

*Leader of the Council - Councillor Chris Read*

Riverside House  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Wing B  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE

☎ (01709) 822723

✉ [chris.read@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:chris.read@rotherham.gov.uk)

Mr S Denison  
Interventions Team  
Fry Building  
Department for Communities and  
Local Government  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

2 February 2016

Dear Mr Denison

## **ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – PROPOSED REVISED DIRECTIONS**

Further to the letter to the council's Chief Executive dated 21<sup>st</sup> January from Alex Powell, I write on behalf of Rotherham MBC's Advisory Cabinet and majority Group following the Department's invitation for representations on the revised package of intervention proposed by the Secretary of State.

We very much welcome the proposal received from the Secretary of State, to exercise his powers in relation to the return of responsibility for a range of identified service areas to the Authority from the appointed Commissioners.

As you will be aware, elected members have been working closely with the Commissioner team since March to make the changes necessary in Rotherham. The arrival of a new permanent Chief Executive this week, the first of a whole raft of new senior leadership, will bring increased certainty to the organisation as we move into this next stage of our recovery.

As the Leader of the Council, I see this as a significant step forward for the Authority in providing confidence to both central Government and, crucially, the residents and businesses of Rotherham that the services covered by the new direction are being delivered to a satisfactory level and are considered to provide best value.

Of course there is still a considerable amount of work to be done. Advisory Cabinet colleagues and I are under no illusions about the challenges that the authority continues to face.

We remain fully committed to continuing to play our own, democratic leadership role in this process and ensuring that, in the coming months, the evidence can continue to be provided to the Secretary of State to clearly demonstrate the authority's commitment and capability to have these functions returned.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Chris Read  
Leader of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

cc Alex Powell, Deputy Director – Intervention and Accountability  
Commissioner Sir Derek Myers, RMBC  
Commissioner Malcom Newsam, RMBC  
Commissioner Mary Ney, RMBC  
Commissioner Julie Kenny, RMBC  
Sharon Kemp, Chief Executive, RMBC