Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 10 February 2021	Meeting Name: Housing and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission
Report title:		Work Programme 2020-21	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		N/a	
From:		Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Acting)	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the housing and community engagement scrutiny commission note the work programme as at 10 February 2021 attached as Appendix 1.

2. That the housing and community engagement scrutiny commission consider the addition of new items or allocation of previously identified items to specific meeting dates of the commission.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The general terms of reference of the scrutiny commissions are set out in the council's constitution (overview and scrutiny procedure rules - paragraph 5). The constitution states that:

   Within their terms of reference, all scrutiny committees/commissions will:

   a) review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the council's functions

   b) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the cabinet and council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time in areas covered by its terms of reference

   c) review and scrutinise the performance of the council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas

   d) question members of the cabinet and officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects and about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area

e) assist council assembly and the cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues

f) make reports and recommendations to the cabinet and or council assembly arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process

g) consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants

h) liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working

i) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the scrutiny committee and local people about their activities and performance

j) conduct research and consultation on the analysis of policy issues and possible options

k) question and gather evidence from any other person (with their consent)

l) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the scrutiny process and in the development of policy options

m) conclude inquiries promptly and normally within six months

4. The work programme document lists those items which have been or are to be considered in line with the committee's terms of reference.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. The Housing service areas that fall within the scope of the Housing and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission are:

- Resident Services (which includes area management, strategy and business support, strategic business and support housing services).

- Customer Experience Division (which includes the Contact Centre; Customer Resolution and Specialist Services, My Southwark Home Owners and the Housing Solutions Services).

- Asset Management Division (which includes New Homes; Investment, Repairs & Maintenance and Engineering).

6. The cabinet portfolio elements relating to this commission are listed below:

Housing (Councillor Leo Pollok)

- Housing Strategy
- New council homes
- Housing allocations and lettings
- Council housing asset management strategy and investment programmes
- Housing repairs and major works
- Homeowners services
- Private rented housing
- Empty homes and under occupation
- Short term-lets
- Relationship with housing associations

Leisure, Environment and Roads - Councillor Catherine Rose (Housing related portfolio areas)

- Estate cleaning

Communities and Equalities – Councillor Alice Macdonald (Community related portfolio areas)

- Community engagement, participation and development
- Community and tenants and residents halls and centres
- Faith communities

Social Support and Homelessness – Councillor Helen Dennis

- Establishing a Southwark Community Support Alliance (building on the success of the community hub)
- Homelessness services

7. Set out in Appendix 1 (Work Programme) are the issues the housing and community engagement scrutiny commission is due to consider in the 2020-21 municipal year.

8. The work programme is a standing item on the housing scrutiny commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Housing and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=551		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Work Programme 2020-21

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Everton Roberts, Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Acting)
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Acting)
Version	Final
Dated	2 February 2021
Key Decision?	No

CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	**Comments Sought**	**Comments Included**
Director of Law and Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team		2 February 2021