

**Councillor Dave Sheppard, Cabinet Member
For Social Inclusion and Environment**

Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE

E-mail: cllr david.sheppard@rotherham.gov.uk
Email the Council for free @ your local library!

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

29th January 2024

Councillor Simon Ball
Elected Member

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

Dear Cllr Ball

Supplementary question to Council – Wednesday 17th January 2024

Thank you for your supplementary question to Council where you asked if there were any apprenticeships that could be put into the scheme so that Rotherham people could be trained up?

I can advise that for our flood alleviation schemes the Council has pledged to reach “shovel ready” status by the end of 2024 and supported this commitment with £5.8m of Council funding to ensure this can be achieved. This work is specialised and developing apprentices to this level would take a number of years. However, this is just the scheme development aspect of the work and any projects that progress to delivery will have apprentices considered which I detail below. Projects that are delivered in house via the Highways Service will have apprentice opportunities and this is detailed below and any that are procured for external delivery will be under our approved Social Value Policy which has a number of options for bidding contractors including apprentices.

The Highway Service has had a policy of recruiting apprentices since 2015. This involves roles which are office, and site based within the delivery teams. Apprentices receive nationally recognised qualifications and suitable staff continue on to higher qualifications in civil engineering. Many apprentices have progressed within the service to a higher level and continue to provide an excellent service for RMBC.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Dave Sheppard
Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Environment