

**Councillor John Williams – Cabinet Member for
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy**

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Ref	Direct Line:	Please Ask For
JW/KS	01709 807949	Councillor Williams

15th September 2025

Cllr Simon Currie
Elected Member

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

Dear Cllr Currie,

Council Meeting – Wednesday 10th September 2025

Thank you for your question submitted to the Council meeting held on Wednesday 10th September 2025. I have set out your question and my response below in writing as you were not present in the meeting to be able to ask it to me.

Why did Keppel ward receive no funding from the ‘our places’ pot when we were the biggest contributors to the consultation. Please could you explain the criteria for the allocation of the funding?

The “Our Places” Fund is a £4m package ringfenced in this year’s Council budget.

Borough-wide consultation and engagement with residents was undertaken, which identified several important areas for improvement including the condition of shopping areas, maximising opportunities provided by underused land, cenotaphs and memorials, and improving the experience of pedestrians. These were reported through Cabinet earlier this year.

The level of engagement from residents was really positive, and although not all areas are to benefit from this particular funding pot, many of the suggestions have been put forward for consideration for other funding streams.

I understand that in Keppel ward, suggestions came forward for improvements to St John’s Green and the memorial bench, which had been provided through the Towns and Villages programme. Suggestions for a new pedestrian crossing and general cleansing have been passed to the relevant Council services to consider as part of mainstream budgets. In addition, I am pleased to say that after approval in our Cabinet meeting earlier today, Keppel Ward will benefit from investment in improvements to community facilities at the Black Hut and at Artworks, Brook Hill.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor John Williams

Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy / Ward Councillor for Hoover