

**Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council**

Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE  
Tel: (01709) 822700  
E-mail: [chris.read@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:chris.read@rotherham.gov.uk)  
*Email the Council for free @ your local library!*

<b>Our Ref:</b>	<b>Direct Line:</b>	<b>Extension:</b>	<b>Please Contact:</b>
CR/LH	(01709) 822700	22770	Councillor Chris Read

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Cllr Michael Bennett-Sylvester  
Elected Member

Via email: [Michael.sylvester@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.sylvester@rotherham.gov.uk)

Dear Cllr Bennett-Sylvester

**Council Meeting – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

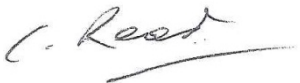
Thank you for your question to Council on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024. I have set out your question and my response below.

***One of the biggest mistakes by this borough over the past decade was the scrapping of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. What would need to happen to restore it?***

I can advise that the decision to cease funding this service was taken in 2015 following a review of budgets and a public consultation exercise. At the time the service was being delivered at a cost to the Council of £400,000 for a two-year period, a sum that would be considerably greater today. I'm afraid that in the present budgetary position we are not able to consider its reinstatement at the present time.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely



**Councillor Chris Read**  
**Leader of Rotherham Council**