

Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council

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Please Contact:
Councillor Chris Read

12 June 2025

Councillor Simon Ball
Elected Member

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

Dear Cllr Ball

Question to Council – Wednesday 21st May 2025

Thank you for the question you submitted to Council on 21st May 2025. I have set out your question and my response below.

With £5 billion PIP cuts hitting Rotherham's 24,200 claimants, and your Deputy Leader resigning in protest, why haven't you opposed these reforms publicly as urged on 9 April 2025?

As you will be aware, at our April meeting through the motion passed by Council, members across the Chamber including myself clearly and publicly expressed their 'serious concerns' regarding the Government's proposed changes to the welfare system and their impact on Rotherham's residents. Although I think you were absent from the meeting at the time I spoke in that debate, and I have subsequently taken the actions I said I would.

Perhaps you can inform members of a time when, as Leader of your group under the last Conservative government, you similarly took steps to prioritise local residents over the political interests of the Conservative Party? A written response would be acceptable.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Chris Read
Leader of Rotherham Council