

# Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 29 November 2023

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London  
SE1 2QH

## Membership

Councillor Ian Wingfield (Chair)  
Councillor Irina Von Wiese (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Suzanne Abachor  
Councillor Victor Chamberlain  
Councillor Sam Foster  
Councillor Jon Hartley  
Councillor Laura Johnson  
Councillor Sunny Lambe  
Councillor Margy Newens  
Councillor Bethan Roberts  
Councillor Chloe Tomlinson  
Martin Brecknell (co-opted member)  
Lynette Murphy-O'Dwyer (co-opted member)  
Jonathan Clay (co-opted member)  
Marcin Jagodzinski (co-opted member)

## Reserves

Councillor Rachel Bentley  
Councillor John Batterson  
Councillor Sunil Chopra  
Councillor Sam Dalton  
Councillor Esme Hicks  
Councillor Sarah King  
Councillor Sandra Rhule  
Councillor Jane Salmon  
Councillor Andy Simmons  
Councillor Cleo Soanes

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**Contact**

Everton Roberts on 020 7525 7221 or email: [everton.roberts@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:everton.roberts@southwark.gov.uk)

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Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

**Althea Loderick**

Chief Executive

Date: 21 November 2023



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Wednesday 29 November 2023

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

## Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	<b>PART A - OPEN BUSINESS</b>	
1.	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	<b>NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT</b>	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.	
3.	<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</b>	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
4.	<b>MINUTES</b>	To follow
	To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 4 October 2023.	

Item No.	Title	Page No.
5.	<b>DEVON MANSIONS MAJOR WORKS - SCRUTINY OF MAJOR WORKS DELIVERY</b>	Report to follow
	<p>To receive a briefing from the relevant cabinet member and council officers in response to concerns raised by residents and local ward councillors in connection with the delivery of the Devon Mansions major works.</p> <p>The committee will also hear from residents and local ward councillors.</p> <p>Residents have raised concerns around cost, evidence provided for payments, overspend, quality of the major works, communication and consultation, health and safety, and overall project delivery of the major works. Local ward councillors support the residents' concerns, and request scrutiny of the matters raised.</p>	
6.	<b>CANADA ESTATE QUALITY HOMES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (QHIP) - SCRUTINY OF MAJOR WORKS - UPDATE</b>	Report to follow
	<p>To receive an update from council officers and relevant cabinet member on progress, since the matter was considered by the overview and scrutiny committee on 4 October 2023.</p> <p>The committee will also hear from residents and local ward councillors.</p>	
7.	<b>SCRUTINY IMPROVEMENT REVIEW ACTION PLAN - UPDATE</b>	Report to follow
	<p>To receive an update on actions and timelines in respect of implementation of the CfGS scrutiny improvement review recommendations.</p>	
8.	<b>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR - HOUSING, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMISSION</b>	
	<p>To appoint a new Chair of the Housing, Community Safety and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission, following the resignation of Councillor Ellie Cumbo from the position due to other commitments.</p>	
9.	<b>WORK PROGRAMME</b>	1 - 10
	<p>To note the work programme as at 29 November 2023.</p>	
	<b>DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.</b>	

**Item No.**

**Title**

**Page No.**

**PART B - CLOSED BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION OF ANY CLOSED ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START  
OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT.**

Date: 21 November 2023

<b>Item No.</b> 9.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 29 November 2023	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Work Programme 2023-24	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		N/a	
<b>From:</b>		Head of Scrutiny	

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the overview and scrutiny committee note the work programme as at 29 November 2023 attached as Appendix 1.
2. That the overview and scrutiny committee consider the addition of new items or allocation of previously identified items to specific meeting dates of the committee.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The terms of reference for the overview and scrutiny committee are:
  - a) to appoint commissions, agreeing the size, composition and terms of reference and to appoint chairs and vice chairs
  - b) to agree the annual work programme for OSC and the commissions
  - c) to consider requests from the cabinet and/or council assembly for scrutiny reviews
  - d) to exercise the right to call-in for reconsideration of executive decisions made but not yet implemented
  - e) to arrange for relevant functions in respect of health scrutiny to be exercised by an overview and scrutiny committee of another local authority where the council considers that another local authority would be better placed to undertake those relevant functions, and that local authority agrees to exercise those functions
  - f) if appropriate, to appoint a joint overview and scrutiny committee with two or more local authorities and arrange for the relevant functions of those authorities to be exercised by the joint committee
  - g) to periodically review overview and scrutiny procedures to ensure that the function is operating effectively
  - h) to report annually to all councillors on the previous year's scrutiny activity
  - i) to scrutinise matters in respect of:
    - the council's policy and budget framework
    - regeneration

- human resources and the council's role as an employer and corporate practice generally
  - customer access issues, including digital strategy, information technology and communications
  - the council's equalities and diversity programmes.
4. The work programme document lists items which have been or are to be considered in line with the committee's terms of reference.

### KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. Set out in Appendix 1 (Work Programme) are the issues the overview and scrutiny committee has identified for consideration in the 2023-24 municipal year.
6. The work programme is a standing item on the overview and scrutiny committee agenda and enables the committee to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.

### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Overview and Scrutiny Committee agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221
Link: <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=308">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=308</a>		

### APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023-24

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny	
<b>Report Author</b>	Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	21 November 2023	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Assistance Chief Executive of Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team</b>	21 November 2023	



## Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2023/24

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
<b>4 July 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OSC and Commission Work Programmes 2023-24</li> </ul>	Initial work programmes agreed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southwark Council CfGS Scrutiny Improvement Review and Action Plan</li> </ul>	Use of call-in guidance noted, and agreement given to start review of call-in procedure. Rest of decisions relating to scrutiny improvement review deferred to the October meeting.
	Safer Southwark Communities – Motion referred from Council Assembly and agreed by Cabinet	Agreed that the Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Commission would undertake the scrutiny actions arising.
<b>4 October 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canada Estate Quality Homes Investment Programme (QHIP)</li> </ul>	Received
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keeping Education Strong</li> </ul>	Received
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southwark Council CfGS Scrutiny Improvement Review and Action Plan</li> </ul>	Received – CfGS recommendations approved.
	Scrutiny Arrangements 2023/24 [Amendment]	Change to commission portfolios agreed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	Received

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
<b>29 November 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devon Mansions Major Works</li> </ul>	On agenda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canada Estate Major Works – Update</li> </ul>	On agenda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutiny improvement Review Action Plan – Update</li> </ul>	On agenda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment of Chair of Housing, Community Safety and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission</li> </ul>	On agenda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	On agenda (reviewed at each meeting)
<b>11 December 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and Resources Strategy – 2023/24 – Implementation</li> </ul>	Discussion around implementation of 2023-24 budget
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and Resources Strategy – 2024/25</li> </ul>	<p>Light touch discussion due to time, also in light of discussion to take place at 10 January OSC.</p> <p>Opportunity to discuss expectations around 2024/25 budget process</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Revenue Account – Indicative Rent and Charges report 2024-5</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Delivery Plan Performance Monitoring</li> </ul>	

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
<b>10 January 2024</b>		
	Initial Budget Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial discussion on budget including presentation on Provisional Local Government Settlement</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action Plan Performance Monitoring</li> </ul>	Tbc
	Other agenda items to be scheduled	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>	Reviewed at each meeting.
<b>22 January 2024</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual budget Scrutiny</li> </ul>	
<b>23 January 2024</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Scrutiny – Formulation of OSC recommendations to cabinet</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresh of Southwark Stands Together and Southwark Equality Framework – Pre decision scrutiny</li> </ul>	
	Other agenda items to be scheduled	

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
<b>28 February 2024</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital Budget Refresh</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>	Reviewed at each meeting.
	Other agenda items to be scheduled	
<b>April 2024 – Date to be confirmed</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In house Leisure Service (management of transition, quality of day to day management, overall financial health of service)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other agenda items to be scheduled</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>	Reviewed at each meeting.

## Items requiring scheduling

Meeting (tbc)	Agenda items	Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Workforce Strategy</li> </ul>	Not received in 2022/23. Date for consideration by cabinet to be confirmed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regeneration Scrutiny – focus on individual schemes Old Kent Road, viability benchmarking, etc</li> </ul>	Not considered during 2022/23 Municipal year.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abbeyfield Estate – A Way Forward (Maydew House) Scrutiny review to establish procedures that will prevent a similar situation occurring in the future.</li> </ul>	Arising from call-in – April 2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Customer Services for Council Housing Repairs</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Mayor’s Budget and Operations of the Mayor’s Office</li> </ul>	Arising from budget scrutiny process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploration of how the council could use the voluntary sector as a commissioned service to deliver the work that the council has committed to around:</li> </ul>	Arising from budget scrutiny process

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elections Act – Increase in communication costs and workload of Electoral Services</li> <li>• Managing the constitutional and governance changes arising from emerging and new legislation e.g. Health &amp; Social Care Act</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in Bulky Waste Charges – update on impact</li> </ul>	Arising from budget scrutiny process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bids to alleviate excessive inflationary pressures in the Voluntary Sector</li> </ul>	Arising from budget scrutiny process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary Accommodation Budget (including housing allocation and use of temporary accommodation)</li> </ul>	Arising from budget scrutiny process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal council complaints and legal action (how many received/resolved, repeat problems, and cost of legal settlements)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract Management (assessing value, quality and efficiency, underperforming contractors)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member Interviews</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Kieron Williams, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Cllr Jasmine Ali, Children, Education and Refugees</p> <p>Cllr Evelyn Akoto, Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>Cllr Stephanie Cryan, Homes, Communities, and Finance</p> <p>Cllr Helen Dennis, New Homes and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle, Community Safety</p> <p>Cllr James McAsh, Climate Emergency, Clean Air and Streets</p> <p>Cllr Catherine Rose, Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks</p> <p>Cllr Martin Seaton, Jobs, Skills and Business</p>	<p>To be determined (as and when appropriate).</p>
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## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MUNICIPAL YEAR 23-24

### AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)

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Councillor Victor Chamberlain	1	Euan Cadzow-Webb – Liberal	
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Councillor Jane Salmon			
Councillor Andy Simmons			
Councillor Cleo Soanes			
		<b>Dated: November 2023</b>	