

# Rotherham Town Board

Microsoft Teams

**6<sup>th</sup> August 2025, 9:00 – 10:00am**

<div><div><b>Attended By:</b> Megan Hinchliff - MH Karen Church - KC Neil Baxter (Chair) - NB Cllr Williams - Cllr JW Andrew Bramidge - AB Simon Moss - SM Lorna Vertigan - LV Andrew Boulton - AB Helen Jones - HJ David Plumtree - DP Chris Hamby - CH Dan Wilson – DW Paul Douglas – PD Daniel Richardson – DR Rebecca Blackburn – RB Lisa Pogson – LP Raymond Kinsella – RK Tom Austen – TA Richard Hammill – RH Phil Batchford – PB Chloe Parker – CP Tracey Mace-Ackroyd – TMA Nicholas Maddocks - NM</div><div><b>Apologies:</b> Sarah Champion MP – SC Kate Davis – KD Sarah McLeod – SML David Sutton - MLT</div></div>		
01	<p><b><u>Apologies for Absence and Confidentiality Reminder</u></b></p> <p>Apologies listed above.</p> <p>Members were reminded of the confidentiality of the information discussed at these meetings and any declarations of interest.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Some attendees did not receive the minutes from the previous meeting. This may be due to IT issues – these were re-sent and received.</li></ul>	

3	<p><b>Rother Valley Country Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early warning issued as there may be some delays with the completion due to issues around the substation, an update will be provided at next Board.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rotherham Gateway Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SYMCA approved the outline business case at their Programme Board, and it is now with the Department for Transport for approval.</li> <li>• The Masterplan was endorsed at Cabinet on 7 July, providing more surety to develop the workstreams.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Hub</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following Board support to move some of the Pathfinder funding to this project and Cabinet endorsement in July, the project is progressing.</li> <li>• Phase 1 will include relocating Abbey Pharmacy from the Markets to the former Boots building. This will bring greater footfall to the Town Centre as well as ensuring the communities have access to healthcare provision.</li> </ul> <p><b>Snail Yard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressing well.</li> </ul> <p><b>RRQ Enabling Works</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has now finished and will be looking to de-mobilise shortly.</li> </ul> <p><b>Town Centre Music Venue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building condition surveys and valuations commissioned, currently waiting for the findings of these to inform next steps.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thrybergh Country Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work started on site 4 August 2025.</li> </ul> <p><b>Templeborough</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed the terms on the three outstanding legal matters. This will be presented to Magna Trustees on the 12<sup>th</sup> August before the process of stakeholder approval commences.</li> <li>• Site works are due to start early 2026.</li> </ul>	
4	<b><u>Comms &amp; Marketing</u></b>	

	<p><b>Thrybergh Country Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a photocall next week for spade in the ground, this will also include RCVP's café.</li> </ul> <p><b>Riverside Gardens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signage will be out shortly to promote the scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rotherham Gateway Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently seeking a media partner to help promote the investment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Town Centre Campaign</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The focus now is independent businesses within the Town Centre (e.g. Signature Dish, Mr Greek etc).</li> <li>It was noted there have been positive engagement on RMBC's social media post regarding Cal's Kitchen, an 18-year-old who runs his own café. This was also covered by BBC Look North.</li> <li><b>Action: DR to feed back the results from the Town Centre campaign at the meeting next month.</b></li> <li>Audio adverts (radio's, podcasts etc) will be targeting those who live in Rotherham, advertising Forge Island, Travelodge Hotel and the Town Centre campaign.</li> </ul>	Daniel Richardson
5	<p><b><u>Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN)</u></b></p> <p>The current focus for the team is consultation and engagement, and slides were presented to provide an interim update and emerging themes. There will be a full summary and plan of action provided at the next board meeting, taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> August.</p> <p>Consultation is being carried out in partnership with Voluntary Action Rotherham.</p> <p>13 pop up events throughout the boundary, between 22/07-07/08. Extra events were requested by ward members, which were accommodated. There have been over 100 online responses so far.</p> <p>18 sessions facilitated by VAR to date and more booked in this week. These are going well and will have engaged at least 200 people.</p> <p><b>Action: DP to pull information relating to the responses and emerging themes into a report to share with the Board.</b></p> <p>NM (SYP) advised DP to link in with his colleague, Gavin, regarding building the bridges with the communities and SYP.</p>	David Plumtree

	<p>TA explained concerns over some of the public discourse around funding. Cllr JW agrees with Tom and is monitoring this.</p> <p>The promotion of some key messages would be useful as there are worries of confusion regarding the PfN.</p> <p><b>Action: MH / DR to pick up key messages/ comms.</b></p> <p>Following the online consultation and the work Voluntary Action Rotherham have been doing, common themes emerging are traffic and parking, safety, streets and spaces, youth provision.</p> <p>Positive feedback includes parks and green spaces, Clifton Park specifically, forge island, community groups.</p>	<p><b>Megan Hinchliff / Daniel Richardson</b></p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Suggestion to provide more comms around parking given the disruptions in the town centre and the volume of events taking place.</p> <p><b>Action: DR to review</b></p> <p>Helen from Flux shared information around Gallery Town and the number of new artworks on buildings across the town centre. This will be featured in the advertiser.</p>	<p><b>Daniel Richardson</b></p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p><b>The next scheduled meeting to be held 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025 regarding Plan for Neighbourhoods Only</b></p>	