

**Councillor Dave Sheppard, Deputy Leader and  
Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion & Neighbourhood Working**

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Email the Council for **free** @ your local library!

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Direct Line:</b>	<b>Please Ask For</b>
DS/LH	01709 255948	Councillor Dave Sheppard

19<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Cllr Michael Bennett-Sylvester  
Elected Member

Via email: [Michael.sylvester@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.sylvester@rotherham.gov.uk)

Dear Cllr Bennett-Sylvester

**Question to Council – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Thank you for your supplementary question to Council on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and apologies for the delay in responding. I have set out the question and my response below.

***You highlighted bigoted letters in the Rotherham Advertiser and the parliamentary candidates from parties that had questionable commitments to Human Rights in relation to equality gaining several thousands of votes locally and stated that there was still lots of work to do. You raised the expansion of Pride Pals and asked if conversations could take place with the Pride Committee and information sent through the relevant networks? This would allow for safe places for people to express themselves.***

I can advise that following the success of this year's Rotherham Pride event which returned to Rotherham after a four-year hiatus and a move to the Town Centre, Council's services have built strong working partnerships with the Pride Committee and are continuing to support their efforts in planning for the 2025 event. We would be very happy to support this initiative in any way that we are able and to widen the discussions with the Pride Committee to include support for Pride Pals.

If you or your contacts at the Pride Committee would like to make contact with Lily Hall, Head of Organisational Development & Change at [lily.hall@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:lily.hall@rotherham.gov.uk), the team will pick up the conversation and support where they can.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely



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