

AUGHTON AND SWALLOWNEST WARD

Covering Aughton, Orgreave, Swallownest and Ulley



Councillor Lyndsay Pitchley



Councillor Robert Taylor

Report to full Council

September 2025

Ward Priorities

1. Develop and support initiatives that will improve health & well-being and tackle poverty.
2. Develop and support initiatives around crime and community safety.
3. Develop and support initiatives that will improve the environment and the neighbourhood.
4. Support local communities to come together and celebrate local and cultural heritage.

How we agreed the priorities

We know that local people are best placed to tell us about where they live and what matters to them. To assess our Ward Plan priorities, we have used a range of information, including the ward profile, taken into consideration the views of our partners, voluntary and community organisations. Most importantly we have engaged with our residents, consulting with them at every opportunity by arranging a variety of engagement events which have included visits to schools, community groups, pop-up coffee mornings and walkabouts.

How the ward priorities support the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy

Our approach has been and remains centred on our community, listening and working with them to make a difference. We recognise that there is a wealth of social and community assets, and we continue to put the community at the heart of everything we do, to make people healthier, happier, and proud of where they live by working with residents on things that are important to them.

Working in partnership

We believe collaboration is key to helping our neighbourhood thrive. To support this, we host quarterly network meetings with Aston & Todwick Councillors, bringing together key partners like Parish Councils, South Yorkshire Police, schools, Rotherfed, libraries, churches, public health and community groups. These meetings offer a chance to share ideas, learn about local projects and ensure that services are joined up to meet community needs.

www.rotherham.gov.uk/aughton-and-swallownest-ward

Progress so far

1. Develop and support initiatives that will improve health & well-being and tackle poverty.

What we've done:

- Worked in partnership with all Junior & Infant schools within the ward to improve engagement, supported real-life style elections during Democracy Week and provided funding to enhance reading services and school libraries.
- Collaborated with Aston Leisure Centre to support community activities. Supported the improvement of neighbourhood centres, recognising them and the residents that use them as a valuable community asset.
- Identified gaps in youth provision and delivered boxing sessions in partnership with Aston Parish Council.
- Delivered a community lifestyle event at Aston Service Centre and supported partners to deliver the Open Arms project which offered residents access to health information, money advice, energy advice and other activities to support the cost-of living crisis.

2. Develop and support initiatives around crime and community safety.

What we've done:

- We are working with the Transportation and Infrastructure department to identify ways to improve road safety near Aston Fence Junior & Infant school.
- We have pushed for improved road safety at Chesterfield Way and the provision of the pedestrian crossing.
- Promoted the reporting of crime and ASB through articles in our e-bulletin.
- Arranged pop-up community safety stands.
- Through the CAP we have worked with the police and partners to tackle hot spot areas and arrange installation of CCTV.

3. Develop and support initiatives that will improve the environment and neighbourhood.

What we've done:

- We lead walkabouts with the Parish Councils to connect with residents and identify local priorities.

4. Support local communities to come together and celebrate local and cultural heritage.

What we've done:

- Funded social activities, sports, and local celebrations through CLF including the popular Aston Carnival, Ulley Brass Band concert and Aston Cricket Club all of whom provide activities that benefit the whole community.
- Provided funding towards a sensory bench at Ulley Country Park.
- Provided support to local primary schools and Swallownest Bowling Club in delivering intergenerational projects.