

Councillor Saghir Alam - Cabinet Member for Finance & Safe Borough Council

## and Clean Communities

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RefDirect Line:Please Ask ForSA/LH01709 255959Cllr Saghir Alam

13th March 2025

Councillor Paul Thorp Elected Member

Via email: paul.thorp@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Thorp

## Question to Council – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Thank you for the question you submitted to Council on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025. I have set out the question and my response below.

## Just after the budget I asked what affect will the employers NIC increase on the councils budget. I was told none, because the government was going to give the council the NIC back so there would be no extra cost to the council, and they wouldn't have to use the general council funding to cover this cost, did this happen.

I can advise that the Autumn Policy update indicated that the NIC increases would be covered for public sector bodies through additional grant funding. In the provisional and final settlement, the NIC was covered partially by a single specific grant with the remainder to be funded from additional uplifts to existing grants along with new grants.

The Council estimates that the impact of the employers NIC increase will be £3.9m for 2025/26. As part of the Final Financial Settlement for 2025/26 Government have provided the Council with over £14m of new or increased grant funding, this includes a grant specifically to support the NIC increase, of which the Council's allocation is £2.5m.

So, in summary, including a dedicated grant, the government has more than covered the cost of the NIC increase to RMBC.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Saghir Alam OBE Boston Castle Ward Cabinet Member for Finance & Safe and Clean Communities

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