**16 July 2025**

# **Report to Council**

## Ward Priorities

1. Represent all areas of our community.
2. Make people feel safe
3. Cleaner streets, lanes and open spaces and protect the environment.
4. Improvements to our public transport and roads system
5. Develop initiatives to support local businesses.
6. To support local community and voluntary organisations.

## How we agreed the priorities

Priorities were identified by using a range of engagement opportunities to ensure we were able to listen to all the views of people from across the ward, particularly those people living within our smaller rural communities. We also talked to our parish councils, partner organisations and services as well as analysing ward data. This helped us understand what issues were most important to the people that we serve

## How the Ward priorities support the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy

The priorities centre on ‘working with’ communities and placing them at the heart of all we do. We help to empower people, using a strengths-based approach to improve outcomes and support the most vulnerable. Our priorities aim to create opportunities for everyone, but especially the young and elderly. They also help build a local infrastructure that supports residents and helps to realise the shared ambition of healthier, happier communities that are safe and welcoming.

## Some Current Projects

Cross border rural crime initiative

Farmers and residents within the ward voiced concerns over a rise in rural crime, including theft, wildlife offences, and antisocial behaviour (ASB). These issues have been exacerbated by the use of off-road and quad bikes, often linked to broader criminal activity such as drug trafficking and organised wildlife crime. The destruction of farmland by illegal off-road vehicles and the targeting of agricultural machinery have been particularly damaging, both economically and emotionally.

In response to these concerns, joint work with Dinnington ward members and South Yorkshire Police has resulted in: -

* **Increased Patrols**: South Yorkshire Police committed to enhancing rural patrols, particularly through the ORBIT team, which has proven effective in deterring illegal off-road activity
* **Improved Reporting Channels**: Residents were encouraged to report all incidents, no matter how minor, to build a clearer picture of rural crime patterns.
* **Future Engagements**: Further meetings and community engagement events are planned to maintain momentum and ensure ongoing collaboration.

The cross-border meeting marked a significant step forward in addressing rural crime within the ward. We continue to work in partnership with the police, parish councils, residents and the farming community, for a safer and more secure rural environment

### CCTV in Thorpe Salvin

**Overview -** In a significant step toward enhancing community safety, we worked with Thorpe Salvin Parish Council to install a new CCTV system throughout the village.

**Community Consultation and Support -** detailed discussions took place with Thorpe Salvin PC, Elected Members, Neighbourhoods, Street Lighting and the CCTV team as well as local residents to assess the need and feasibility of a CCTV scheme. A community survey and public meetings revealed strong support for the project, particularly considering recent thefts and burglaries in the area.

**Funding and Contributions -** The project was made financially viable through a combination of Parish Council funds and a £5,000 contribution from Elected Members via their ward budget

**Installation Details -** The CCTV system comprises four high-definition cameras strategically mounted on steel lamp posts at key entry and exit points of the village: Worksop Road, Common Road, Ladyfield Road, Harthill Road. These locations were selected to maximize coverage while adhering to installation requirements, such as using existing streetlamp power supplies and avoiding private property surveillance.

**Crime Reduction and Community Impact -** The primary goal of the CCTV system is crime prevention and detection. While the system is not monitored 24/7, footage is accessible to RMBC and South Yorkshire Police when a crime is reported or suspected. Early feedback from residents has been overwhelmingly positive. Many have expressed relief and satisfaction, noting a renewed sense of security and community well-being.