

Councillor Lynda Marshall – Cabinet Member for Street Scene and Green Spaces

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

Our ref
LM/LH

Please Contact
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7th August 2025

Cllr Simon Ball
Elected Member

Via email: simon.ball@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Ball

Supplementary question at Council – Wednesday 16th July 2025

Thank you for your supplementary question that you raised at the Council meeting on Wednesday 16th July. I have set out your question and my response below:

How were the Council addressing the financial pressures noted in the agenda of an overspend of £12.8 million, to ensure sustained funding for the street cleansing initiative? And what specific steps had been taken to reduce missed bin collections in wards with the highest missed bin ratios?

I can advise that the budget allocation for street cleansing teams is set annually and remains fixed throughout the year. The new investment for the Rural Verge and Gateway Cleansing Team, was incorporated into the budget at the start of the financial year, with posts recruited accordingly. This investment has now been incorporated into the base budget and so this will ensure there is sustained funding for the service.

Street cleansing schedules are generally reliable, with missed collections being rare. Occasionally, delays may occur due to staffing absences or vehicle breakdown, but in most cases, schedules are adhered to. We use data from our IT system to monitor bin usage and determine whether adjustments to collection frequency are needed. This data is supported by additional feedback from complaints, MP correspondence, and casework. Decisions to change collection frequencies are then made based on this combined evidence.

We also acknowledge that periods of good weather can lead to increased footfall in certain areas, increased usage of bins which may then result in bins overflowing. While this can be difficult to predict and resource in advance, the service works hard to respond quickly and restore standards.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynda Marshall'.

Cllr Lynda Marshall
Cabinet Member for Street Scene and Green Spaces