	0	0	1,350,000
		Mears - Internals	2,000,000	3,000,000	5,500,000	7,000,000	17,500,000
		Other Housing Capital Works	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	8,000,000
		Refurb Bud Unall	0	2,144,996	4,781,117	5,884,327	12,810,440
		Site Prelims	500,000	0	0	0	500,000
		The Lanes Veranda Replacement	1,948,360	0	0	0	1,948,360
		Ventilation Works	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	8,000,000
		West Melton Ext Ph 1	2,786,073	0	0	0	2,786,073
		Windows/Doors & Fire Doors	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	2,200,000
		Wooden Window & Door Replace	400,000	400,000	400,000	0	1,200,000
		Sub-Service Total	**20,017,926**	**11,605,264**	**16,281,117**	**18,484,327**	**66,388,634**
	Replacement of Central Heating	Lot 2 - Ad Hoc Boiler Repl'ts	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	6,000,000
		Lot 2 -Boilers Scheme 1	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	10,000,000
		Sub-Service Total	**4,000,000**	**4,000,000**	**4,000,000**	**4,000,000**	**16,000,000**
	Service Area Total		**44,451,561**	**47,934,699**	**53,857,335**	**57,353,059**	**203,596,654**
Neighbourhd Regeneration & Re	HRA Non Dwellings	HRA Play Areas	15,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	255,000
		West Melton Play Area	65,000	0	0	0	65,000
		Sub-Service Total	**80,000**	**80,000**	**80,000**	**80,000**	**320,000**
	Service Area Total		**80,000**	**80,000**	**80,000**	**80,000**	**320,000**
New Housing Provision	New Growth New Build	Addison Road Maltby	4,685,566	1,305,134	0	0	5,990,700
		Boswell Street	254,691	0	0	15,812,108	16,066,799
		Bushfield Road Site B	1,135,075	121,024	0	0	1,256,099
		Denman Road Site A	1,094,720	548,548	0	0	1,643,268
		Elm Tree Road Maltby	0	44,678	0	0	44,678
		Grayson Road Greasboro	484,022	2,693,862	0	0	3,177,884
		Larch Road Maltby	1,770,869	382,234	0	0	2,153,103
		Netherfield Court, Eastwood	796	0	0	0	796
		New Homes Unallocated	0	0	0	2,652,681	2,652,681
		Princess Street Site A	140,888	0	0	0	140,888
		Princess Street Site B	75,503	0	0	0	75,503
		Tenter Street Thornhill	3,127,656	2,000,000	0	0	5,127,656
		Valley Drive Site C	932,240	153,375	0	0	1,085,615
		Warden Street Hsg Development	324,739	0	0	0	324,739
		York Road, Eastwood	25,961	0	0	0	25,961
		Sub-Service Total	**14,052,726**	**7,248,855**	**0**	**18,464,789**	**39,766,370**
	Strategic Acquisitions	Albert Club, West Melton SME	787,253	81,084	0	0	868,337
		Clement Street, Kimberworth	306,569	29,475	0	0	336,044
		Development budgets unallocate	0	0	0	48,501,092	48,501,092
		Laughton Gate 42 units	953,367	235,000	0	0	1,188,367
		Market Acquisitions Phase 2	4,513,527	1,000,000	0	93,741	5,607,268
		Poppyfields Ravenfield SA	886,121	1,683,641	0	0	2,569,762

				Rivelin Way, Waverley 3C	21,801	0	0	0	21,801
				Sorby Park Waverley 3B	1,495,631	0	0	0	1,495,631
				Sub-Service Total	**8,964,269**	**3,029,200**	**0**	**48,594,833**	**60,588,302**
			Service Area Total		**23,016,995**	**10,278,055**	**0**	**67,059,622**	**100,354,672**
		Service Total			**70,954,824**	**61,557,001**	**57,256,666**	**127,861,798**	**317,630,289**
	Directorate Total				**70,954,824**	**61,557,001**	**57,256,666**	**127,861,798**	**317,630,289**
HRA Total					**70,954,824**	**61,557,001**	**57,256,666**	**127,861,798**	**317,630,289**

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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.

Directorate: Corporate Services	**Service area: Finance**
Lead person: Rob Mahon	**Contact number: 01709 254518**

1. Title:					
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 Executive Director subsequently provides a consolidated forecast for their directorate to the Chief Finance Officer and 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 final financial report for the financial year detailing the final outturn position. 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 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 / March 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

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Rob Mahon	Service Director - Financial Services	12/06/2026

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	12 June 2026
Report title and date	Financial Outturn 2025/26, to

	Cabinet 6th July 2026
If relates to a Key Delegated Decision, **Executive Board**, **Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision – report date and date sent for publication**	Cabinet 6 July 2026
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement **equality@rotherham.gov.uk**	12 June 2026

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

This report constitutes an update on previously approved activity. All Capital schemes will have already been subject to their own climate impact assessments as part of their approval. It should be noted that where delays or slippage has been identified throughout the report it is likely that any original emissions savings are also delayed. Similarly, carbon forecast to be emitted through construction of delayed schemes will also be impacted.

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 Corporate Services Choose an item.
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: CIA 662 Louise Preston Climate Change Manager

Agenda Item 10

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 6th July 2026

Report Title
May 2026/27 Financial Monitoring Report

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

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Executive Director of Corporate Services

Report Author(s)
Rob Mahon, Service 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 2026 and forecast for the remainder of the financial year, based on actual costs and income for the first two months of 2026/27.

Financial performance is central to the Council's overall performance framework and the delivery of its policy objectives. As such, this is the first in a series of regular financial monitoring reports for the current financial year to be presented to Cabinet.

As of May 2026, the Council's forecast outturn for 2026/27 is an overspend of £4.6m, made up of a Directorates overspend of £7.6m, offset by a projected Central Services underspend of £3.0m. The main pressures driving this forecast are within Social Care, largely due to market prices and the increasing number of people receiving support and care who have complex needs. Detailed explanations of the reasons for variances within each Directorate are provided in the main body of this report.

Following approval of the 2026/27 Budget, the global economic position has remained volatile. Economic market sentiment has been heavily influenced by the Middle East conflict leading to steepening energy costs impacting the wider economy and economic commentators anticipating a growing risk of inflation. These financial challenges are being regularly reviewed as part of the Council's ongoing Medium Term Financial Planning.

The report also provides an updated position on the Council's Capital Programme including a number of programme variations.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Note the current General Fund Revenue Budget forecast overspend of £4.6m.

2. Note the updated position of the Capital Programme.

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

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

Background Papers
Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 Report to Council on 4th March 2026

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

Council Approval Required
No

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

May 2026/27 Financial Monitoring Report

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 2026/27, 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 2026/27 as at May 2026

Directorate	Budget 2026/27	Forecast Outturn 2026/27	Forecast Variance over/under (-)
	£m	£m	£m
Children and Young People Services (CYPS)	84.9	90.0	5.1
Adult Care, Housing & Public Health (ACH&PH)	157.1	159.3	2.2
Regeneration and Environment Services (R&E)	56.2	56.5	0.3
Corporate Services (CORP)	43.0	43.0	0.0
Policy Strategy & Engagement (PSE)	6.0	6.0	0.0
Central Services (CS)	47.1	44.1	-3.0
Directorate Forecast Outturn	**394.3**	**398.9**	**4.6**
Dedicated Schools Grant			5.5
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)			0.0

2.2 As at May 2026, there is a forecast overspend of £4.6m. This position is made up of a Directorates overspend of £7.6m, offset by a projected Central Services underspend of £3.0m. The Council's overspend position at this point is largely due to placement pressures within Children and Young People Services (£5.1m), and the high demand and complexity of care packages in Adult Social Care (£2.2m). As has been the case in previous years, the Council will need to put in place actions to mitigate the projected overspend position and mitigate the need for the Council to call on reserves at the financial year end. It is anticipated that the Council will be able to manage this situation and reduce the projected overspend during the course of the financial year, given successful management in previous years; however, the Council cannot forecast that improvement until clear actions have been identified. Work to identify actions will need to be carried out over the summer and implemented at pace for maximum effect. This work will primarily focus on the pressures identified within social care placements and care packages.

2.3 The budget as approved at Council on 4th March 2026 included provisions and 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.

2.4 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.

2.5 **Table 2: Budget Movements during 2026/27**

	Opening Budget 2026/27	Pay Budget Changes / Fees & Charges Income Inflation	Contract Inflation & Central Provision Allocations to Services	Service Transfers between Directorates	Latest Budget 2026/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
CYPS	**78.4**	-1.6	8.2	-0.1	84.9
ACH&PH	**149.1**	-1.4	9.5	-0.1	157.1
R&E	**56.7**	-1.3	1.1	-0.3	56.2
CORP	**41.3**	-1.2	0.5	2.4	43.0
PSE	**6.3**	-0.4	-0.1	0.2	6.0
CS	**62.5**	5.9	-19.2	-2.1	47.1
TOTAL	**394.3**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**394.3**

2.6 The Council's Financial Outturn report 2025/26 reported that £0.440m of prior year savings remained undelivered. In addition, the Budget and Council Tax report 2026/27 included the delivery of £3.193m of new savings, giving £3.633m to be delivered during 2026/27. Currently, £2.413m of delivery has been secured. The table below shows the total amount of all savings to be delivered during 2026/27 and the amount that has been delivered to date.

Table 3: Delivery of Agreed Savings

Directorate	**2026/27 Saving to be delivered £'000**	**Secured as at 31st May 2026 £'000**	**Still to be delivered £'000**
Corporate Services	704	704	0
Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	1,089	189	900
Children's and Young People Services	800	800	0
Regeneration and Environment	1,040	720	320
Total	**3,633**	**2,413**	**1,220**

2.7 Activity is ongoing to deliver the remaining £1.220m of savings that relate to Extra Care Housing £0.900m, Waste Route Optimisation £0.280m and Waleswood £0.040m.

2.8 The following sections provide further information regarding the Council's current forecast overspend of £4.6m, the key reasons for forecast under or overspends within directorates and the progress of savings delivery.

2.9 Children and Young People Services Directorate (£5.1m forecast overspend)

2.9.1 Children and Young People Services has a forecast budget pressure of £5.1m at the end of May 2026. This forecast is mainly driven by pressures in Children's Social Care placements.

2.9.2 The latest forecast overspend is reflective of the latest projections for Looked After Children (LAC) placements across the financial year, factoring in a growth in the number of placements and challenges in the placement mix with a greater reliance on external residential care. The placement plan reflects expected actions and measures to manage children in care numbers and costs for the year across the different placement provision types such as residential care, fostering and supported accommodation. Work is underway between finance and the service to ensure the plan can be delivered and identify opportunities to further reduce the financial impact. In addition, further work is needed to identify options and actions that can be carried out to reduce this projected overspend.

2.9.3 The actual children in care number at the end of May 2026 is 486, which represents an increase of 11 when compared to the number at the beginning of the financial year. The increase in placements since 1st April mainly relates to low cost foster care placements with families and friends. Other placement types continue to track positively against budget profile at this early stage, except for external residential care where there is an increase of 3 placements against profile plan.

2.9.4 External residential placements continue to be the primary driver of placement budget pressures. As of May 2026, 44 children were placed in external children's homes, compared with a budgeted profile of 41. This pressure is further compounded by the high proportion of children requiring high-cost residential provision due to the complexity of their needs. Occupancy levels within available council-owned children's homes stood at 82% at the end of May 2026, with three beds unoccupied. This is, however, projected to increase to 87% by the end of the following month. Work is ongoing to place and support more children and young people within council-owned provision. It is also important to note that there are a further 4 new internal residential placements to become available during the course of 2026/27. The financial impact of making these beds available in 2026/27 has already been factored into the forecast.

2.9.5 The forecast position will continue to be closely monitored throughout the year. Opportunities to mitigate these pressures, such as through staff vacancies and the utilisation of grant funding slippage, will be explored where there is sufficient scope and flexibility to do so.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budgets (£5.5m forecast deficit)

2.9.6 A net surplus balance of £1.3m is forecast for all 19 maintained schools in Rotherham for 2026/27 based on submitted budget plans. Within this there are 3 schools with forecast budget deficits totalling £30k. A budget recovery plan would be agreed with these schools to bring the budget back into a surplus position.

2.9.7 The Council is currently forecasting an in-year deficit of approximately £5.5m across its centrally managed DSG budgets, mainly relating to high needs. This deficit reflects an ongoing structural gap between available funding and demand-led expenditure. This position is driven by sustained cost and demand pressures across the Special Education Needs & Disability (SEND) system. The latest forecast for the DSG reserve indicates a cumulative deficit of £8.4m by the end of March 2027, which will be carried forward into the following financial year (2027/28) in line with the statutory override regulations. Based on latest modelling, the cumulative DSG deficit is projected to rise to £19.9m by March 2028, when the statutory override is due to end. At this point, the Council would be required to address the cumulative deficit from its General Fund resources, creating a substantial financial pressure.

2.9.8 Financial support previously received under the Safety Valve Agreement ended in 2025/26, the final year of the programme. In its place, the Government has introduced a High Needs Stability Grant, which will meet 90% of DSG deficits accumulated by local authorities up to 31 March 2026. This funding forms part of the transition towards a reformed SEND system, which requires a system-wide shift towards earlier intervention and greater inclusion within mainstream education settings. Payment of the High Needs Stability Grant is contingent upon the submission by 19th June and subsequent approval by the Department for Education (DfE) of Rotherham's Local SEND Reforms Plan.

2.9.10 The projected position against DSG budgets and the removal of the statutory override from April 2028 will mean that the Council's DSG deficit will be £19.9m, which will rise year on year by around £10m a year based on current demand and inflationary projections. However, whilst it is not confirmed, it is expected the DfE will continue to support Councils, potentially continuing the 90% High Needs Stability grant funding for deficits post 2025/26. This would potentially reduce the impact on the £19.9m deficit at the point of the statutory override by £18m, leaving the Council with £2m to fund itself, then reducing the ongoing annual impact by £9m a year with the Council picking up the remaining £1m. This is a projected position that will need to be closely monitored as the SEND reforms and associated funding is further implemented and confirmed. This will be a key consideration in the Council's Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy planning moving forwards.

2.10 Adult Care, Housing and Public Health (£2.2m overspend)

2.10.1 The directorate is forecast to overspend by £2.2m. High demand and complexity of care packages make up all the projected overspend. The cost of care packages is forecast to overspend by £2.0m within Adult Care. There is also an overspend of £0.2m for staffing costs as agency spend is higher than budget to cover gaps in service for in-house care provision. Work is underway to identify options to address the increased use of agency and difficulties experienced in recruitment.

2.10.2 The areas of biggest overspend are Older People and Learning Disabilities. The cost of older people homecare is offset partly by an underspend in Older People Residential Care, reflecting the priority of keeping people at home longer. The overspend in Learning Disabilities is largely made up of complex Out of Borough placements that cater for individuals with the most complex needs.

2.10.3 Public Health is expected to come in on budget at this stage.

2.10.4 Housing is expected to come in on budget at this stage.

2.11 Regeneration and Environment Directorate (£0.3m forecast overspend)

2.11.1 The Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £0.3m. There are a number of overspends within the forecast which are being offset to some extent by assorted underspends some of which are detailed below.

2.11.2 The Markets service is forecasting a £0.6m overspend because of income shortfalls which is a similar position to previous years. This position will be monitored carefully as the development works continue, and traders move out of the indoor covered market into the new Market Hall.

2.11.3 The Waste service is forecasting a £0.6m overspend. There are a number of pressure points across the Waste Service. Work continues to achieve the route optimisation saving approved as part of the Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26, however, difficulties in collection experienced during Autumn 2025/26 has meant that the planned removal of 2 routes has not yet been possible, though is still intended. There has been a requirement for additional resources to keep on top of rounds. The key pressure in the current forecast is the number of spare vehicles required at the moment (17) to complete routes, which should improve once new refuse collection vehicles arrive.

2.11.4 Within the Home to School Transport forecast there is a level of risk as the effect of the new cohort of students who will require home to school transport for the 2026/27 academic year is not yet known.

2.11.5 These overspends are offset by a £0.2m underspend in Regulatory Services as a result of vacancies, which is a similar position to last year. Business Growth is forecasting a £0.2m underspend as business centres continue to perform well. A review of grants in

Economic Strategy has realised a £0.2m underspend as staff can be funded through this.

2.12 Corporate Services (balanced forecast)

2.12.1 The directorate is currently forecasting an overall balanced outturn. Whilst there are pressures across individual services, it is expected that robust budget management across the whole directorate will be able to address these pressures in year.

2.12.2 Property and Facilities Services (PFS) is forecast to be overspent by £0.3m. There is an underspend of £0.7m within Cleaning as income is greater than budgeted and initial estimates for the 2026/27 Capital Programme mean the Building Consultancy service is expected to exceed its income budget by £0.3m. This is largely offset by Facilities Management £1.1m overspend due to assorted building costs, largely repairs and maintenance, being forecast above budget. There is also a £0.1m overspend in Asset Management due to income under-recovery.

2.12.3 Within Customer, Information and Digital Services, cost pressures currently exist as a result of temporary over-recruitment within the Customer Services contact centre. This is a proactive decision to address the challenges caused by high staff turnover and service demand in this area, both of which impact call waiting times. These pressures are partially mitigated by savings achieved through telephony contracts, alongside vacancies in other areas of the service.

2.12.4 Legal Services face ongoing demand for legal support with an increase in 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 trainee solicitors.

2.13 Policy Strategy & Engagement (balanced forecast)

2.13.1 The service is currently forecasting a balanced outturn. Overspends due to the cost of the interim Director of PSE are offset by salary recharges to grant schemes along with part year vacancies.

2.14 Central Services (£3.0m underspend)

2.14.1 Central Services has a £3.0m forecast underspend, reflecting savings from Treasury Management activity.

2.14.2 The Council's Treasury Management Strategy is to minimise the level of borrowing and to borrow short term to ultimately minimise interest costs. This, along with slippage on the Capital Programme in 2025/26, means that the level of financing costs for 2026/27 will be less than anticipated. This is because the Council builds in the financial impact of all capital investment decisions into the revenue budget, at the point those decisions are made. This is an approach that will see the Council generate savings to support Council wide pressures.

2.14.3 There continue to be financial challenges as a result of increased market costs, however it is envisaged that the Council is well positioned to address these pressures in year due to actions taken as part of the budget setting process for 2026/27. Ongoing uncertainty in the global and UK economy remains an ongoing budget risk.

2.14.4 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 2026/27, approved at Council on 4th March 2026. 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.

2.15 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (balanced forecast)

2.15.1 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 come in on budget.

2.16 Capital Programme Update

2.16.1 The Capital Programme 2026/27 has been updated following the 2025/26 outturn and the latest information on project position and delivery plans. The Capital Programme 2026/27 has been reset at £180.682m split between the General Fund £109.727m and HRA £70.955m. This position will act as the original budget position for 2026/27; 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.

2.16.2 The 2026/27 Programme has decreased overall by £30.224m from the position reported to Cabinet in February 2026. The movement is based on the latest profiles of expenditure against schemes, following the 2025/26 outturn position, factoring in slippage from 2025/26 and new grant funding. The main movements are explained in the Financial Outturn 2025/26 report on the same Cabinet agenda.

2.16.3 Table 4: Updated Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30

Directorate	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
General Fund Capital					
Children and Young People Services	12.132	9.962	14.389	7.020	43.503
Regeneration and Environment	74.427	56.381	10.834	2.582	144.224
Adult Care & Housing	7.449	7.760	6.927	1.760	23.896
Policy, Strategy and Engagement	0.630	0.210	0.210	0.210	1.260

Corporate Services	15.089	27.305	17.868	7.805	68.067
Total General Fund Capital	**109.727**	**101.618**	**50.228**	**19.377**	**280.950**
Total HRA Capital	70.955	61.557	57.256	127.862	317.630
Total RMBC Capital Programme	**180.682**	**163.175**	**107.484**	**147.239**	**598.580**

2.16.4 Table 5: Funding of the approved Capital Programme

Funding Stream	**2026/27 Budget**	**2027/28 Budget**	**2028/29 Budget**	**2029/30 Budget**	**Total Budget**
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
Grants and Contributions	56.032	44.460	13.967	3.400	117.859
Unsupported Borrowing	53.555	57.015	36.115	15.977	162.662
Revenue Contribution	0.140	0.143	0.146	0.000	0.429
Total Funding - General Fund	**109.727**	**101.618**	**50.228**	**19.377**	**280.950**
Grants and Contributions	6.536	6.188	0.000	15.246	27.970
Unsupported Borrowing	1.036	15.282	20.488	58.362	95.168
Housing Major Repairs Allowance	32.416	27.803	28.768	29.555	118.542
Capital Receipts	14.779	4.736	0.000	15.741	35.256
Revenue Contribution	16.188	7.548	8.000	8.958	40.694
Total Funding - HRA	**70.955**	**61.557**	**57.256**	**127.862**	**317.630**
Total	**180.682**	**163.175**	**107.484**	**147.239**	**598.580**

2.17 Capital Programme Variations

2.17.1 The following variations to the Capital Programme cover significant virements between capital projects that are either a key decision value or a change in use of corporate resources and as such need reporting to Cabinet.

2.17.2 Local Regeneration Fund (LRF)

The Council submitted its latest progress update on the LRF Programme to Government in May 2025. As part of this update, it was identified that a number of variations on projects are required to reflect schemes that it is no longer possible to deliver. In addition, some schemes require additional funding from the LRF to ensure they can be delivered and to ensure that the Council maximises use of this fund and is not required to repay any of the grant back to Government. A summary of these variances is outlined below.

Local Regeneration Funded projects with savings or that are unable to be delivered:

2.17.3

Project name	Amount	Narrative
3-7 Corporation Street	£52,059	Acquisition of the site, demolition and clearance was completed in March 2025. With the redevelopment of the site being taken forward through the Strategic Sites project, the underspend on the demolition/clearance phase will be reallocated.
Eldon Road	£16,712	Project completed in October 2024 having underspent.
Town Centre Music Venue	£1,989,182	Following discussions with the potential operator the decision was taken not to proceed with the Town Centre Music Venue project at the former Alma Tavern. After retaining part of the budget allocation (£0.3m) to facilitate maintenance and repair to the building prior to its disposal, the remaining budget will be reallocated.
30-36 Corporation Street	£1,177,825	This funding was allocated for the acquisition of privately owned property. As the property has yet to be brought to the market the recent programme review has recommended that the remaining funds be reallocated to ensure the LRF grant can be maximised.
Riverside Residential Quarter Enabling	£620,113	Project completed in July 2025 with an underspend. Following the completion of additional works outside the scope of the original scheme, the remaining funds will be reallocated.
LRF to be reallocated	**£3,855,891**	

2.17.4 Proposed use of the LRF to support existing schemes requiring additional funding to progress or complete:

Project name	Amount	Narrative
Strategic Sites	£2,420,439	In order to move the Strategic Sites programme through to Stage 2, further funding is required. The specific detail of this variation is set out in a separate Cabinet report on this agenda.
Dinnington	£1,262,811	See narrative below for information about why this budget increase is proposed.
Proposed LRF allocated	**£3,683,250**	

2.17.5 Dinnington

As set out above it is proposed to increase the Dinnington project budget by £1.263m in order to ensure that the scheme can be delivered to its original scope, following factoring in a number of challenges around inflation, construction, and market prices.

The Dinnington project was last approved at Cabinet in July 2024, with a Budget of £12.049m. At this point in time the project was based on estimated construction costs to redevelop a number of buildings on the site that the Council needed to acquire first. As such, previous Cabinet reports were clear that the projected costs were estimates only, given the uncertainty around the condition of the buildings and at the point all buildings were acquired a clearer cost position could be projected. As the key acquisitions have taken place on the project, further refinements have been made to the construction costs and wider project costs. Along with this, there has been a change to the management of the construction side of the scheme and a scope change that will see one of the buildings demolished and rebuilt rather than refurbished as originally planned.

These construction cost requirements have been reviewed and collated, with a revised budget requirement of £13.312m. Whilst there have been a variety of refinements to cost and scope, the main key changes that have led to the additional required funding of £1.263m are detailed below.

- A scope change to the building on Laughton Road which houses units 46 - 56. Following acquisition of the property an assessment was made on the level of work required to bring it up to an appropriate standard. However, following this assessment it was clear thatn a more appropriate and long-term cost-effective approach would be to change the plan for this building from a refurbishment to demolition and rebuild. This has increased the project budget by £735k.
- Works to address and build into the project thinking appropriate plans for basements identified on sites once acquired, £145k.
- Design development and specification enhancements across several elements including foundation design, fire protection, associated finishes and increased Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) works, £206k. These costs have largely been identified once the buildings have been acquired.

- Inflation impact on projected construction costs, revised following the time taken to acquire key buildings, review and finalise the project scope. £177k.

As detailed above, the additional funding ask can be met from the LRF programme. The project budget retains a 10% contingency budget of £805k. As such, if no further scope changes are made and there are no further challenges on site once the main capital works commence, it is possible that this revised budget will not be fully utilised.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 With regard to the current forecast net revenue budget overspend of £4.6m that the Council is forecasting, further management actions continue to be identified with the clear aim of ensuring a balanced budget position can be achieved.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The Council consulted on the proposed budget for 2026/27, as part of producing the Budget and Council Tax Report 2026/27. Details of the consultation are set out in the Budget and Council Tax 2026/27 report approved by Council on 4th March 2026.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Executive 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 2026/27 will be taken to Cabinet in July 2027.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 The Council's overspend 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.

6.3 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 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 Whilst there are no direct human resources implications arising from this monitoring report, there are ongoing workforce related pressures reflected in the financial position. These include recruitment and retention challenges in key services and use of agency and locum staffing. These factors will continue to be monitored as part of workforce planning.

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 Adults' Social care budgets.

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 and capital projects are pulled together for inclusion within the Council's revenue budget or capital programme. The Equality Impact Assessment is attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

11 Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report. The Carbon Impact Assessment is attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

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, Service Director – Financial Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:-

	Named Officer	**Date**
Chief Executive	John Edwards	19/06/2026
Executive Director of Corporate Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	16/06/2026
Service Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phillip Horsfield	18/06/26

Report Author: Rob Mahon, Service Director – Financial Services
This report is published on the Council's website.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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.

Directorate: Corporate Service	**Service area: Finance**
Lead person: Rob Mahon	**Contact number: 01709 254518**

1. Title:					
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 Executive Director subsequently provides a consolidated forecast for their directorate to the Chief Finance Officer and 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, provided, located and by whom?		x
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

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	**Job title**	**Date**
Rob Mahon	Service Director - Financial Services	15/06/2026

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	15/06/2026
Report title and date	May 2026/27 Financial Monitoring Report, to Cabinet 6th July 2026
If relates to a Key Delegated Decision, **Executive Board**, **Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision – report date and date sent for publication**	Cabinet 6 July 2026
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement **equality@rotherham.gov.uk**	15/06/2026

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 *This report constitutes an update on previously approved 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: CIA 663 Louise Preston Climate Change Manager

Public Report
Cabinet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Cabinet – 06 July 2026

Report Title
Treasury Management Outturn 2025/26

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

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report
Judith Badger, Executive Director of Corporate Services

Report Author(s)
Tom Soulby, Principal Finance Officer (Treasury)
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 2025/26. Its purpose is to review the treasury activity for 2025/26 against the Strategy agreed at the start of the year. The report also covers the actual Prudential Indicators for 2025/26 in accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code.

The Council received an Annual Treasury Strategy Report in advance of the 2025/26 financial year at its meeting on 5 March 2025 and Audit Committee received a mid-year report at its meeting on 25 November 2025, representing a mid-year review of treasury activity during 2025/26. In addition, quarterly updates were received by Audit Committee on 29 July 2025 and 17 March 2026.

This report meets the requirements of both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (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:

1. 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 - Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers
The Council's Budget and Council Tax Report 2025/26, including Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators report to Council on 5th March 2025
Treasury Management Update – Quarterly Report (Q1) to Audit Committee on 29th July 2025
Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators Monitoring report to Audit Committee on 25th November 2025
Treasury Management Update – Quarterly Report (Q3) to Audit Committee on 17th March 2026
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

Treasury Management Outturn 2025/26

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 2025/26);
- 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 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (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 previous years, and the Bank of England continued to cut interest rates in 2025/26. However, market sentiment has been heavily influenced by the Middle East conflict. Commentators anticipate a growing risk of inflation, meaning interest rates will likely not be cut for some time, and may increase to counteract inflationary pressures arising from steepening energy costs. The cost of long-term borrowing from PWLB has also increased during the year, in part reflecting this sentiment. 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 2025-26 the Council borrowed an additional £142m from Local Authorities and PWLB. In addition, the Council repaid £110.2m of principal on a mix of Local Authority and PWLB loans.

1.6 The Bank of England Base Rate decreased from 4.5% to 3.75% during 2025/26 as inflation continued to fall from the previous highs.

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 a £7.6m underspend on the 2025/26 Treasury Management budget that has been used to support the Council's 2025/26 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 2025/26 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 2025/26** - 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 2025/26 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 onto the 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 Right of Use 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 2025/26 the closing CFR is £25.7m 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 2025/26 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 2026 - whilst the Council's gauge of its underlying need to borrow is the CFR, the Treasury Management function, as authorised by the Executive Director of Corporate 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 2025/26 the Council continued to pursue its short-term borrowing strategy supported by advice from its Treasury advisers (MUFG). Borrowing is taken only as needed and will be refinanced in the next few years. This has resulted in an increase in the net under borrowed position.

2.10 The Council will continue to monitor the interest position with a view to taking 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. The Council keeps the position under constant review in order to react to opportunities or plan for a change in approach, should it be needed to guard against interest rate risk. However, at present the Council is comfortable to continue the short term borrowing approach.

2.11 At 31 March 2026, the Council's borrowing (excluding PFI and similar schemes) and investments were as follows:

2.12 **Table 1 Council's Treasury Position 2025/2026**

Net Borrowing	**As At 31 March 2025 £m**	**As At 31 March 2026 £m**
Long Term Borrowing		
Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)	420.000	399.759
Market (e.g. Banks, Other Local Authorities) > 1 year	147.000	172.000
Short Term Borrowing		
Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)	30.232	60.241
Market (e.g. Banks, Other Local Authorities) < 1 year	80.000	77.000
	677.233	**709.000**
External Investments		
Debt Management Office	0.000	0.000
Other Local Authorities	0.000	5.000
Money Market Funds	31.895	15.930
	31.895	**20.930**
Net Borrowing	**645.338**	**688.070**
Net Borrowing - Excluding Short Term Borrowing	**565.338**	**550.829**
Capital Financing Requirement (excl Other Long Term Liabilities)	**843.584**	**897.957**
Net Under-Borrowed	**278.246**	**347.128**

2.13 Against the Council's Capital Financing Requirement of £897.957m, when PFI and similar arrangements totalling £136.650m are excluded, the Council's outstanding net borrowing of £611.070m (excluding short term borrowing), is lower than this requirement by £347.128m. The Council has pursued a short term borrowing strategy, running investment balances down and borrowing funds only as required. In 2025/26 £142m 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 £110.2m of loan maturities (resulting in a £31.8m increase in total long term and short term borrowing).

2.14 Total savings in the Treasury Management budget for 2025/26, arising from all treasury activity including cash-flow management, was £7.6m and as per the Council's Budget and Council Tax report 2026/27 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 2026/27. These decisions generate in excess of £2.7m of cost savings to be contributed towards the treasury management budget in 2026/27, although it should be noted that some of this saving is as a result of slippage in the Capital Programme and as such is 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 2025/26 plus the expected changes to the CFR for 2026/27 and 2027/28. The Council complied with this prudential indicator throughout 2025/26.

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 are 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 12.24% (original budget) to 10.11% (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 decreased from

15.06% (original budget) to 14.15% (actual out-turn). This is primarily due to the increased interest earned on investment balances which were higher than forecast.

2.21 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS**

Limits on Activity

2.22 Upper limits on fixed and variable interest rates as at 31 March 2026 - 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 2025/26.

2.23 Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2025/26 - 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.

2.24 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.

2.25 **Borrowing**

New and Replacement Borrowing - During the year a total of £110.2m of principal on existing loans has been repaid. This has been refinanced by £142m of new loans detailed in the table below.

2.26 **Table 2 Borrowing taken in 2025/26**

Lender	Start Date	Principal £m	Type	Term	Interest Rate %
West Midlands Combined Authority	17/04/2025	30.000	Temp	12 months	4.65
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	18/06/2025	15.000	Temp	10 months	4.15
Oxfordshire County Council	27/06/2025	5.000	Temp	11 Month	4.25
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority	01/08/2025	3.000	Temp	12 months	4.25
Test Valley Borough Council	25/09/2025	4.000	Temp	12 months	4.3
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	18/12/2025	25.000	Temp	24 months	4.2

PWLB	23/02/2026	40.000	Maturity	12 months	3.89
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	27/02/2026	10.000	Temp	12 months	4.2
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	19/03/2026	10.000	Temp	12 months	4.2
Weighted average					4.21

2.27 Debt Repayment – long term loans totalling £110.232m matured during the year as shown in the table below. Part repayments of principal (£0.232m) continued on the Annuity loans taken up in prior years.

2.28 **Table 3 Debt Repayments 2025/26**

Lender	Principal £m	Type	Interest Rate	Weighted Average rate of interest
PWLB	20.000	Fixed rate	4.93%	
PWLB	10.000	Fixed rate	4.96%	
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	20.000	Fixed rate	3.66%	
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	25.000	Fixed rate	4.96%	
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	15.000	Fixed rate	5.10%	
London Treasury Liquidity Fund	20.000	Fixed rate	5.80%	
PWLB Annuity	0.232	Annual repayments	Various	
Total:	**£110.232**			**4.89%**

2.29 **Investments**

The Council's investment policy is governed by MHCLG Guidance, which was implemented in the annual investment Strategy approved by Council on 5th March 2025. The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy.

2.30 The Council maintained an average balance of £47.0m and received an average return of 4.17%. 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 4.5% to 3.75% during 2025/26.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

No options considered as the report outlines actual Treasury Management activity during 2025/26.

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 2025/26 against the prudential indicators as outline in the Treasury Management Strategy for 2025/26. There were no breaches of prudential indicators to report and savings were generated from the Treasury Management Strategy adopted that played a 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 are 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 2025/26. Any equalities and human rights impacts from service delivery have been or are detailed as capital projects are developed 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	John Edwards	17/06/26
Executive Director of Corporate Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	10/06/26
Service Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	10/06/26

Report Author: Tom Soulby, Principal Finance Officer (Treasury)
01709 822334 or tom.soulby@rotherham.gov.uk

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)**	**150.613**	**214.194**	**241.993**
2	**Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) including PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	General Fund	698.922	724.783	729.084
	HRA	335.691	335.498	332.535
	Total	**1034.613**	**1060.282**	**1061.619**
3	**Net Borrowing compared to CFR excluding PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	Total Borrowing	709.000	764.118	947.325
	Total Investments	20.930	20.000	20.000
	Net Borrowing	688.070	744.118	927.325
	CFR (excluding PFI & Similar liabilities)	897.957	955.444	956.781
	Under-borrowing	**209.887**	**211.326**	**29.456**
4	**Net Borrowing compared to CFR including PFI & similar liabilities:**			
	Borrowing (from above)	709.000	764.118	947.325
	Borrowing (PFI etc.)	136.650	104.838	104.838
	Total Borrowing	845.651	868.956	1052.163
	Total Investments	20.930	20.000	20.000
	Net Borrowing	824.721	848.956	1032.163
	CFR	1034.613	1060.282	1061.619
	Under-borrowing	**209.893**	**211.326**	**29.456**
5	**Authorised Limit for external debt**			
	Assumed Borrowing	945.806	945.806	976.781
	PFI & similar liabilities	136.935	136.935	136.935
	Authorised Limit	1082.741	1082.741	1113.716
	Total Borrowing	845.651	868.956	1052.163
	Borrowing Below Limit	**237.090**	**213.785**	**61.553**
6	**Operational boundary for external debt**			
	Assumed Borrowing	976.063	976.062	1007.325
	PFI & similar liabilities	134.475	134.475	134.838
	Operational Boundary	1110.538	1110.537	1112.163
	Total Borrowing	845.651	868.956	1052.163
	Borrowing Below/(Above) Boundary	**264.886**	**241.581**	**60.000**
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**	10.11	11.52	12.24
9	**Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream – HRA**	14.15	14.65	15.06

10	**Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
	Under 12 months	19.36	60	60
	12 months to 2 years	9.20	35	35
	2 years to 5 years	0.82	45	45
	5 years to 10 years	0.93	45	45
	10 years to 20 years	4.76	45	45
	20 years to 30 years	7.95	50	50
	30 years to 40 years	10.58	50	50
	40 years to 50 years	36.53	55	55
	50 years and above	9.87	60	60

11	**Upper Limit on fixed interest rates based on fixed net debt**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
		91	100	100

12	**Upper Limit on variable rates based on fixed net debt**	**Actual** **%**	**Revised Upper Limit** **%**	**Original Upper Limit** **%**
		9	50	50

Appendix 2

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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 2025/26	
Directorate: Corporate Services	**Service area:** Finance
Lead person: Natalia Govorukhina	**Contact:** **01709 910147**
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 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?		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 employment practices?		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?** 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

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Judith Badger	Executive Director – Corporate Services	28/05/2026

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	27/05/26
Report title and date	Annual Treasury Management Report and Actual Prudential Indicators 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	
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	29/05/2026

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Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 3, Annual Treasury Management Report and Actual Prudential Indicators 2025/26

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 2025/26. There are no carbon impacts.

Supporting information:	
Climate Impact Assessment Author	Tom Soulby Principal Finance officer Financial Services Corporate Services
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 649 Katie Rockett Climate Change Officer

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Public Report
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 01 July 2026

Report Title
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2025-2026

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?
No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Chris Paddock, Interim Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement

Report Author(s)
Kerry Grinsill-Clinton, Governance Advisor

Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary
As described in Section 8.6 of the Constitution of the Council, this report is the annual update to be presented to Council on activities and outcomes achieved in respect of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2025-2026 municipal year.

Recommendations

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board:
1. Acknowledges and considers the content of the report; and
2. Approves the Annual Report for consideration by Council on Wednesday 9 September 2026.

List of Appendices Included

- Appendix 1 - Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2025-2026

Background Papers
Agendas and minutes of Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB), Health Select Commission (HSC), Improving Lives Select Commission (ILSC) and Improving Places Select Commission (IPSC) during the 2025-2026 municipal year.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
None

Council Approval Required
Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public
No

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2025-2026

1. Background

1.1 This report has been written in accordance with Section 8.6 of the Constitution, which states, “The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will report annually to the full Council on the operation of Overview and Scrutiny Select Commissions and make recommendations where appropriate for future work programmes and amended working methods.”

1.2 The terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and Select Commissions are set out in Appendix 9 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Functions. Details of the specific areas for scrutiny by each select commission are also set out in Appendix 9.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The Appendix to the report displays the range of scrutiny activity and highlights key findings and impact. Selected outcomes resulting from work in response to recommendations are also reflected in the report where these have been delivered. Where future outcomes are expected, these are noted.

2.2 The Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the 2026-2027 municipal year are set out at the end of each of the overview and scrutiny select commissions sections within the Annual Report.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 The 2025-2026 Annual Report provides an overview of activity undertaken by Scrutiny over the last year through key lines of inquiry, evidence gathering, and findings leading to recommendations. The report provides a selection of the year’s achievement of Scrutiny as a supplement to full agendas and minutes of Cabinet, OSMB and Select Commission meetings throughout the year. The recommendation is that OSMB acknowledges and considers the content of the report and approves the Annual Report for consideration by Council on Wednesday 9 September 2026.

3.2 It was agreed in 2021/22 that future Annual Reports would be organised by Council Plan theme. This approach reflects a fully joined up approach by Scrutiny to work programming, reducing overlap through efficient allocation of Scrutiny attention and ensuring that Scrutiny is able to effectively contribute to the work of the Council. Each Commissions section of the Scrutiny Annual Report identifies the Council Plan themes that the highlighted Commission’s work has addressed.

3.3 It should be noted that each area of activity undertaken by Scrutiny over the last year may span multiple Council Plan themes, especially where improvements pertaining to wider determinants of health such as environmental and economic circumstances lead to cascading benefits. Therefore, the report should be considered as an indicative rather than definitive account of outcomes.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 As this is the report of the OSMB and Scrutiny commissions, consultation with Chairs and Vice-Chairs of these committees was undertaken during the course of the municipal year and feedback incorporated in the final report.

4.2 The report describes activities and outcomes that are already in the public domain.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 This report will be submitted to the meeting of Council on 9 September 2026.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no Human Resources implications directing arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are no implications for children or young people or vulnerable adults directly arising from the report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no equalities and human rights implications directly arising from this report.

11. Implications for CO_2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no climate or carbon emissions implications directly arising from this report.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 There are no implications for partner organisations directly arising from this report.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There are no risks arising directly from this report.

Accountable Officer(s)
Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Approvals obtained on behalf of:

	Name	Date
The Executive Director with responsibility for this report	Chris Paddock, Interim Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement	11/06/26

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This report is published on the Council's website.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

2025 - 2026

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD, CLLR BRIAN STEELE

It is my pleasure to introduce Rotherham Council's Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2025–2026, which demonstrates the growing maturity, effectiveness and impact of scrutiny across the Council and its partners.

Over the past year, scrutiny has become more focused on delivering tangible outcomes, strengthening governance, improving decision making and ensuring accountability to Rotherham residents. This is evidenced not just by increased activity, but by the clear influence scrutiny has had on policies, strategies and service delivery.

Pre-decision scrutiny has increased significantly, with 42 reports considered, a 44% rise on the previous year, alongside more workshops, reviews and site visits. This reflects a shift from building solid foundations in 2024–2025 to delivering deeper, more confident and more influential scrutiny in 2025–2026.

Scrutiny's Impact has been demonstrated through shaping major strategies such as the Best Start Plan, Homelessness Prevention Strategy and Housing Strategy, by strengthening governance in complex areas including Selective Licensing and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, supporting improved decisions on regeneration schemes such as Markets and Libraries and delivering impactful reviews, including Access to Contraception and Menopause, with recommendations accepted and progressed by Cabinet. Scrutiny has also shown its long-term value, with sustained challenge, such as on NHS Quality Accounts, driving measurable improvements in transparency and reporting over time.

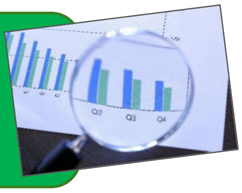
Importantly, the scrutiny model itself has been strengthened through the introduction of the Scrutiny Steering Group, the development of the Scrutiny Tool and the Effective Scrutiny Action Plan, embedding a more consistent, evidence-led and outcomes-focused approach to this important work. Taken together, this demonstrates that scrutiny in Rotherham is not only more active, but more effective, strategic and impactful in its scrutiny activity, delivering real benefits for Rotherham People and supporting Council Plan priorities.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to scrutiny during 2025-2026, Members, Co-optees, Officers, Partners and members of the public who have engaged with and supported its work, for their continued commitment and positive response to robust and constructive challenge. Looking ahead, we will build on this year's achievements, ensuring scrutiny remains innovative, evidence-led and firmly rooted in the needs of Rotherham residents.

Councillor Brian Steele
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

2025-26 SCRUTINY AT A GLANCE

4 scrutiny commissions



97 substantive items considered

15% increase from 2024-25

42 pre-decision scrutiny reports

44% increase from 2024-25

1 decision subject to call in

50% reduction from 2024-25

12 workshops

71% increase from 2024-25

3 reviews completed

300% increase from 2024-25

2 reviews progressed

6 site visits

500% increase from 2024-25

15 off-agenda briefings

42% reduction from 2024-25

FAQ:

WHAT IS SCRUTINY?

Scrutiny aims to ensure that public services and policies best meet the needs of Rotherham Residents. It acts as the check and balance to the Council's Executive decision makers (the Cabinet) by contributing to policy review and development; holding the Cabinet and partners to account for decisions and performance; investigating issues that matter to residents; working with Council officers and partners to improve services.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

Any Councillor who is not a member of the Cabinet can participate. Committees also have co-opted members and dedicated officer support. Cabinet Members, Strategic Directors, and representatives of partner organisations are invited to attend meetings and discuss issues.

WHAT KIND OF THINGS CAN SCRUTINY LOOK AT?

Councillors and co-opted members prioritise issues. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board manages the overall Work Programme, considering whether scrutiny can make a real difference by looking at an issue.

IS THERE ANYTHING SCRUTINY CAN'T EXAMINE?

Individual complaints or regulatory decisions are not appropriate topics for scrutiny.

CAN I SUGGEST A TOPIC?

Yes, contact your ward Councillor to suggest a topic, or use the online form to submit your suggestion.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact the Governance Team for more details on anything in this report.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) acts as the principal overview and scrutiny committee of the Council. It considers matters relating to the conduct, structure and procedures of overview and scrutiny, ensures overview and scrutiny of the Council's values, plans and strategies and makes recommendations for improvements either directly or via the Health, Improving Lives or Improving Places Select Commissions through oversight of their respective work programmes.

2025-26 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Brian Steele
Chair

Cllr Joshua Bacon
Vice Chair

Phillip Horsfield
Link Officer

Barbel Gale
Governance Manager

Selective Licensing

OSMB considered Selective Licensing in October and November of 2025, in conjunction with IPSC, and in May 2026. During these sessions, the Board scrutinised the outcomes of the 2020–2025 scheme and the justification for continuation and redesign, with members challenging the strength of the evidence base, particularly around demonstrable improvements to property conditions, compliance, and tenant outcomes.

This robust scrutiny had a clear impact on shaping the Council's approach, with OSMB's challenge reinforcing the need for a more outcomes-focused and targeted refreshed scheme, better aligned with wider housing and neighbourhood priorities, supported by clearer performance metrics and reporting. Through focus on transparency, clearer rationale for area selection, and more robust evaluation of value for money, the Board influenced how proposals were refined before Cabinet consideration, strengthening governance and ensuring that subsequent decisions on Selective Licensing were grounded in more rigorous evidence and accountability.

Best Start Plan

At its 11 March 2026 meeting, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board undertook pre-decision scrutiny of the Best Start Plan 2026–2029, examining its evidence base, delivery framework and alignment with wider strategies, particularly in the context of rapid development following a December 2025 multi-agency summit, and recognising the need for stronger local insight to support implementation. The Board's impact was to support approval while strengthening the plan's delivery approach, most notably by recommending the inclusion of more granular, neighbourhood-level data to better target interventions and address inequalities, thereby ensuring that Cabinet decision-making was informed by a clearer emphasis on place-based delivery, measurable outcomes and improved accountability for achieving early years improvements across Rotherham.

South Yorkshire Mayor's Q&A Session

At its 10 December 2025 meeting, OSMB held the South Yorkshire Mayor's Q&A session, using it to directly challenge regional priorities, funding decisions and delivery across the Mayoral Combined Authority, with a particular focus on transport, economic growth, skills and the distribution of devolved funding as they affect Rotherham.

Through targeted questioning and follow-up actions, the Board strengthened accountability by pressing for clearer links between regional strategies and tangible local outcomes, improving transparency around funding allocations and their impact, and sharpening the Council's future engagement with SYMCA by identifying priority issues to pursue—thereby ensuring a more robust, Rotherham-focused influence within ongoing regional collaboration.

Markets and Libraries Pre-Decision Scrutiny and Site Visit

OSMB undertook pre-decision scrutiny of the Markets and Libraries redevelopment ahead of Cabinet consideration at its 6 May 2026 meeting, in conjunction with IPSC, building on earlier member engagement through a site visit in February 2026 which enabled Members to directly observe the scheme and inform their questioning of officers and Cabinet Members. Through this combined approach of site-based insight and formal scrutiny, the Board focused on ensuring the robustness of the business case, delivery assumptions, and governance arrangements for a major town centre regeneration project.

The impact of this scrutiny was to provide assurance and strengthen the final proposals taken to Cabinet, with the Board formally supporting the recommendations while adding constructive challenge to improve clarity on delivery, risks and outcomes. This scrutiny ensured that decision-making was informed by a clearer understanding of the scheme's practical implications and local context, increasing confidence in the project's viability and reinforcing accountability for its delivery, whilst the earlier site visit enhanced the quality and focus of member challenge.

Homelessness Prevention

At its 13 January 2026 meeting, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026–2031, scrutinising priorities around early intervention, partnership working and the use of temporary accommodation in response to rising demand. The Board's impact was to support the strategy while strengthening its focus on prevention and delivery, particularly by emphasising the need for clearer outcome measures, improved data to understand demand drivers, and stronger integration with wider housing and health services; this ensured that Cabinet decision-making was underpinned by a more robust, evidence-led and preventative approach, reinforcing accountability for reducing homelessness and improving support for vulnerable residents.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects – Whitestone Solar Farm

At its 15 October 2025 meeting as part of pre-decision scrutiny of Cabinet proposals, OSMB considered the Whitestone Solar Farm, a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Members heard that, as an NSIP, the scheme would not be determined by the Council but by the Secretary of State, with the Council acting only as a statutory consultee responsible for submitting technical evidence and a Local Impact Report within strict national timescales. The Board's discussion therefore focused on clarifying governance arrangements, including the proposed delegation to Senior Officers to ensure timely and compliant submissions, and reinforcing understanding of the Council's limited but important role in representing local impacts through the Planning Inspectorate process.

The impact of OSMB's scrutiny was to strengthen the robustness and clarity of the Council's approach to engaging with NSIPs rather than influencing the merits of the Whitestone proposal itself. By scrutinising and supporting the delegation and reporting arrangements, the Board helped ensure that the Council could respond effectively within statutory deadlines, maintain oversight through regular reporting, and present co-ordinated, evidence-based representations on behalf of Rotherham communities and residents affected by the project. This clarified governance framework improved preparedness for Whitestone and future NSIPs, ensuring that local concerns could be systematically captured and conveyed despite the Council's non-decision-making role.

Scrutiny Steering Group

During 2025-2026, the Chair of OSMB has brought together Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Elected Members, Link Officers and Governance Advisors involved in delivering apolitical scrutiny at Rotherham Council to discuss work programme planning, share ideas around operating models, consider challenges and barriers to success and to consider opportunities to innovate and deliver added value impact through scrutiny activity.

This has culminated in the formation on the Scrutiny Steering Group which now meets at least twice yearly to consider these themes, and ensure that scrutiny delivers effective challenge and drives tangible front-line service improvements for Rotherham residents. This has also led to the formal adoption of a 'Scrutiny Tool' and the development of a 'Effective Scrutiny Action Plan' which taken together assists all Scrutiny Commissions to plan, deliver and evaluate activities and impact in a consistent considered manner, following successful trial via the Health Select Commission.

Council Plan themes supported by the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in 2025-26:

- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE
- PLACES ARE THRIVING, SAFE, AND CLEAN
- RESIDENTS LIVE WELL
- AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE
- ONE COUNCIL THAT LISTENS AND LEARNS

2026-27 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Brian Steele
Chair

Cllr Joshua Bacon
Vice Chair

Phil Horsfield
Link Officer

Barbel Gale
Governance Manager

HEALTH SELECT COMMISSION

The remit of the Health Select Commission (HSC) is to undertake scrutiny in respect of all matters relating to Rotherham in the context of health and the public health agenda, as described in the relevant legislation. In broad terms, this relates to health service commissioning, partnerships and integrated health and social care services, emergency planning, public health arrangements, measures delivering health improvements and promoting wellbeing, measures intended to address health inequalities, food standards and environmental health. The Chair also represents Rotherham at the South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC), which considers matters affecting regional or specialist health services and 'matters of substantial variation'.

2025-26 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Eve Keenan
Chair

Cllr Taiba Yasseen
Vice Chair

Emily Parry-Harries
Link Officer

Kerry Grinsill-Clinton
Governance Advisor

Same Day Emergency Care and Joint Lung Clinic Site Visits

The Health Select Commission's scrutiny of the Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) Centre and Joint Lung Clinic was shaped by direct member engagement, including a site visit to the SDEC facility in February 2026 and a site visit to the Joint Lung Clinic serving Rotherham and Barnsley patients in March 2026, which then informed formal consideration of both items at the 26 March 2026 meeting. The Joint Lung Clinic broke new ground as Rotherham's HSC arranged for the site visit to be undertaken in conjunction with Elected Members from Barnsley Council whose residents were also served by the facility. This approach delivered harnessed the collective efforts of both Local Authorities, and minimised the amount of time NHS facilitators were detracted from their core functions. Members reflected that both the SDEC and Lung Clinic discussions were explicitly augmented by the site visit, with Members using first-hand observation of patient pathways, facilities and partnership working to test evidence presented by NHS partners and to focus questioning on access, operational delivery and system resilience.

NHS
The Rotherham
NHS Foundation Trust

In both cases, the impact of this combining site visits with formal consideration during a public HSC meeting was to strengthen the depth, credibility and outcomes of scrutiny. Insights gained through site visits directly informed the issues raised in the public meeting, particularly around patient experience, infrastructure and integration, ensuring these were reflected in the Commission's conclusions and follow-up expectations. As a result, scrutiny added value by translating real-world observation into evidence-based challenge and actionable oversight, reinforcing accountability for service performance and shaping how both the SDEC and Joint Lung Clinic will be reviewed and improved going forward, with the recommendations made securing commitment to defining and extending the scope of planned post-implementation evaluation and to The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust considering the transferability and application of operating practices, innovations and initiatives delivering to other clinical disciplines, alongside working together with the Cancer Alliance and Council to revisit long standing issues relating to parking at the hospital site.

South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw
CANCER ALLIANCE

Menopause Spotlight Review

During the 2025–26 municipal year, the Health Select Commission progressed its Menopause Spotlight Review from workshop activity into a formal scrutiny review. This culminates in its consideration and endorsement of the final report and recommendations at the 14 May 2026 meeting.

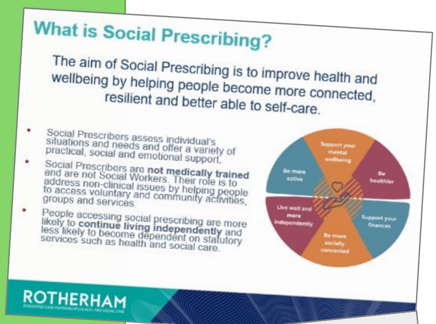
Drawing on evidence from partners, clinicians and residents, the Commission identified significant gaps in awareness, access to support and consistency of provision, and agreed a suite of recommendations focused on improving public information, strengthening primary care responses, including 'Menopause Champions' in GP surgeries, enhancing mental health support, and developing co-ordinated, multi-agency approaches. The Commission's work translated lived experience and system insight into a clear, actionable set of borough-wide improvement recommendations, ensuring that partners across health, education and employment settings were collectively tasked with delivering measurable change for the benefit of all Rotherham residents.

The Commission's scrutiny added tangible value by elevating a previously less recognised issue, engendering cross-system commitment to improvement, and embedding a practical, evidence-led framework for ongoing delivery and monitoring. Even before the presentation of its final report, following the initial workshop, additional pro-active activities such as online clinical information sessions, International Women's Day menopause sessions and the publication of Healthwatch's Menopause report were noted amongst the Council and delivery partners.

The review was subsequently presented to OMSB on 3 June 2026, where its referral to Cabinet for consideration was supported, reinforcing its strategic importance and ensuring corporate visibility and accountability. The work also generated local press coverage, highlighting key findings, which amplified the reach and influence of the Commission's recommendations beyond the Council's governance structures.

Social Prescribing Member Session

During the previous municipal year, the Health Select Commission identified social prescribing as a priority area and commissioned a dedicated Member Session to ensure all Elected Members were enabled to support Rotherham residents who might benefit from Social Prescribing., Drawing on its role to examine cross-cutting health issues and engage system partners, the Commission intended the session to build Member understanding of how Social Prescribing operates locally, particularly its integration with Primary Care and the Voluntary and Community Sector, and to test promote its effectiveness in improving wellbeing and reducing demand on acute services.



Voluntary Action Rotherham

In addition to increasing Members' awareness about the role and benefits of Social Prescribing, this session also embedded understanding around the wider determinants of health and the referral pathways available to Rotherham residents who could benefit from the enabling services Social Prescribing offers. Utilising their increased knowledge base, Members are now better placed to ensure social prescribing is effectively scrutinised with stronger focus on prevention, accountability and service impact across the Commission's work programme.

Health Hub Pre-Decision Scrutiny

HSC undertook pre-decision scrutiny of the proposed Town Centre Health Hub at its 26 June 2025 meeting, examining plans to repurpose the former Boots building in Rotherham Town Centre into an NHS integrated facility combining pharmacy, GP and walk-in services. The Commission's scrutiny tested the scheme's strategic alignment with improving primary care access, reducing system pressures and supporting town centre regeneration, thereby strengthening the clarity and robustness of the proposal taken forward to Cabinet, including delivery assumptions, funding arrangements and partnership governance.

Whilst the Commission supported the recommendations to Cabinet, they also requested that the relevant services return to HSC to discuss Phase 2 proposals, to ensure that residents views and the reservations expressed by members during Phase 1 pre-decision scrutiny had been considered when developing plans. This reinforced scheme's role as both a health and regeneration intervention, ensuring a stronger focus on accessibility, system demand reduction and local accountability in the final decision-making. Members added value by improving the evidence base and strategic narrative underpinning Cabinet's decision and ensuring clearer expectations around delivery and impact.

Local press coverage which followed consideration of this item, highlighted both the scale of the proposed facility and the Commission's scrutiny role, extending awareness of the scheme and its potential benefits.

BBC NEWS

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Health hub planned for former Boots store

The plans would see the site offering pharmacy services initially

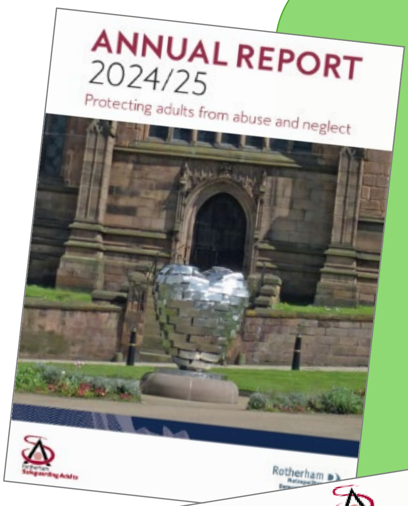
Danielle Andrews
Local Democracy Reporting Service

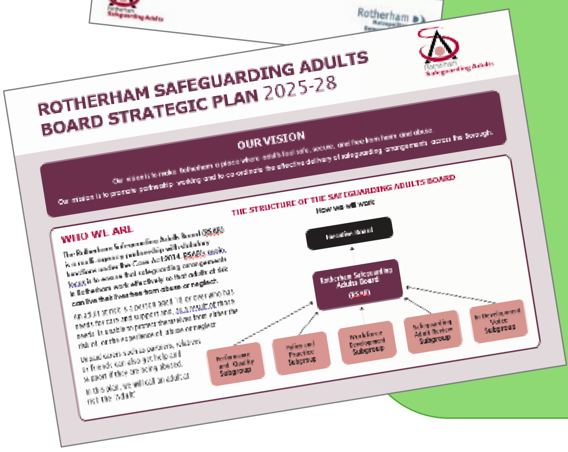
29 June 2025

An NHS health facility is planned for a former Boots store in Rotherham.

The proposals would transform the disused building on Effingham Street into a Town Centre Health Hub in two phases.

It would begin with the relocation of Abbey Pharmacy and have the potential to expand to offer a range of walk-in NHS services, according to Rotherham Council.



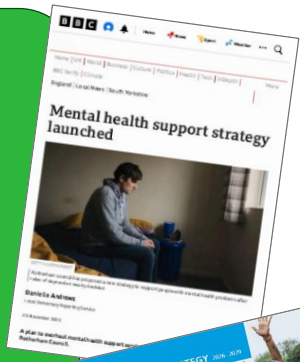


Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report and Strategic Plan 2025-2028

At its 22 January 2026 meeting, the Commission considered the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) Annual Report 2024–2025 and Strategic Plan 2025–2028, scrutinising safeguarding performance, partnership effectiveness and future priorities such as prevention, engagement and strengthening the voice of vulnerable adults.

HSC's scrutiny helped to strengthen accountability and focus future scrutiny, by challenging the robustness of data, emphasising the importance of clear public communication and the use of lived experience, and reinforcing expectations for timely, ongoing reporting to support continuous oversight. This also ensured that safeguarding remained a high-visibility priority within its 2025–26 work programme, with strong focus on measurable outcomes, transparency and partnership delivery and this shaping how the strategic plan will be monitored going forward, cementing a more rigorous, evidence-led approach to scrutiny and enhancing accountability across agencies charged with improving adult safeguarding practice in the Borough.

Adult Social Care Mental Health Strategy Pre-Decision Scrutiny



At its 26 June 2025 meeting, HSC undertook pre-decision scrutiny of the Adult Social Care Mental Health Strategy, examining its focus on prevention, integration with health services and support for people with complex needs, while testing the robustness of delivery plans, partnership arrangements and performance measures.

The Commission's supported progression of the strategy to Cabinet whilst adding value by strengthening its delivery and accountability framework, reinforcing expectations around clear, measurable outcomes, improved performance monitoring and stronger system integration across health, social care and community services. This ensured Cabinet decision-making was underpinned by a more robust, outcomes-focused approach with clearer accountability for delivery.

JHOSC Involvement: IVF and Gluten Free Prescribing Consultation

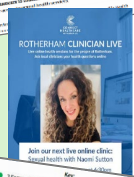
During 2025–26, HSC contributed to the work of the South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire JHOSC via the Chair through scrutiny of South Yorkshire ICB's IVF and Gluten-Free Prescribing policies, with consideration at JHOSC's July 2025 and October meetings 2025. JHOSC ensured robust challenge on consultation quality and length, equality impacts and the risk of widening health inequalities, including advocating for extended consultation and stronger evidence of patient impact prior to decisions being made. Through this activity, HSC's Chair ensured Rotherham's voice was reflected in the process by securing extended and broadened consultation, demonstrating how local scrutiny can shape accountability and influence policy across and decision making the wider integrated care system.

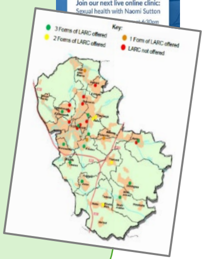
NHS Plan and Neighbourhood Health Services – The Rotherham Approach

At its 14 May 2026 meeting, the Commission considered local implications relating to the NHS 10 Year Plan and Neighbourhood Health Services, examining how national priorities, particularly the shift from hospital based care to prevention and community based provision, would be implemented in Rotherham through place partnerships and integrated neighbourhood models. Members scrutinised system readiness, workforce capacity, and alignment with existing structures and mechanisms such as primary care networks, social prescribing and the proposed Health Hub, using this to challenge partners on the clarity of delivery plans and measurable outcomes. HSC's scrutiny aimed to strengthen local accountability and implementation clarity, reinforcing expectations for robust performance frameworks, clear articulation of neighbourhood delivery models and stronger integration across health, social care and voluntary sector partners, thereby ensuring national policy was translated into a more locally grounded, evidence-led approach subject to ongoing scrutiny.

Access To Contraception Review

During 2025–26, the Commission conducted its Access to Contraception Scrutiny Review, which culminated with the recommendations and broad ambitions arrived at being presented to OSMB and Cabinet. Those recommendations and broad ambitions were intended to address inconsistent access, particularly to LARC, alongside barriers such as stigma, misinformation and uneven GP provision. This initial consideration attracted local press coverage which highlighted 'patchy access' and concerns about misinformation, amplifying the issue and reinforcing the relevance of the Commission's work. The Commission's converted evidence gathered and public concern into a clear, action-oriented improvement framework, which encouraged the expansion of outreach clinics, the use of developments such as the Town Centre Health Hub to provide augmented accessible services, advice and guidance and the delivery of strengthened, targeted public health communications with the potential to deliver significant local impact.





Cabinet formally responded on 8 June 2026, where the Commission's recommendations were fully or partially accepted, and work will progress in relation to delivering the improvements associated them in conjunction with delivery partners. This outcome demonstrates the Commission's direct influence on policy and service planning, securing commitments to expand outreach, explore delivery options and enhance education and promotion, ensuring that identified inequalities are addressed through a coordinated, evidence-based programme of improvement.

Quality Accounts 2025-26

NHS Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust

NHS The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

NHS Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust

Every year, HSC reviews the Quality Accounts for The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust and Yorkshire Ambulance Service. When considering their 2025-26 accounts in May the Commission reflected on their clear cumulative impact, with all three organisations evidencing responsiveness to prior-year scrutiny through improved clarity, greater use of plain English and stronger articulation of how feedback informs service improvement and broader transparency improvements. The Commission's intention was to ensure Quality Accounts reflected outcome-focused, place informed, accountable reporting, consistently challenging providers on health inequalities, data transparency and demonstrable impact on Rotherham residents and is reflected in expectations regarding use of population health data, clear presentation of performance and trends and more explicit links between feedback, learning and service change. The Commission have determined targeted follow-up wok, such as neurodiversity waits at RDaSH, urgent care performance and inequalities at YAS, and embedding learning into frontline practice at TRFT, demonstrating a mature scrutiny approach that influences reporting quality year-on-year while encouraging ongoing commitment to improved transparency, accountability and patient outcomes for Rotherham residents.

Council Plan themes supported by the Health Select Commission's work in 2025-26:

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE | PLACES ARE THRIVING, SAFE, AND CLEAN | RESIDENTS LIVE WELL | AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE | ONE COUNCIL THAT LISTENS AND LEARNS

2026-27 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Eve Keenan
Chair

Cllr Taiba Yasseen
Vice Chair

Emily Parry-Harries
Link Officer

Kerry Grinsill-Clinton
Governance Advisor

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

The Improving Lives Scrutiny Commission (ILSC) is tasked with carrying out in-depth overview and scrutiny of issues affecting Rotherham's residents including the Borough's education functions, including educational outcomes and expanding opportunities for skills and learning for young people, SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) and reviewing the performance of Children's and Young Peoples Services. Safeguarding children, which comprises of neglect, abuse, CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) and CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation) and prevention and early intervention strategies including family intervention, fostering, adoption and looked after children. It also considers transition from childhood to adulthood for young people with complex needs and Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), in conjunction with the Health Select Commission as required and Domestic Abuse, including the Domestic Abuse Strategy and response.

2025-26 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Gina Monk
Chair

Cllr Rajmund Brent
Vice Chair

Kelly White
Link Officer

Debbie Pons
Governance Advisor

Children's Strategy Pre-Decision Scrutiny Workshop

The Improving Lives Select Commission added clear value to the development of the Children's Strategy by scrutinising the draft alongside young people from the Young People's Partnership Board, ensuring their priorities, intended outcomes and measures were robustly tested. This collaborative approach strengthened the strategy's focus on delivering tangible improvements for young people in Rotherham, with Members' recommendations enhancing the clarity of performance data, improving access to information on support and resources, and sharpening the narrative to better demonstrate real-world impact, ultimately supporting a more outcome-driven and effective submission to Cabinet.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026-2029

The Improving Lives Select Commission strengthened the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences Strategy 2026–2029 through early, in-depth scrutiny, ensuring a more focused, coordinated and effective response to key areas of need. By challenging and refining the proposed approach, Members helped embed a consistent, survivor- and family-centred model that better addresses violence against women and girls while promoting inclusivity for all individuals at risk. Their recommendations enhanced the use of data to inform targeted interventions and sharpened the identification of vulnerable groups, ultimately ensuring the refreshed Strategy is more responsive, equitable and capable of delivering meaningful protection and improved outcomes for victims and communities.

Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Annual Report

The Commission scrutinised the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Annual Report 2024/25 in April 2026, which strengthened oversight and accountability by driving a clearer, evidence-led understanding of outcomes for children in care and care leavers. Through robust challenge and detailed discussion with officers, Members secured targeted recommendations to improve the use of placement data to inform decision-making and to proactively reshape the narrative around care experience, aiming to reduce stigma and promote a more accurate, strengths-based view of young people's potential, ultimately supporting more informed policy development and improved outcomes for this vulnerable group.

Children's Capital of Culture – Impact and Legacy

The Select Commission strengthened the evaluation of the Children's Capital of Culture programme by actively shaping its evidence base through detailed scrutiny and cross-commission engagement, ensuring both quantitative outcomes and lived experiences were fully captured. Members' contributions enriched the evaluation process, improving how impact and legacy were evidenced and articulated, and helping to ensure the final report clearly demonstrated the programme's tangible benefits for children, young people and communities across Rotherham.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Strategy 2026-2029

In November 2025 the Commission considered the draft Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Strategy 2026-2029, in advance of its submission to Cabinet and welcomed the opportunity to scrutinise this important work at an early stage and influence the draft strategies vision, aspirations and plan for how success of the strategy would be measured.

The Select Commission put forward a series of targeted recommendations designed to strengthen the report's clarity, effectiveness and overall impact. These recommendations were intended to enhance the quality of the final document and ensure it more clearly demonstrated how its findings and proposals would drive improved outcomes before it was considered by Cabinet.

Council Plan themes supported by the Improving Lives Select Commission's work in 2025-26:

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE | RESIDENTS LIVE WELL | PLACES ARE THRIVING, SAFE, AND CLEAN

2026-27 KEY CONTACTS


Cllr Gina Monk
Chair


Cllr Donna Sutton
Vice Chair


Kelly White
Link Officer


Natasha Aucott
Governance Advisor

IMPROVING PLACES SELECT COMMISSION

The remit of the Improving Places Select Commission (IPSC) is to undertake scrutiny activity in respect of all matters pertaining to the Borough of Rotherham as a place. In broad terms, this remit relates to business and economic development, employment, emergency planning, environment, housing, climate change, leisure, culture and tourism, transport and highways, trading standards and environmental health. The breadth of functions and services that fall within the Commission's remit is significant and varied, with some cross-over with the work of the other scrutiny commissions.

2025-26 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Cameron McKiernan
Chair

Cllr Adam Tinsley
Vice Chair

Andrew Bramidge
Link Officer

Kristianne Thorogood
Governance Advisor

Housing Strategy 2025-2030 Pre-Decision Scrutiny

Members were given the opportunity to scrutinise the draft Housing Strategy 2025-2030 in September 2025. Members were supportive of the Strategy but made some additional recommendations to Cabinet around the wording of the key priorities under the Strategy and the inclusion of more detail and case studies on how anti-social behaviour would be dealt with by Housing Officers, as they wanted to focus on the Council Plan Strategic Priority of 'Places are Thriving, Safe and Clean'. This is turn led to the development and delivery of the Anti-Social Behaviour Workshop.

Anti-Social Behaviour Workshop

In December 2205, IPSC Members participated in a workshop focusing on ASB, as experienced and dealt with by the Housing Team and colleagues in the Community Protection Unit. As part of this workshop, Members took part in a breakout Case Study group session where Members and Officers worked through a number of real-life scenarios together and were able to discuss the particular complexities of each case and valuable lessons learnt. Feedback from the session was that both Members and Officers found it extremely useful to consider issues relating to ASB from different viewpoints. Going forward, their enhanced understanding will enable them to more effectively signpost and support Rotherham residents experience ASB issues in their communities.

The Waterfront at Rother Valley Country Park Site Visit

In March 2026, IPSC Members had the opportunity to visit to the new Waterfront complex and café at Rother Valley Country Park, just prior to its opening to the public. Members that attended were impressed by the quality of the leisure facilities that this investment had produced and as a result of discussions with officers on site, were able to bring to the attention of OSMB, issues regarding recruitment and procurement that warranted further scrutiny.

School Road Safety Review

Throughout the 25-26 municipal year, IPSC Members have been engaged in a detailed Scrutiny Review of School Road Safety across the borough This has involved a range of meetings with officers working across directorates at RMBC in Highways & Transportation, Crossing Patrol, Parking Enforcement, Active Travel and School Engagement. Members have recently rounded off the Review with an informative meeting with officers involved in the Safer Roads Partnership and Active Lives initiatives at SYMCA. Work is underway to prepare a report setting out the Commission's recommendations, ahead of presentation to OSMB and Cabinet. Recommendations are expected to support the creation of safer environments around schools for parents, pupils and crossing patrols through effective traffic management, enforcement and safety focused street furniture.

Rotherham Events

In March 2026, Members received an overview from the Council's Events Team, and partner agency Flux, on the programme of borough-wide events that had taken place over the year, including the events that ran throughout the Children's Capital of Culture year. Members celebrated the diversity, variety and reach of the successful events programme. They also considered ambitions for the future, providing feedback and suggestions for improvement intended to increase community engagement and participation, to support the economic prosperity of the borough, promote community cohesion and raise the aspirations of Rotherham residents.

Playing Pitch Strategy Pre-Decision Scrutiny

In April 2026, Members scrutinised the draft Playing Pitch Strategy. They welcomed the thorough review of playing pitch facilities the Strategy provided and were impressed by the innovative portfolio work being conducted with the Football Foundation in relation to 3G football pitches. Members intend to ensure that access to pitches is inclusive across the borough and that appropriate community use agreements are in place, and will receive an update on the work undertaken with sporting governing bodies, partners and Voluntary and Community Sector organisations once the strategy is underway, in the 2026-27 municipal year.

Council Plan themes supported by the Improving Places Commission's work in 2025-26:

PLACES ARE THRIVING, SAFE, AND CLEAN

AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE

RESIDENTS LIVE WELL

ONE COUNCIL THAT LISTENS AND LEARNS

2026-27 KEY CONTACTS

Cllr Cameron McKiernan
Chair

Cllr Adam Tinsley
Vice Chair

Andrew Bramidge
Link Officer

Kristianne Thorogood
Governance Advisor

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – Work Programme 2026-27

Chair: Councillor Brian Steele — **Vice-Chair: Cllr Joshua Bacon**
Governance Manager: Barbel Gale — **Link Officer: Phillip Horsfield**

The following principles were endorsed by OSMB at its meeting of 5 July 2023 as criteria to long/short list each of the commission's respective priorities:

Establish as a starting point:
- What are the key issues?
- What is the outcome that we want?

Agree principles for longlisting:
- Can scrutiny add value or influence?
- Is it being looked at elsewhere?
- Is it a priority – council or community?

Developing a consistent shortlisting criteria e.g.

T: Time: is it the right time, enough resources?
O: Others: is this duplicating the work of another body?
P: Performance: can scrutiny make a difference
I: Interest – what is the interest to the public?
C: Contribution to the corporate plan

Meeting Date	Responsible Officer	Agenda Item
Wednesday 6 May 2026	Jayne Metcalfe	Progress Update on Future Rothercare Model
	Ian Spicer	Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2026 2031 - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge	Rotherham Markets and Libraries - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge	Selective Licensing Community Impact - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 3 June 2026	Judith Badger & Rob Mahon	Finance Update June 2026 - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge	Renters Rights Act Policy Consultation - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Kerry Grinsill-Clinton	Menopause Scrutiny Review by Health Select Commission
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 1 July 2026	John Edwards	Council Plan 2025 - 2028 & New Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Pre-decision
		Leader Q&A - to be scheduled after Council plan on the agenda.
	Judith Badger & Rob Mahon	Financial Outturn 2025-26 - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Judith Badger & Rob Mahon	Treasury Management Outturn 2025-26 - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Judith Badger & Rob Mahon	Financial Monitoring for May - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge	Draft Street Trading Policy - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Kerry Grinsill-Clinton	Scrutiny Annual Report 2025-2026
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
	Chris Paddock	Social Value Annual Report - Pre-decision
	Andrew Bramidge	Replacement of refuse vehicles: Information to be provided to give an update on the procurement of the new refuse vehicles and progress against the target for renewal of the fleet. These briefings should be split to represent the different phases of the programme.

Tuesday 8 September 2026	Andrew Bramidge / Sam Barstow / Barry Connolly	Public on street bin collections: Information to be provided regarding the emptying of public bins. This information should include details of how overflowing bins can be reported, how often collections are scheduled for and how those are monitored, what join arrangements are in place with Parish Council's, if any, and a list of the locations of bins under RMBC management, if available.
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Extraordinary Meeting in September 2026	Mat Dyson	OSMB Children's Takeover Challenge - Topic yet to be chosen by the Rotherham Youth Cabinet
Wednesday 7 October 2026		
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 11 November 2026	Andrew Bramidge / Simon Moss / Fiona Fletcher	Progress update on the implementation of the Pathways to Work Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme - The programme will be a good way through year 2, therefore members will receive an update on both year 1 outcomes, year 2 developments and target forecasts.
	Fiona Boden	Complaints Annual Report
	Kevin Fisher & Judith Badger	Investing in our Community Facilities - Pre-Decision scrutiny - Update report to include the the updated condition survey results
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 9 December 2026		
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Tuesday 12 January 2027		Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update - Pre-decision
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 3 February 2027		Budget and Council Tax Report 2027-28 - Pre-decision
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 10 March 2027		
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 7 April 2027		
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Substantive Items for Scheduling		
Nov-26	Andrew Bramidge / Simon Moss / Fiona Fletcher	Progress update on the implementation of the Pathways to Work Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme - The programme will be a good way through year 2, therefore members will receive an update on both year 1 outcomes, year 2 developments and target forecasts.
Jul-29	Andrew Bramidge / Polly Hamilton	At it's meeting on 10 December 2025 during its consideration of the Library Strategy as part of it's pre-decision work OSMB agreed to receive a mid-point progress update on the implementation of the Library Strategy 2027–2032.
December 2026 / April 2027	Mike Thomas	It was agreed that the final Community Governance Review report would be presented to OSMB as part of its pre-decision scrutiny work ahead of its consideration by Cabinet
Reviews for Scheduling		
In Progress	Sam Barstow	Lighting Columns - Cut unnecessary red tape
Items to be Considered by Other Means (e.g. off-agenda briefing, workshop etc)		
Nov-26	Andrew Bramidge	An update on progress following the implementation of Waste Service Route Optimisation programme be brought back to OSMB within twelve months via an off-agenda briefing.
November / December 2026	Andrew Bramidge	An update on the progress following the implementation of the Street Safe Team programme be brought back to OSMB within twelve months via an off-agenda briefing.
Sep-26	Andrew Bramidge	Replacement of refuse vehicles: Information to be provided to give an update on the procurement of the new refuse vehicles and progress against the target for renewal of the fleet. These briefings should be split to represent the different phases of the programme.
TBC	Luke Sayers	IT Systems: Workshop to be arranged for members of OSMB to understand what IT systems the Council is using, what the purpose of those systems is, are those systems as up to date as possible, how updates to those systems are managed, how the Council is using artificial intelligence (AI), is the Council using outdated technology, and was the Council spending too much or too little in this area.
TBC	Lynsey Linton	Recruitment: Initially information has been requested to understand how recruitment is carried out across the Council, indicating if the same processes were used across all directorates, detailing if recruitment was centralised, was there a reliance on agency staff to cover staff vacancies. After consideration of the off-agenda briefing Members of OSMB will then consider if a workshop needs to be held to discuss this in more detail.
TBC	Fiona Fletcher	Pathways to Work Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme: Agreed that a briefing be provided to share the details of the commissioned VCSE organisations and their geographic reach with members of OSMB.
Items for Future Consideration		

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Health Select Commission (HSC) Chair's Briefing for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) meeting on 1 July 2026

Items covered since the last meeting:

At the HSC meeting on 18 June 2026 the following items were considered:

1. Rotherham Women's Health Network Introduction and Overview

The Health Select Commission undertook detailed and constructive scrutiny of the Rotherham Women's Health Network's activities and aims, critically examining the scale of local health inequalities, declining healthy life expectancy and evidence that women are often not listened to within the health system, while also interrogating system performance issues such as long routine waiting times (around 253 days), variation in referral quality and inefficiencies in care pathways that result in unnecessary delays and repeat appointments.

Members acknowledged the absence of a clear delivery model, funding and governance, highlighting risks to sustainability where the Network currently relies on professional goodwill, and explored comparative models to test whether a community-based women's health hub could improve access, flow and outcomes. Scrutiny extended beyond healthcare provision to wider determinants such as poverty and food insecurity, and emphasised the importance of maintaining patient voice and intelligence, particularly given concerns about changes to Healthwatch.

The Commission added value by emphasising women's health as a strategic inequality issue, identifying clear opportunities for system improvement, strengthening the case for a hub-based model, and translating discussion into tangible next steps, including recommending that the Network be embedded within the scrutiny function as a co-optee and that women's health priorities inform future health hub development, thereby creating a platform for ongoing oversight, influence and system-wide improvement.

The following recommendations were agreed during the meeting:

That the Health Select Commission:

1. Noted the contents of the report, recommendations and presentation received.

2. Agreed to prepare a formal report recommending that the Rotherham Women's Health Network be invited to sit as a Co-optee on the Health Select Commission, to be formally considered by the Commission at its next meeting and referred to OSMB to confirm the appointment in line with the Council's Constitution.

3. Agreed to ensure that the desire for a Women's Heath Hub and the provision of relevant associated women's health services be included in considerations in relation to the Town Centre Health Hub Phase 2 as part of the consultation process and the Commission's formal pre-decision scrutiny scheduled to take place later in the municipal year.

2. Castle View Transition Plan

The Health Select Commission's consideration of the Castle View transition focused on robust scrutiny of both the delivery of the new day centre for people with autism and learning disabilities and the wider impact of the service transformation, testing the effectiveness of the phased transition from two legacy sites, the quality of engagement with customers, carers and staff, and the extent to which the new facility delivers improved outcomes in practice.

Members explored operational detail including capacity, referral pathways, workforce implications and future flexibility, while also challenging how intangible benefits such as wellbeing, independence and social inclusion would be evidenced through personalised support planning, case studies and ongoing review. Scrutiny also added value by probing learning from implementation, including responding constructively to concerns around accessibility in associated housing provision, examining how trust had been rebuilt following significant community opposition to the original proposals, and highlighting opportunities to maximise use of the facility (e.g. extended hours or broader provision) without compromising its core purpose for those with the highest needs.

The Commission's approach strengthened assurance that the transition had been carefully managed and largely successful, while ensuring continued oversight by requesting a further performance and outcomes-based review, refining expectations around qualitative and quantitative measures of impact, and reinforcing the importance of ongoing engagement, user experience and service development to maximise the significant investment and deliver sustained improvements in care quality.

The following recommendations were agreed during the meeting:

That the Health Select Commission:

1. Noted the update provided in relation to the Castle View transition.

2. Requested that a further update in relation to the performance of Castle View in relation to patient experience and outcomes in line with metrics to be agreed with the service, be presented to the Commission following the 6 month post implementation evaluation, at it's 18 March 2027 meeting.

3. Requested that arrangements be made for Health Select Commission Members who have not yet had the benefit of visiting the site be afforded a tour of Castle View to inform and enhance its scrutiny of the scheduled post implementation update in March 2027.

Work programme 2025-26 updates:

- **Health, Welfare and Safety Panel appointment for 2026/27**

  The Health Select Commission received and nomination for Councillor Brent, and duly appointed him as the Commission's representative on the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel for the 2026/27 municipal year.

- **Health Select Commission Work Programme 2026/27**

  The Health Select Commission has approved its work programme for the 2026/27 municipal year. There are currently only two vacant slots (May 2027) available for the consideration of substantive items not yet scheduled. Five potential review topics have been submitted by the Commission, to Cllr Steele as Chair of OSMB, and the Commission will undertake topic scoping, scoring and prioritisation of those suggestions, along with any other as directed by the Chair of OSMB, in due course.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

At the HSC meeting on 23 July 2026 the following items are due to be considered:

- Immunisation Programme Commissioning Changes
- Primary Care Network (PCN) Development

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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Improving Lives Select Commission Chair's Briefing for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board meeting on 1st July, 2026

Items covered since the last update meeting:-

- Improving Lives held its meeting on 9th June, 2026 and the following items were considered:-

  - Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Update – Members received a verbal update following the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board meeting held on 5th May, 2026.

    Members welcomed the update and the positive information that was shared.

  - Kinship Local Offer Annual Update

    Members received an update on the first annual review of the Kinship Local Offer and received clarification from officers to answer their many questions. As a result a further two recommendations with the first seeking to reflect consideration being given to including notifications to Ward Members and aiding via Community Leadership Funds when Support Groups were expanded into local areas. The second sought further information on the uptake of trauma training for Kinship Carers, the numbers offered, percentage of take up and any feedback when take up was declined.

  - Expert at Hand Model (Linked to the SEND Reform Plan)

    Members received the report which outlined the national policy context, the rationale for system reform and the specific design and delivery model being implemented in Rotherham. It also sets out the expected impact of the model, including improved inclusive practice, better attendance and engagement and more sustainable demand across the SEND system.

    Members questioned and challenged the content at length and on receiving responses were satisfied with the EAH delivery model being received and the contents endorsed.

Work Programme 2026-27:-
The Work Programme was currently under development and an update would be shared with Improving Lives Members at the next scheduled meeting.
Items to be discussed at the next meeting:-
21st July, 2026 • Rotherham SEND Reform Plan (Pre-Scrutiny prior to be considered by Cabinet on 14th September, 2026) – single agenda item.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Improving Places Select Commission (IPSC) Chair's Briefing: for OSMB meeting on 1 July 2026

Items covered since the last update meeting:

The first meeting of the 2026-27 municipal year took place on Tuesday 23 June 2026. The following items were covered at this meeting:

- **Health, Welfare and Safety Panel - Representative from the Improving Places Select Commission** – Councillor Thorp was appointed to this Panel.

- **Housing Strategy 2025-30 Progress Report Year 1 (2025-26)** – Members were provided with an update on progress during the first year of the Strategy and discussions covered the following areas: - progress on EPC C-rating targets and energy efficiency; new casework system to deal with anti-social behaviour; problems with under-occupancy in council housing; the workload of Housing Management Teams; and, managing the use of temporary accommodation.

- **Neighbourhood Leadership Strategy** – Members were provided with a presentation on the development of the Strategy, following co-production work with Members (via a workshop and questionnaire), officers and partners. Members were supportive of the aspirations of the Strategy, which builds on the already strong neighbourhood model in Rotherham. Questions were asked around how the impact and success of the Strategy would be measured, what resource would be allocated to assist with implementation of its aims and what increased training and support would be available to Members.

Work Programme Updates

- **School Road Safety Review Group**
  Following a very useful meeting with SYMCA to round off the investigative part of the review, draft recommendations are now being drawn up and a meeting arranged with Members to discuss them. A formal report will then be presented to IPSC with the suggested recommendations, prior to the report going to OSMB and eventually, Cabinet.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

At the next meeting of IPSC on 1 September 2026 Members are due to scrutinise the following items:

- **Update on Housing Involvement and Governance**
- **Review of Business Centres – RIDO**

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