

Councillor Linda Beresford, Cabinet Member for Housing

Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE

Email linda.beresford@rotherham.gov.uk
*Email the Council for **free** @ your local library!*

Our Ref: LB/LH
Direct Line: (01709) 822422

Please Contact:
Councillor Linda Beresford

10th November 2025

Mr Horvath

Dear Mr Horvath

Question at Council – Wednesday 5th November 2025

Thank you for your question raised at the Council meeting on Wednesday 5th November 2025. I have set out your question and my response below.

Selective Licensing was rejected overwhelmingly by formal questionnaires, why did Cabinet approve it?

I can advise that the Cabinet's decision to approve the designation of six new Selective Licensing schemes was based on a comprehensive review of both the consultation feedback and the extensive evidence presented in the final report.

While the feedback received during the consultation informed our decision, of course it can't be the only thing we take into consideration. Sadly, we continue to see persistent issues in the private rented sector, including high levels of housing hazards, deprivation, crime, and anti-social behaviour. We also considered the outcomes from previous schemes, which led to thousands of hazards being addressed, enforcement actions taken, and improvements in housing standards.

Some of the feedback we received in the consultation indicated that there was no anti-social behaviour in Eastwood, for example. That sort of feedback simply isn't credible.

Some of the feedback we received was from a number of landlords whose properties had been found to be used for organised crime purposes. Those landlords wanted us to stop inspecting their properties. Frankly that would be a dereliction of duty.

So, while we've amended our proposals where we can – amending the boundaries, giving discounts on fees to landlords who haven't had problems, and bringing together a stakeholder group – in the end we have to make the best decision we can for the whole community, and that's what we've done.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Linda Beresford

Labour Member for Greasbrough Ward
Cabinet Member for Housing