

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting
Council – 09 September 2026

Report Title
Petitions

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?
No

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report
Jane Maxwell, Director of Policy, Strategy and Engagement

Report Author(s)
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Ward(s) Affected
Borough-Wide

Report Summary

This report provides Members with a list of all petitions received by Rotherham MBC since the last Council meeting held on 15 July 2026 and details which petitions will be presented at this Council meeting.

This report is submitted for Members' awareness of the items to be presented to the Council meeting.

Recommendations

That Council:

1. Receive the report;
2. Receive the petition listed in paragraph 2.1 of the report and note that the lead petitioner or their representative is entitled to address the Council for a total period of five minutes in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme; and
3. Note that Council may debate the petition listed at paragraph 2.1 of the report for a total of 15 minutes in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 – Review and Rebalance Rotherham's CRSTS Active Travel Schemes – Prioritise Pedestrian Safety Over Dedicated Cycle & Bus Lanes

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Petitions

1. Background

- 1.1 The Council refreshed its Petition Scheme in May 2019, following its introduction in 2010 after legislative changes requiring local authorities to respond to petitions. Whilst the Localism Act 2011 repealed that statutory requirement, the Council has maintained its commitment to responding to issues raised by local people and communities in respect of matters within the Council's remit.
- 1.2 The current Petition Scheme sets thresholds for various routes that petitions can take through the decision-making process:-
- Up to 20 signatures – not accepted as a petition.
 - 20 to 599 signatures – five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner and response by relevant Executive Director.
 - 600 to 1,999 signatures – five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner and referral to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for review of the issues, followed by response by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board setting out their findings and recommendations.
 - 2,000 signatures and above – five-minute presentation to Council by lead petitioner followed by a 15-minute debate of the petition by the Council.
- 1.3 This report is submitted for information to detail the number of petitions received since the previous ordinary Council meeting held on 15 July 2026 and the route that these petitions will take through the Council's decision-making processes.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The following petition has been received which met the threshold for a five-minute presentation to Council by Lead Petitioner followed by a 15-minute debate of the petition by the Council. The Council will then decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting.

Subject	Number of Valid Signatures	Lead Petitioner	Directorate
Review and Rebalance Rotherham's CRSTS Active Travel Schemes - Prioritise Pedestrian Safety Over Dedicated Cycle & Bus Lanes	3609 valid signatures	Councillor Thorp	Regeneration and Environment

- 2.2 The scheme makes provision for the Council to:

- action what the petition has requested

- not to take the action requested for the reasons put forward in the debate, or
- to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant committee.

2.3 In this case, the petition relates to a matter that has already been decided by the Cabinet. The Petition Scheme makes provision for the Council to make recommendations to Cabinet with regards to the decision. However, the Cabinet cannot be bound by such recommendations and nor can the Council make the final decision on the issue. The petition organiser will be sent written confirmation of this decision within 10 working days. This confirmation will also be published on the Council's website.

2.4 The details of the petition can be found in Appendix 1 and to the report.

3. **Options considered and recommended proposal**

3.1 Having regard to the Petition Scheme, the Council is recommended to debate the proposal within the petition. As outlined above, the Council has the discretion to make a recommendation to the Cabinet on the issues raised in the petition.

3.2 Following the outcome of the debate, the petition scheme requires the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment, the responsible Executive Director in respect of the services under discussion, to write to the petition organiser to respond formally on behalf of the Council. The response will also be published on the Council's website.

4. **Consultation on proposal**

4.1 No consultation has taken place in the preparation of this report which is submitted to provide procedural guidance on the handling of the petition.

5. **Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

5.1 Whilst the petition will be debated at the Council meeting on 9 September 2026, the issues raised in the petition relate to a decision already taken at the Cabinet Meetings in April 2023 and March 2025. Subject to the outcome of the Council debate, the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment will be responsible for incorporating any recommendations within the report to be considered by the Cabinet later in the year.

5.2 In procedural terms, as set out above, the Executive Director of Regeneration and Environment will provide a formal response to the petition following the Council debate. The petition organiser will be provided with the response within ten working days of the meeting.

6. **Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications**

6.1 The reports approved by Cabinet in 2023 and 2025 set out the Financial and Procurement advice and implications.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

- 7.1 Any decision required in respect of the subject matter of the petition would be an executive decision and therefore a matter for Cabinet. Any legal implications associated with any future decision will be reported to Cabinet.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 There are no human resources implications directly associated with this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 The reports approved by Cabinet in 2023 and 2025 set out implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 Equalities impact assessments were undertaken as part of the reports approved by Cabinet in April 2023 and March 2025.

11. Implications for Ward Priorities

- 11.1 The petition supports a number of ward priorities identified across the borough in terms of seeking to support the implementation of improved road safety measures.

12. Implications for Partners

- 12.1 The reports approved by Cabinet in 2023 and 2025 set out implications for partners.

13. Risks and Mitigation

- 13.1 There are no risks directly associated with this report.

14. Accountable Officers

Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services

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