

**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!

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| Ref | Direct Line: | Please Ask For |
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22nd July 2024

Cllr Simon Ball
Elected Member

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

Dear Cllr Ball

Question to Council – Wednesday 17th July 2024

Thank you for the question you submitted to Council on 17th July 2024. I have set out the question and my response below.

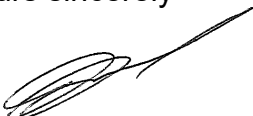
Despite repeatedly pointing out health and safety concerns to senior SLT officers regarding using our own personal phones, members still do not have the option to have a separate phone, baring a certain few, will the member responsible ensure safety is for all members regardless of political persuasion and look into the provision of this?

I'm afraid I don't entirely understand the premise of your question. However, if you are referring to members being at risk if using their own telephone number, then I can advise that for external telephony the Council provides an 8x8 system which can be accessed through Council owned devices which are provided to all Councillors following their election to office.

This provides a personal telephone number to each Councillor which can be used through this platform and advertised/used for constituents to make direct contact whilst not giving out personal home or mobile numbers. This personal telephone number/line is forwarded to the Councillors chosen personal line which is usually the personal mobile.

I am happy to hear your concerns, but I am not sure the residents of Rotherham would welcome paying for additional mobile phones for councillors.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Dave Sheppard
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion & Neighbourhood Working