

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

Thursday 26 September 2024

7.00 pm

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

Membership

Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Sunil Chopra
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted member)
Jonathan Clay (Co-opted member)
Marcin Jagodzinski (Co-opted member)

Reserves

Councillor Gavin Edwards
Councillor Ketzia Harper
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor Jason Ochere
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Adam Hood

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

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Contact

Amit Alva on email: amit.alva@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 18 September 2024



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Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

Thursday 26 September 2024
7.00 pm
Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	PART A OPEN BUSINESS	
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.	
3.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
4.	MINUTES	1 - 6
	To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2024.	
5.	DRAFT TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN	7 - 12
	To receive the Draft Town Centre Action Plan from Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business, Councillor John Batteson, Danny Edwards, Head of Economy and Libby Dunstan, Principal Strategy Officer.	

Item No.	Title	Page No.
6.	CABINET MEMBER INTERVIEW- CLIMATE EMERGENCY, JOBS & BUSINESS	13 - 26
	To interview Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business, Councillor John Batteson covering a holistic overview of key strategies and projects under the cabinet member portfolio.	
7.	PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2025	27 - 33
	To consider the proposed work programme for the 2024-2025 year.	
	DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.	

Date: 18 September 2024



Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission held on Wednesday 4 September 2024 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Sunil Chopra
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted member)
Jonathan Clay (Co-opted member)
Marcin Jagodzinski (Co-opted member)

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jasmine Ali

OFFICER SUPPORT:

Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

Apologies for lateness were received from Marcin Jagodzinski.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no items of business which the Chair deemed urgent.

The Chair informed the commission of a change in order of the agenda, item 7. the Cabinet Member Interview would be taken before items 5 and 6 on the agenda.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.

There were no disclosures of interests and dispensations.

4. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2024 were approved as a correct record.

7. CABINET MEMBER INTERVIEW- CHILDREN, EDUCATION & REFUGEES

The commission first received a presentation from Cllr Jasmine Ali the Cabinet member for Children, Education and refugees on the following points

- Challenges for children & families, refugees and young people; Children services leadership, scrutiny of Youth Justice Service Leadership
- Corporate parenting; one new care home; Lifelong links programme for children in care and care leavers.
- Free School Meals (FSM) - 10th Anniversary and rollout of FSM for secondary school children; Early Intervention and Prevention; Climate Action Plan and sustainability in schools.
- Keeping Education Strong (KES) strategy, falling birth rates, pupil place planning; Increase in adult education numbers; Mental Health in children and young people; demands in NEST mental health service; Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) waiting list 462 referrals in 44 weeks.
- Radically improving SEND services in Southwark; SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board and challenges faced; £700k investment in SEND; 98% good and outstanding schools, GCSE/A level student results higher than inner London and national trends
- School exclusions on the rise at 5.7% in Southwark, however still lower than other London boroughs, regular meetings between the council Headteachers; Inclusion Charter progress.
- Southwark 2030 work in mental health and SEND; Child Poverty Task force; Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) grades to be replaced in schools with score cards; Early years expansion.
- Refugees- 2362 asylum seekers receiving support, 3rd highest in London; Borough of Sanctuary status for Southwark

The commission then asked questions on the following topics

- Closures and amalgamation of schools in the KES strategy; Number of school exclusions over the years; Library sanctuaries and adult education.
- Analysis of increase in exclusions; Adult education needs and upskilling; CAMHS waiting list and working with the NHS; Borough of Sanctuary and jobs for asylum seekers.
- Lifelong links program; Investment areas for £700k in SEND; School staff redundancies due to amalgamations and closures; Wider expansion of Borough Sanctuary process; Exclusions in the previous year, Demographics of school exclusions.

Councillor Ali explained to the commission that the council is constantly working on the numbers within the pupil place planning report with regards to closure and amalgamations of schools. Furthermore, previous pro-active steps taken in the KES have made progress in a positive way in dealing with falling pupil numbers in schools within Southwark. On exclusions, the commission heard that it was at 49 exclusions in 2018, which was reduced during the pandemic years, however it is now on the rise. Library sanctuaries are where adults can go to access information and support in education.

Councillor Ali informed the commission that poverty, cost-of-living and impact from the pandemic has had a major impact on children and their behavioural expectations in schools.

Adult education has seen significant progress, apprenticeships through the work of the local economy team working with industry partners. With regards to the CAMHS, new structures in health and social care and the wellbeing board meetings will help resolve the challenges in mental health, there is a need to clear the EHCP backlogs in partnership with the health service. Furthermore, employment is a key focus for asylum seekers and the Secretary of State has been invited to visit Southwark with regards to supporting refugees.

The commission heard from Councillor Ali that Lifelong Links program is about supporting children and young people, rebuilding links between children and young people with their families, including foster parents. Wider expansions of the borough of sanctuary involves working with voluntary sectors such as Community Southwark, Centre for Asylum Seekers, Afghanistan refugee centre.

5. PARENT CARER FORUM REPRESENTATIVE (SEND)

The commission then heard from Nicky Rolfe Chair (PCF) on the following themes

- Various forms of mental health issues from self-harming to eating disorders; Significant progress In SEND provisions, since the new appointment of Asst. Director of SEND at Southwark Council; Example of child in foster

care, not being diagnosed early and then excluded in secondary school.

- Lack of resilience in schools when dealing with children with SEND, despite existing facilities, specialist staff and resources; Challenges with oversubscribing in SEND schools and issues accessing health services.
- Need for parent training with regards to SEND children; Delays in accessing health services leads to increases severity of SEND issues in later life; PCF focus groups on different ages and different diagnosis including speech and languages areas.

The commission then asked questions on the following points

- Changes needed in SEND; Training for staff in schools for SEND; Specific issues with Health service; Severity levels of SEND children.

Nicky explained to the commission that parents working in SEND are completely voluntary and there is a growing need for parents of children with SEND to be educated on Autism, ADHD etc. Furthermore, there is an increased need for Schools and the Health service to work together with parents to tackle the challenges faced in children with SEND. Schools have dedicated SEND co-ordinators that teach classes and this needs to be encouraged in mainstream schools. The funding for SEND needs to be proportionately distributed amongst special needs and mainstream schools, mainstream schools struggle with providing SEND services within their budgets. Speech and language needs of SEND children are not properly understood by the public. Health services such as at Sunshine house are usually a one-time diagnosis of SEND issues; these are lifelong disabilities which can get worse over time, and there is a need to for these services to be comprehensive, ongoing, and lifelong such as the wide-ranging support and care for cancer.

The commission heard from Nicky that there are lot examples of SEND children including her own, who have learnt to read and write themselves and excel in areas of mathematics. However, SEND children can achieve these only for a certain period as they struggle to cope with day-to-day life.

6. EARLY INTERVENTION AND SEND INCLUDING EHCPS'

The commission then received a presentation from Anna Chiva, Asst. Director for SEND and heard from Joe Gould (Early Years Team), Kathy Johnston and Lindsey (Speech and Language Therapy team)

- Early Intervention in SEND, timely and early intervention in SEND, Communication and social interaction pilot, specialist resources provision, multi-agency transition panel, early language and communication development

- SEND Inclusion Fund provision for 3-4 years old increased by 147% from £250k to £680k, average SENDIF support contribution per child £3000k.
- EHCP timeliness in Southwark just below national average; EHCP Process Improvement; SEND partnership board's strategic vision to overcome challenges; EHCP process improvement.
- Early Language & Home Learning Improvement; Home learning single most important factor; Intervention programs at home and their impact on children; National Literacy Trust Programme; Early Words Together program for young children.
- Raising Early Achievement in Literacy by training and supporting parents in the early home learning environment; Opportunities, Recognition, and Interaction Model (ORIM)
- Early Communication Needs, Developmental Language Disorder; Scale of the speech, language and communication needs; Screening tools for Special needs (WellComm) based on Red Amber Green (RAG) rating.

The commission then asked questions on the following topics

- Number of children with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) in early years in Southwark; long term effect of Covid on young children's language development; Children from diverse back grounds and from abroad and its impact on their language developments.
- Early infancy mental and interaction health checks; Indicators for speech and language communication needs.

The commission learnt from officers that there are 800 children with speech, language and communication needs in Southwark. Officers agreed to provide numbers on the percentage of SEND children that Southwark can support and help in speech and language. Multilingual families and children are celebrated in Southwark and is a key message from the council. Children with SLCN would have issues in their language development in English as well as their primary languages; and the assessment efficacy factors this in as well. Multilingual children have better educational outcomes because of their proficiency in different languages. EHCP assessment completion within 20 weeks is at 48 % nationally, and Southwark is between 45-46 %, the aim is to be at 80%. Infants and young children in the UK undergo universal health checks. Upskilling practitioners and child minders within the borough is key to providing early intervention for babies and young children. Early year signs for SLCN are exhaustive and range from verbal and non-verbal indicators such as eye-contact within the first 16 months.

8. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2025

The commission discussed the need to review the root causes of school absences, especially within families. The commission also talked about the job skills needed for the Southeast London early prisoners release plan.

In addition, the commission discussed how community representatives could be more in touch with local schools.

The commission also noted that Lynette Murphy O'Dwyer, has stepped down as a co-opted member and representative of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark and that a new co-opted member would be appointed in due course to the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission.

Meeting ended at 9.30 pm

CHAIR:

DATED:

Meeting Name:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
Date:	26 September 2024
Report title:	Town Centre Action Plans
Ward(s) or groups affected:	Rotherhithe, Surrey Docks, Peckham, Rye Lane, Nunhead and Queens Road, South Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, North Walworth, Faraday, Newington, St George's, Chaucer, St Giles, Camberwell Green
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/A
From:	Cllr John Batteson, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission note the contents of this report setting out the council's approach to promoting thriving high streets, including the development of town centre action plans.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. This report responds to the request of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission for the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business to provide an overview of the town centre action plans.
3. This paper sets out the council's approach to the development of town centre action plans and sets out key elements of the programme going forward, including broadening engagement with communities and businesses, fostering town centre networks, and ensuring ongoing alignment with emerging neighbourhood plans.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Town Centre Action Plans

4. The council delivery plan includes the commitment to deliver thriving high streets, investing in our town centres and delivering major improvements. The town centres identified in the council delivery plan (CDP) as areas of specific focus for a town centre action plan are:
 - Peckham

- Camberwell
 - Elephant and Castle / Walworth Rd
 - Canada Water
 - Bermondsey
5. To support delivery of the CDP commitments, detailed action plans have already been developed for each town centre. Each action plan brings together the whole range of existing and proposed activity that takes place across each town centre. These action plans have been informed by town centre walkabouts and business conversations that have taken place with the lead cabinet member and seek to respond to stakeholder concerns. A whole range of council services have also informed the development of the action plans including Environmental Services, Planning, Sustainable Growth, Culture, Transport, Public Health and Local Economy.
 6. While delivery responsibility remains with each service area, each town centre has a dedicated lead officer who has coordination responsibility of the action plan and secures regular updates every quarter. The lead officer is the single point of contact for their respective town centre, although they will work closely with all teams involved with the delivery of the action plan. The Cabinet Member and a Director level senior officer group for town centres are kept abreast of key points of progress or concerns.
 7. It is recognised that while existing town centre action plans are a helpful repository of all town centre activity, they are internally focused and are not easily accessible to communities and businesses. To facilitate community and business engagement, external-facing versions of the action plans are being developed. Example public-facing action plans have already been prepared for [Camberwell](#) and [Peckham](#).
 8. The external action plans will align with and complement the neighbourhoods work. Whilst the community plans aim to cover all aspects of a neighbourhood such as public health, community safety, street cleanliness, transport and housing; the town centre action plans will sit alongside the community plans as a more focused, complementary document which is targeted specifically towards local businesses, with a focus on issues affecting our high streets and town centres. They will be updated regularly and can be used as a tool to engage businesses specifically on the development and health of their high street.

Supporting Town Centre Networks

9. Work has been ongoing across the town centres to develop active business led town centre networks. To support this work, a number of member led visits and business engagement events have taken place across our town centres.
10. The business engagement events have been useful for the development of a good relationship between the council and the business community, while also providing opportunities to promote initiatives such as the Thriving High Streets Fund, the Southwark Climate Collective and the Southwark Pioneers Fund.
11. The council has helped build capacity for the SE5 Forum which is a local

business network operating in Camberwell. The forum received funding from the Thriving High Streets Fund (THSF) to offer support to local businesses, promote the local business community of Camberwell and build the forum's capacity.

12. The Peckham Business Forum aims to champion the business community in Peckham. The establishment of the forum was facilitated by Tree Shepherd who were funded by the GLA's Highstreets For All Fund. This funding was secured by the council in collaboration with Mountview to support delivery of the forum which was launched in February 2024.
13. The Elephant and Castle Business Forum established in 2021 with the aim of fostering collaboration between local businesses. In October 2023 the forum commissioned a feasibility study to assess the appetite for a Business Improvement District (BID). Following the report, the forum is moving in the direction of forming a BID, however this is not likely to happen until 2025 at the earliest. The council is supporting by attending meetings, continuing engagement and staying abreast of developments.
14. The Canada Water Business Advisory Group has been established to support local businesses affected by the Canada Water development, either due to disruption or due to needing to relocate. The group acts as an advisory and information sharing body to ensure that the opportunities from the development are maximised.

Thriving High Streets Fund

15. The THSF was launched in response to the CDP commitment to promote thriving high streets, while supporting our town centres to adapt to a range of challenging economic factors such as the recovery from the pandemic and cost of living crisis.
16. The projects aimed to attract more people to Southwark's high streets and town centres, and to increase local spend. Two rounds of the THSF have been awarded, with grants of up to £25,000 awarded to businesses and voluntary sector groups. Funded through UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), a total of £484,703 has been awarded to 21 organisations in town centres and high streets across the borough. Details of the awards can be found in Appendix 1.
17. All funding is fully committed and additional funding will need to be secured if further grants are to be awarded. We are exploring alternative funding sources such as possible future rounds of UKSPF.

Next Steps

18. The action plans provide a good foundation for our work on town centres and will continue to be refined and updated in consultation with our key stakeholders. These will continue to align with and support the emerging neighbourhoods approach currently under development. The external versions of the action plans will provide a launchpad for additional community and business engagement.

19. We will build on the work supporting the development of town centre networks by reviewing and further developing business engagement activity. We will benchmark good practice from other local authorities on supporting local highstreets with the aim of establishing a clear set of objectives and outcomes.
20. We will review the new Government's approach to supporting high streets and small businesses to stay abreast of any policy developments or funding opportunities. This includes securing funding for further rounds of the THSF, possibly through an extension of UKSPF.
21. Work will continue to align with the emerging neighbourhoods approach to ensure town centre action plans and the broader town centres programme continues to complement and support the work on neighbourhoods.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Southwark Economic Strategy 2023-30	Planning and Growth, 160 Tooley Street	Danny Edwards 020 7525 5105

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Thriving High Street Fund Awards Rounds 1 and 2

AUDIT TRAIL

This section must be included in all reports.

Lead Officer	Danny Edwards, Head of Economy	
Report Author	Libby Dunstan, Principal Strategy Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	17/09/2024	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director, Finance	No	No
List other officers here	N/A	N/A
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	17/09/2024	

Note: Consultation with other officers

If you have not consulted, or sought comments from the Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and assurance or the Strategic Director of Finance, you must state this in the audit trail.

Appendix 1 – Thriving High Street Fund Rounds 1 and 2 Awards

Organisation	Purpose	Award	Location
Round One			
Alexander Rose Charity	Vouchers to support families on low incomes to buy healthy food from local highstreets and markets.	£25,000	Peckham, Elephant and Castle/Walworth, Borough
Bermondsey Project Space	Arts events which offer a platform for creative individuals and enterprises in Southwark to promote their work.	£24,849	Bermondsey
Big Local Works	Market stalls employing local people, providing affordable, culturally diverse, and environmentally sustainable products.	£25,000	Bermondsey
Camberwell Identity Group	Marketing support for local businesses and local events to promote Camberwell.	£21,800	Camberwell
Carnavel del Pubelo's	Business Support for marginalised Latin American aspiring entrepreneurs.	£25,000	Elephant and Castle/Walworth
East Street Community	Business support for market traders.	£12,800	Elephant and Castle/Walworth
Goldsmith's University	Support for independent high street businesses to develop and deliver creative and cultural activity.	£25,000	Peckham and Camberwell
Making Connections	Community arts event series.	£13,113	Peckham
Peckham Palms	Public wellbeing, music and food events to promote Black and female-owned businesses	£24,250	Peckham
Tree Shepherd	Training and network events for small black and women-owned businesses.	£22,892	Canada Water
Urban Elephant	Cross-cultural festival of contemporary street culture.	£24,980	Elephant and Castle / Walworth
Round 2			
Alexander Rose Charity	Vouchers to support families on low incomes to buy healthy food from local highstreets and markets.	£25,000	Peckham, Elephant and Castle/Walworth, Borough
Balamii	Four filmed live music events showcasing local talent to	£23,600	Peckham

	attract 1,600 visitors to Rye Lane		
Big Local Works	Market trading support for local businesses	£25,000	Bermondsey
Elephant and Castle Business Forum	Cross-cultural festival of contemporary street culture.	£24,980	Elephant and Castle / Walworth
East Street Community	Business support for market traders.	£24,529	Elephant and Castle/Walworth
In Good Company	Tech-based business support for ethical small businesses.	£24,900	Peckham and Camberwell
London College of Communication (UAL)	Digital skills and business support for local businesses	£24,638	Elephant and Castle / Walworth
Lost Text Found Space	Community arts and creative workshops.	£17,372	Peckham
Peckham Business Forum	Support to build capacity for a forum representing local businesses.	£25,000	Peckham
Tree Shepherd	Business and mentoring support for women and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic led businesses.	£25,000	Canada Water

Meeting Name:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
Date:	26 September 2024
Report title:	Local Economy Programmes
Ward(s) or groups affected:	All
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	NA
From:	Cllr John Batteson, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission note the contents of this report detailing Local Economy programmes 2022-2026

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. This report responds to the request of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission for the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business to provide a holistic overview of key strategies and projects under the Cabinet member portfolio, including Southwark Pioneers Fund (SPF)

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Southwark 2030 and Southwark Economic Strategy

3. Our new Economic Strategy 2023-30 was adopted by cabinet in December 2023. The strategy puts forward a vision for a more inclusive local economy, with a focus on narrowing inequalities and raising prosperity across all parts of the economy and in every neighbourhood, summarised as 'A fairer, greener, more resilient economy'.
4. The vision for Southwark's economy in 2030 is:
 - A high growth, low emission economy
 - An economy with opportunity for all
 - An economy of good work
5. The vision will be supported through eight delivery themes, under which sit the headline actions the council will work with partners to focus on. These are:
 - Investment and growth
 - A greener economy
 - Thriving high streets

- Inclusive neighbourhoods
 - Extending local ownership
 - Southwark's Youth Deal
 - Good work for all
 - Skills for now and the future
6. The strategy was developed with the involvement of resident and business communities and strategic partners. We will work with these partners to develop a full delivery plan aligned with the Southwark 2030 delivery plan. This will reflect activity already underway under each delivery theme, programme planned activity yet to commence and identify where additional resources will be required to meet the objectives in full.

Employment

Supporting residents into employment

7. The Council Delivery Plan 2022-2026 includes a target to support 2,500 Southwark residents from priority cohorts into work. As of Q1 24/5 a cumulative total of 1,904 residents from priority cohorts have been supported into jobs thus far during the Council Delivery Plan period, which is ahead of the profiled target for the period to date.

Southwark Works

8. Southwark Works is a network of employment support providers targeting a variety of priority cohorts and directly contracted by the council. Formed of specialist providers, the programme seeks to reach and support hard to reach groups into the labour market. Southwark Works was successfully recommissioned in 2023 for another 4-year period to 2027 and is now comprised of three elements:
9. A network co-ordinator directly contracted by the council, responsible for management of the network of employment support providers; service and data quality assurance; operation of the customer facing hub office; developing, managing and delivering service plans; triage and assessment of clients and referral to a network provider; and skills training.
10. Southwark Works Framework providers who form the Southwark Works Network, delivering employment support to clients based on their underlying needs and barriers to work, across 11 contracts for distinct priority cohorts, and who share the use of a hub office in the borough, managed by the Network Coordinator, from which intensive, in-person support is provided to clients.
11. The Employer Relationship Management contract is a new service co-designed with the network providers to improve the ability of Southwark Works to sustain long-term relationships with Southwark employers. GoodPeople have now been commissioned to facilitate more targeted approaches for employers to connect with residents and put additional mechanisms in place to ensure coherence between what employers need and the skills offer available via Southwark Works.

12. Apprenticeships

13. In the Council Delivery Plan we are committed to creating 2,000 new apprenticeships. As of Q1 2023/24, the Council has supported the creation of 1,270 apprenticeships, ahead profile target

13. This figure includes:

- Southwark residents supported into apprenticeships through council programmes.
- Southwark employers supported under council programmes to create and fill an apprenticeship.

If a Southwark employer creates an apprenticeship and it is filled by a Southwark resident, it is only counted once. Our apprenticeship data is reported at the end of each quarter.

14. Our apprenticeship programme consists of a range of active work-streams cutting across the Council, including:

- Apprenticeship Levy: we are continuing to partner with Workwhile who offer a free brokerage service linking SME's with Apprenticeship Levy payers to fund training costs for apprenticeships in Southwark SMEs from transferred unspent levy.
- Southwark Council Apprenticeship scheme – we have a successful internal Council scheme supporting 90 people into apprenticeships between April 2022 and March 2024.
- Construction Skills Centre – the centre is an employer-led, community focused training and apprenticeship provider, and despite challenges within the wider construction industry has supported 198 apprenticeships over the same period.
- Section 106: we routinely monitor our S106 obligations and continue to generate a consistent number of apprenticeships, contributing 251 to our overall target to date.
- The Passmore Centre, developed in partnership with LSBU, supports Southwark residents into higher level apprenticeships and supports local employers to create apprenticeship opportunities. The centre has contributed 593 local apprenticeships towards our Council Delivery Plan target at Q1 2024/25.

15. However, the wider apprenticeship system is facing challenges, particularly with starts decreasing over the last few years. We are developing activities to strengthen our pipeline and address challenges with a range of priority areas:

- Pre-Apprenticeship support
- Apprenticeships in schools
- Social value in major council contracts

16. Paid Internships

17. The Council Delivery Plan includes a renewed commitment to Create 250 paid internships for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. In line with the strategy approved by Cabinet in 2019, the paid internship programme continues to be delivered principally via three schemes:
- schools,
 - undergraduates/graduates,
 - Council.
18. Through a commissioned provider - Career Ready - the schools scheme supports sixth formers to access support such as mentoring and masterclasses and ultimately secure paid summer internships at a range of employers.
19. For the undergraduate/graduate scheme, we have partnered with Gradcore Ltd, a social enterprise who provide a programme of personalised career support to help eligible university students and recent graduates to develop key skills to enhance employability and secure paid internships and graduate jobs.
20. The council's own internship scheme has been in place since 2019 and is set to relaunch in January 2025 after a period of review. The refreshed scheme will target two internship cohorts a year and will build relationships with our local schools and universities to ensure that we are nurturing young talent within the borough
21. Since 2022, the paid internship programme has created 182 paid internships for young people and is on track to deliver the Council Delivery Plan target.
22. The 182 total can be broken down as follows:
- School = 94
 - Graduate = 68
 - Council = 15
 - Other = 5 (internships created through council funding, i.e. business resilience grants, Thriving High Street Fund projects.)

Skills

Southwark Skills Plan

23. Southwark's Skills Plan was adopted in October 2023. It sets out a programme for delivering the shared priorities of the Southwark Skills Partnership until 2025. It builds on the ambitions of a fairer, greener and more resilient economy as set out in Southwark's Economic Strategy 2023-30, and supports the council's broader ambitions as articulated in the Council Delivery Plan and Southwark 2030.
24. The Skills Plan was developed by the Southwark Skills Partnership, formed of skills and employment providers, large employers, business groups and council teams. The partnership is responsible for the delivery of the actions

set out in the delivery plan, and ensuring it continues to respond to emerging skills needs.

25. The Skills Delivery Plan has nine themes that align with broader council ambitions, including a focus on key sectors of our economy. There are six sector-focussed themes:
 - Life sciences
 - Digital
 - Green
 - Health and social care
 - Creative and cultural
 - Hospitality
26. And three cross-cutting themes:
 - Apprenticeships
 - Careers information, advice and guidance
 - Essential skills
27. Commissioning activity is now underway to deliver on the priorities identified within the Skills Plan.

Southwark Construction Skills Centre

28. Since its inception in 2016, the SCSC has proven to be hugely successful in supporting Southwark residents into construction related employment and apprenticeships. Originally based at Elephant Park, the SCSC relocated in July 2021 to the Hawker House site in Canada Water.
29. The council has a MoU with British Land regarding the ongoing governance on the SCSC. A Board (chaired by the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business) has oversight of the management and performance of the SCSC.
30. Some notable outputs and achievements from the SCSC to date (Q1 2024/25) include:
 - 6,939 Southwark residents trained
 - 2,000 jobs and apprenticeships for local residents
 - 2,500 existing Southwark construction workers upskilled
 - 6,000+ local school children engaged

Green Jobs and Skills

31. A Green New Deal for Southwark is a headline commitment of our Climate Change Action Plan and the creation of 2,000 green jobs is a commitment within the Council Delivery Plan 2022-26. We are on track to meet this target with 1,817 green jobs created as at Q1 24/25. When counting green jobs we follow the definition used in [research by London's sub-regional partnerships](#): a green job is employment in an activity that directly contributes to - or indirectly supports - the achievement of the UK's net zero emissions target and other environmental goals, such as nature restoration and mitigation against climate risks.

32. Our green jobs and skills delivery is grouped under three key objectives.
- Establish a successful and sustainable Green Skills Centre to equip residents with skills for a net zero economy.
 - Meet the Council Delivery Plan target to create 2,000 green jobs by 2026.
 - Position Southwark for future opportunities using research, funding and policy development.
33. Delivery has been heavily partnership-led, reflecting shared priorities with neighbouring boroughs, skills providers and employers.
34. Activity supporting the delivery green jobs and skills in Southwark includes:
- Support for the Green Skills Hub at London South Bank University as part of the Mayors Academy Programme, which is creating new qualifications, apprenticeships and job outcomes and raise awareness of training pathways into new low-carbon jobs.
 - Embedding green jobs into our Southwark Works employer engagement contract.
 - Implementing a monitoring framework across council services working on carbon reduction programmes to quantify job creation, agree measurement and promote opportunities for Southwark residents.
 - Using the development of the new social value framework to explore how more net zero employment and training opportunities for residents can be secured from council spend.
 - With Lambeth and Lewisham councils, jointly funding a shared post to lead and coordinate an approach to green skills across the three boroughs.
 - Feasibility and business case for additional local training facilities for low-carbon skills in anticipation of policy changes to stimulate the demand for low carbon skills at scale.
 - Securing additional funding resource to build capacity of local FE providers to deliver green skills, including a new solar PV installation and maintenance facility at Southwark College.
 - Exploring support for local SMEs and sole traders to gain accreditation that will enable them to secure work on housing retrofit and low-carbon energy projects.
 - Cross-borough work through Central London Forward to build knowledge of the green growth opportunities and skills gaps across central London.

Hospitality Skills

35. A study commissioned by Southwark Council (in partnership with Lambeth, Lewisham and Wandsworth Councils) in 2019 highlighted the large skills and recruitment gap in the prominent local hospitality sector. The final report made several recommendations, including the development of a hospitality training centre that would better meet employer needs and improved access to good quality job opportunities for local residents, while simultaneously acting as a catalyst to improve recruitment practice in the sector.
36. Due to the significant capital costs of a physical site and a lack of appetite from skills providers to operate a centre, a virtual hub and spoke model has been commissioned to act primarily as a co-ordinator between different stakeholders, relying on existing training infrastructure (spokes) to deliver

successful skills interventions. This option seeks to mirror the ambitions of the Mayor's Academies Hospitality Hub programme but with a clear focus on Southwark residents and the capability to provide support in key areas to tackle the hospitality skills gap challenge more effectively. The Southwark Hospitality Hub will start delivery in September 2024.

Employment and Skills for Life Sciences

37. Local health partners together with Lambeth and Southwark Councils have come together to establish SC1, a health science district for South Central London to deliver high impact innovation, driving improvements in health and wealth both locally and globally. The arrival of new businesses and employers, along with increased employment space through new development, offers a significant opportunity to create a high volume of new jobs to Lambeth and Southwark.
38. Founded by King's Health Partners (King's College London, King's College Hospital, South London and the Maudsley, and Guy's and St Thomas'), Lambeth and Southwark councils, and the Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation, SC1 is a place based initiative to support inclusive growth of the life science economy in south central London. Their vision is to create a Life Science District in the centre of London, dedicated to scientific and medical innovation to improve health for people locally and globally.
39. SC1 is overseen by a Board and an employment and skills sub-group of the Board has been created to put a strategy in place to pathways are put in place to ensure job, training and enterprise opportunities are available to local residents in Lambeth and Southwark.
40. Research commissioned by the sub-group sets out the potential scale and scope for employment, skills and enterprise delivery within SC1, along with a set of recommendations for securing these opportunities for local residents. The sub-group has developed an employment and skills action plan informed by the research, and will be taking a draft version of the plan to the SC1 Board later this year.
41. Southwark is also a member of the Inclusive Health and Life Sciences Coalition – a network of 8 central London boroughs working collectively to develop, test and scale innovative activities to encourage inclusive growth in the health and life sciences sector. The focus areas for the coalition are career pathways, enterprise support, inclusive innovation, and knowledge exchange.

Health and Social Care Skills

42. In partnership with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust (GSTT), Southwark College and Southwark Works, the council has developed, trialled and mainstreamed a programme of support for unemployed residents to prepare them for vacant entry-level roles within GSTT. The programme is delivered by Southwark Works and is integrated with the Healthcare Sector-based Work Academy Programme at Southwark College. Learnings from the trial have been fed into a pan-London initiative, convened by the GLA's London Anchor Institutions' Network, to improve access to NHS jobs across the capital.

43. The council works closely with the South East London Integrated Care System's Health and Care Jobs Hub on initiatives such as the application support programme. The hub is part of the Mayor's Academies Programme and is funded for a two year period until March 2025 to improve access to skills and employment opportunities for residents from the five-Borough region.

Creative and Cultural Skills

On 11th September 2024 the council convened a group of skills providers and creative and cultural organisations to begin exploring how access to the sector can be improved for Southwark residents, particularly those from for communities significantly underrepresented in this sector. This session kicked off a process of working with a wide range of partners to develop and implement a programme of local skills and talent pathways for the sector, aligned with the development of a new culture strategy scheduled for 2025.

Digital Skills

44. As a strategic partner in the Peckham Digital Accelerator Zone (PDAZ), the council is helping to provide digital skills training to 200 young adults (aged 18-30) from Black and ethnic minority backgrounds in Southwark and South London. The programme is funded until spring 2025.
45. The Southwark Skills Plan includes an ambition to deliver a comprehensive entry to digital careers programme. Development of this programme will commence in late 2024, with learnings from the PDAZ helping to inform its design.

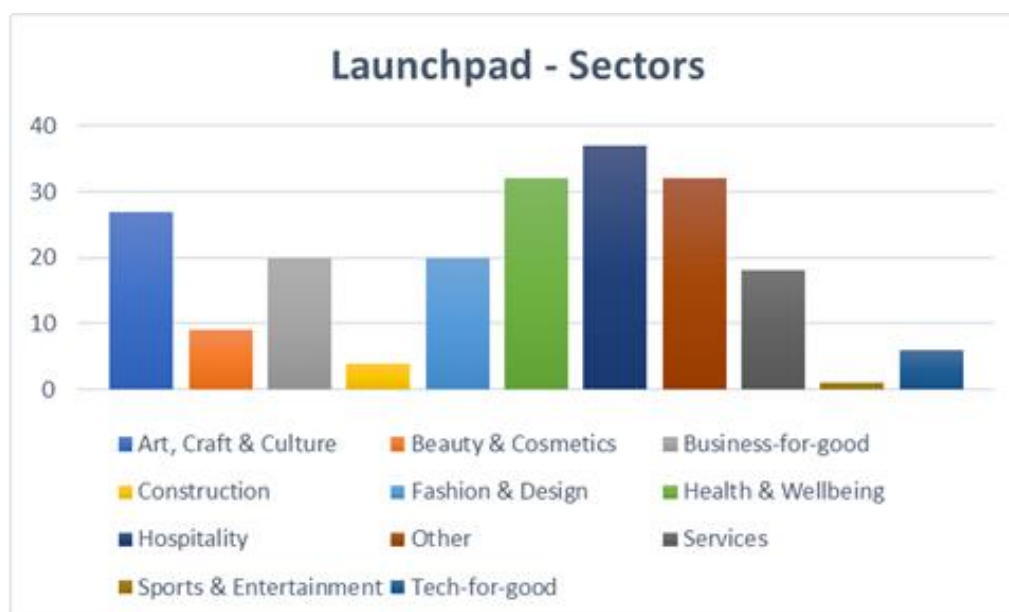
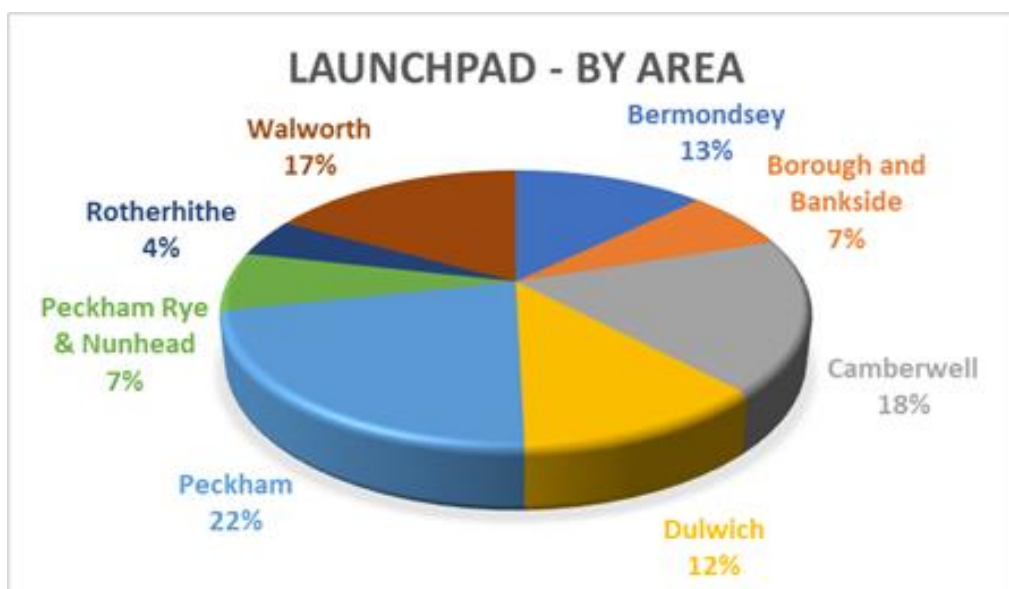
Business Support

Southwark Pioneers Fund

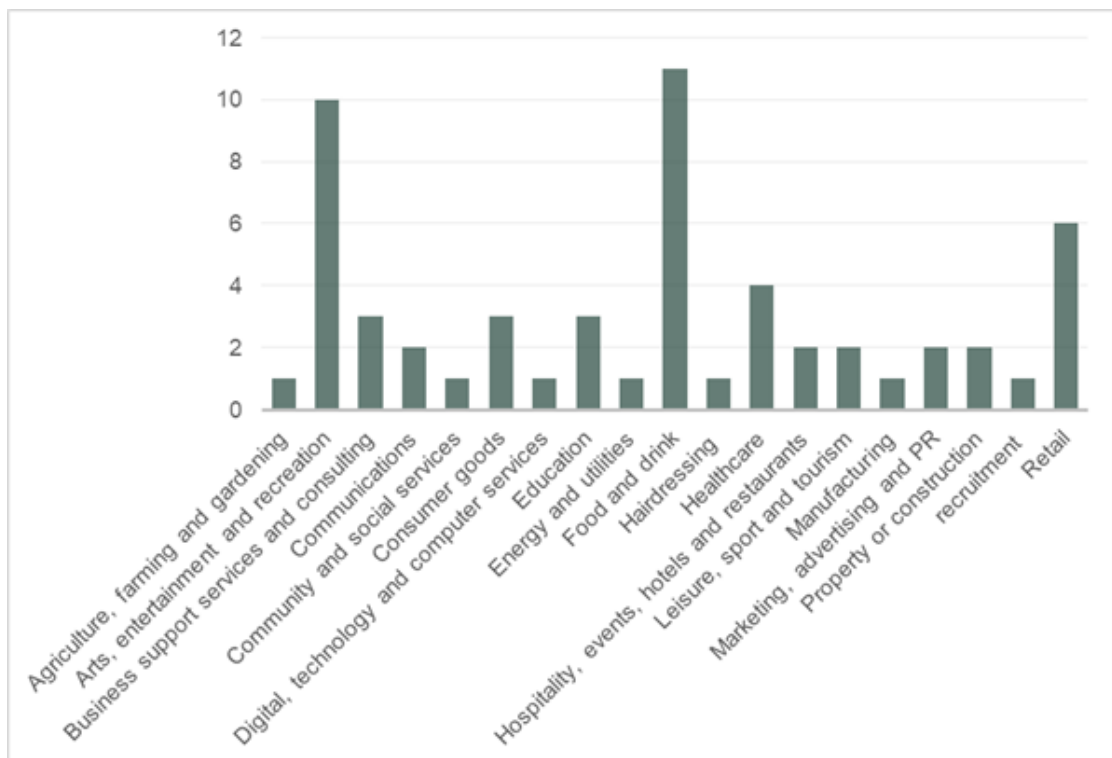
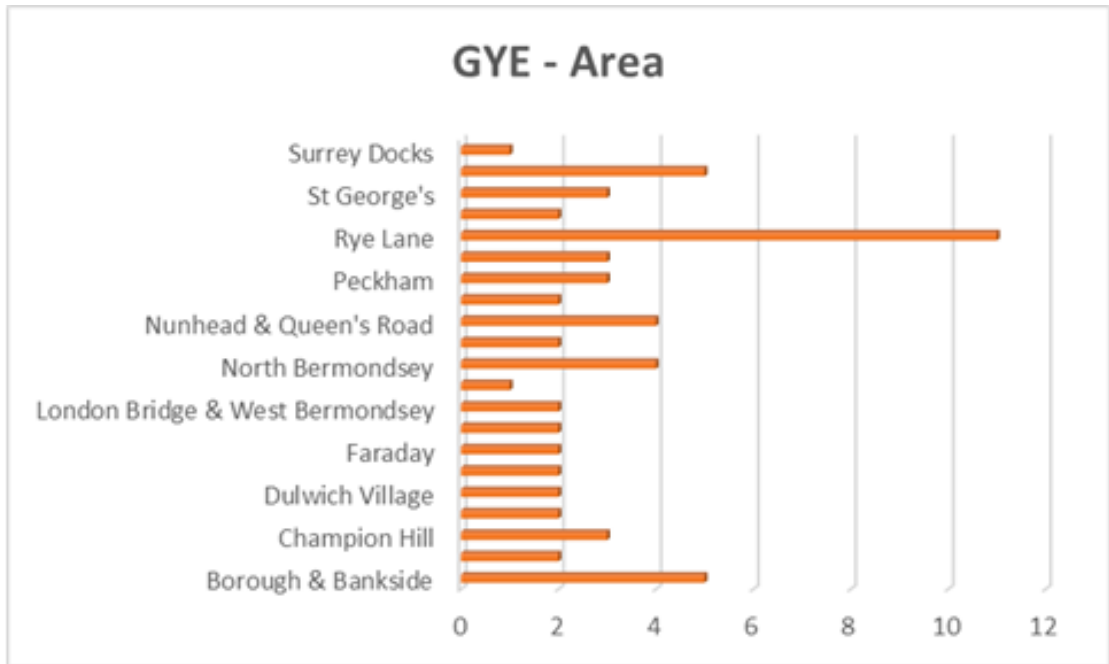
46. The Southwark Pioneers Fund (SPF) was originally developed in 2019 to generate inclusive growth by supporting the creation or scale-up of micro commercial and social enterprises (including revenue-raising charities). However, just as the SPF was launched, covid-19 struck and the £2m budget was necessarily repurposed into a Business Hardship Fund. A refreshed SPF Delivery Strategy was agreed in February 2022.
47. Since its original inception the economic climate has changed significantly (covid-19, Brexit, Climate Emergency, and Southwark Stands Together), making it particularly important that we support local enterprises to build resilience, sustain and grow. To deliver these aims and ambitions, the refreshed SPF has been split into four themes:
- Start-up Programme - Enterprise support for start-ups and aspiring entrepreneurs.
 - Growth Programme - Enterprise support for later-stage enterprises focused on growth.
 - Green Programme - Support for enterprises to decarbonise and reduce

their environmental impact.

- Social and Community Programme - support for social and community enterprises led by women or people from Black or minoritised backgrounds.
48. Both the start-up and growth contracts commenced in July 2022. Trampoline NH CIC is delivering the Start-up Programme for anyone with a business idea, through to early-stage start-ups. Hatch Enterprise is delivering the Growth Programme for anyone with an established business looking to scale and take it to the next level.
49. To date, 206 start-ups and budding entrepreneurs have been supported via the main cohort programme (Launchpad) with many more offered tailored IAG to see if starting a business is right for them. In addition, £45k grant funding has been awarded to 18 enterprises to help them to develop their business ideas, products and services. The two charts below show Launchpad participants by area and sector.



50. On the growth programme (Grow Your Enterprise), 63 enterprises have completed an in-depth Accelerator and 12 of these have received combined grant funding of £102k to help their businesses to grow. Nearly 250 entrepreneurs have also been support via the Community offer, which includes 1-1 consultations and a range of online workshops and talks. The two following charts show Grow Your Enterprise participants by area and sector.



51. For the Green Programme, ReLondon have been commissioned to support high street businesses to trial circular economy business models to tackle those hard-to-abate consumption-based emissions. Approximately 15 high street businesses will receive grant support to implement a new, circular initiative in their business, either by procuring products/services from circular

innovators or by developing products from scratch. Grant applications are being considered and those successful will receive support to make best use of their grants until February 2025, when the programme concludes.

52. The Social and Community Programme is being delivered via the Local Access Programme (LAP), which is a partnership of local stakeholders with a shared vision of a collaborative, sustainable and diverse social economy, which delivers positive social impact and a better future for all Southwark's residents.
53. The LAP has received £900k grant funding from the Local Access Foundation to support social enterprises in Southwark and the council has match-funded this with £500k to bring the total enterprise support budget to £1.4m.
54. In addition to enterprise support, the LAP has been provisionally allocated £4.4m (£2.625m repayable capital, £1.85m grant capital) from Big Society Capital to invest in the social economy. Plans are being developed to make best use of this investment and provide a financial product not already available on the market.

Town Centres

Town Centre Action Plans

55. Thriving town centres and high streets are a key part of our new Economic Strategy (2023-2030) and are an integral part of the council's wider Neighbourhoods programme. Ambitions for our town centres include:
 - Protecting employment space and attracting new businesses investment.
 - Using planning powers and our role as a landlord to protect the role of markets and town centres, while promoting healthier high streets.
 - Supporting the recovery of the hospitality, night-time and cultural economy while also recognising and addressing health and community safety concerns.
 - Promoting safer high streets and encouraging businesses to sign up to good practice such as the Women's Night Safety Charter.
 - Encouraging businesses to switch to zero-pollution delivery vehicles, especially in town centres with poor air quality.
 - Supporting the development of business networks to encourage business and community engagement.
56. Governance arrangements for a whole council approach have been implemented, including a Director level group of officers that meet regularly with strategic oversight of all cross-council services, activities, engagement and other work aimed at supporting and revitalising our high streets and town centres. To help standardise our efforts across the borough, whilst also acknowledging that each town centre has a unique identity and may require a more targeted neighbourhood level approach, individual Town Centre action plans have been co-developed for Peckham, Camberwell, Elephant and Castle/Walworth, Bermondsey and Canada Water, with lead officers appointed for each.

Thriving High Streets Fund (THSF)

57. The THSF was launched in response to the CDP commitment to promote thriving high streets, while supporting our town centres to adapt to a range of challenging economic factors such as the recovery from the pandemic and cost of living crisis.
58. The projects aimed to attract more people to Southwark's high streets and town centres, and to increase spending in the area. Two rounds have been awarded, with grants of up to £25,000 awarded to businesses and voluntary sector groups. Funded through UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), a total of £484,703 has been awarded to 21 organisations in town centres and high streets across the borough.
59. All funding is fully committed and additional funding will need to be secured if further grants are to be awarded. Future rounds of UKSPF funding could continue to fund the THSF if made available by the new Government.

Living Wage

Southwark's Living Wage Unit

60. The Council Plan 2022-26 includes a commitment to establish a new Southwark Living Wage Unit, tasked with doubling the number of Southwark employers who pay at least the London Living Wage to all their staff. The target is to have 498 Living Wage Employers by March 2026.
61. As at Q1 2024/25 we are making good progress, with 363 accredited employers. We have seen good growth in the number of Living Wage Employers in the Borough in recent months, however challenges have been posed by the significant rate rise from £11.95 to £13.15 per hour in November 2023. We have seen a small but growing number of employers failing to renew existing accreditations, so in addition to driving new accreditations, we must also ensure our Living Wage Employers are engaged within the programme and maintain their accreditation.
62. A programme of activity is driven by the council's Living Wage Unit. The programme includes:
 - A new grant scheme to remove barriers and incentivise new accreditations with Southwark employers.
 - Dedicated officer resource, raising awareness of the campaign across the borough and providing proactive encouragement and support to businesses to become accredited Living Wage Employers.
 - Support for the Southwark Living Wage Action Group that owns and delivers the Southwark Living Wage Place Action Plan.
 - Collaborative working with other council teams and officers to ensure best practice internally.
 - Support for policy development and implementation such as S.106, Residential Care Charter, Procurement and Social Value ensuring London Living Wage is a requirement

63. Our Living Wage Grant Scheme covers the accreditation fees for small and medium enterprises in Southwark to become newly accredited Living Wage Employers. Since its launch in November 2023, the grant has supported 36 Southwark-based businesses to become accredited and retain their accreditation through to May 2026.
64. In 2020, Southwark became the first recognised Living Wage Place in London and successfully renewed this status in November 2023.
65. The Living Wage Unit administers The Southwark Living Wage Place Action Group of 25 Living Wage champion organisations from across the borough including developers, trade unions, universities, Business Improvement Districts, charities and employers of all sizes. This group has proved an effective means of generating new accreditations and has allowed us to achieve a sector based, peer-on-peer approach.
66. The Living Wage Action Group was shortlisted for the Living Wage awards and is widely recognised as being one of the most effective Living Wage Action Groups in the UK. Two member organisations, Borough Market and Youth Music won their respective categories for work they have been doing in their sector.
67. Living Wage Week will be taking place in November which provides a great opportunity for our action group members to collaborate and deliver events which celebrate our achievements and raise awareness of Living Wage accreditation. The Living Wage Unit has elected a working group of six representatives from the action group to coordinate the week's events.
68. The Living Wage Unit continues to drive support across different council departments. This has supported implementation of policy such as the residential care charter. Colleagues in Planning and Growth have provided introductions to employers in the built environment sector which has resulted in new accreditations.
69. We have identified opportunities for continuous improvement of the programme to enhance our progress towards achieving our accreditation target. This includes the continued involvement of the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business in advocacy, and an evaluation of the action plan after its first year of implementation. These opportunities will be reviewed in the coming weeks and months.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Southwark Economic Strategy 2023-30	Planning and Growth, 160 Tooley Street	Danny Edwards 020 7525 5105
Southwark Skills Delivery Plan 2023-25	Planning and Growth, 160 Tooley Street	Danny Edwards 020 7525 5105

AUDIT TRAIL

This section must be included in all reports.

Lead Officer	Danny Edwards, Head of Economy	
Report Author	Danny Edwards, Head of Economy; Nick Wolff, Employment and Skills Manager	
Version	Final	
Dated	17/9/2024	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director, Finance	No	No
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	17/09/2024	

Note: Consultation with other officers

If you have not consulted, or sought comments from the Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and assurance or the Strategic Director of Finance, you must state this in the audit trail.

Meeting Name:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
Date:	26 September 2024
Report title:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2024-25
Ward(s) or groups affected:	N/a
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/a
From:	Scrutiny Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the education and local economy scrutiny commission note the work programme as at 26 September 2024 attached as Appendix 1.
2. That the education and local economy 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 commission's terms of reference.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. Set out in Appendix 1 (Work Programme) are the issues the education and local economy scrutiny commission is due to consider in 2024-25.

6. The work programme is a standing item on the education and local economy scrutiny commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.
7. As of 22 May 2024 the commission also now has within in its remit the cabinet portfolio elements listed below:

Children, Education & Refugees (Councillor Jasmine Ali, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member)

- **Early years and childcare** – including children and family centres, early years education, childminders and nurseries
- **Schools** – including school standards, inclusion, places and admissions; special education needs; free healthy school and nursery meals and fruit; healthy schools and Southwark’s Let’s Go Zero schools network
- **Further, higher and adult education** – including English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), adult literacy and numeracy; and scholarships
- **Children’s social care** – including children in care and care leavers, fostering and adoption, support for children with disabilities and their families; and child safeguarding
- **Family support** – including parenting programmes, the council’s sure-start for teenagers service and support for families who are providing unpaid care for a child with a disability or health condition, including respite care
- **Youth offending services.**

Climate Emergency (green economy), Jobs & Business (Councillor John Batterson)

- **Greening our local economy** - engaging local people, businesses and organisations in action to reduce carbon emissions; delivering more green jobs, promoting climate justice; and reducing the council’s own emissions
- **Increasing employment** - support to find a job or start a new carer; careers advice and work experience; paid internships; supporting young people and care leavers’ into employment, education and training; relationship with Jobcentre Plus; supporting businesses to engage with schools and colleges (including the Education Business Alliance)
- **Vocational Skills** - including apprenticeships, vocational training and skills centres
- **Businesses support** - for local businesses, cooperatives, social enterprises and entrepreneurs; increasing procurement from local businesses; and relationships with local business groups and Business Improvement Districts.
- **High streets** – including town centre action plans, Thriving Highstreets Fund, markets

- **Commercial property** – management, leasing and rent setting of the council’s retail and commercial units, office accommodation and related property
- **Industrial strategy** - growing industries that generate good jobs and wider value for our community, including green industries, life sciences and creative and cultural industries
- **Living Wage** - promoting the London Living Wage employers
- **Workers’ rights** - promoting good employment practices and equality and diversity at work and trade union membership.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Amit Alva Amit.alva@southwark.gov.uk
Link: https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CIId=550&Year=0		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Work Programme 2024-25

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer	
Report Author	Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	18 September 2024	
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	18 September 2024	

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission Work Programme – 2024/25

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
4 September 2024	Parent Carer Forum Representative (SEND)	To hear from a Parent Carer Forum representative on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
	Early Intervention and SEND including EHCP's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND IF Formula • EHCP backlog, timelines for processing • No. of Early interventions carried out • Improvements for EHCP Process in Southwark 	To receive a presentation and written/verbal responses on Early Intervention in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND); and Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) backlogs and processing timelines.
	Cabinet Member Interview- Children, Education & Refugees	To interview Councillor Jasmine Ali covering a holistic overview of key strategies and projects under the Cabinet member portfolio for Children, Education and Refugees with a focus on key aspects.

26 September 2024	Draft Town Centre Action Plan	To receive the Draft Town Centre Action Plan from Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business, Councillor John Batteson, Danny Edwards, Head of Economy and Libby Dunstan, Principal Strategy Officer.
	Cabinet Member Interview- Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business	To interview Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business, Councillor John Batteson covering a holistic overview of key strategies and projects under the cabinet member portfolio.
Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
18 November 2024	Written update on EHCP back logs (challenges faced in EHCP assessments)	To be confirmed
	Interviewing retired Headteacher (working with SEND) and SEND tribunal mediator.	To be confirmed
	Inclusion Charter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics of exclusions • Schools with no exclusions • Persistent absences (demographics of schools with absences) 	To be confirmed

<p>4 February 2025 8 April 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewing representatives from charities on SEND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Council for Disabled Children ➤ Mencap ➤ Scope • Southwark Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) 	<p>To be confirmed</p>
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Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024-25

AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)

NOTE: Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Amit Alva Tel: 020 7525 0496

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
<p>Electronic Copy</p> <p>Members:</p> <p>Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair) Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair) Councillor Sunil Chopra Councillor Renata Hamvas Councillor Jon Hartley Councillor Youcef Hassaine Councillor Irina Von Wiese</p> <p>Education Representatives Martin Brecknell</p> <p>Parent Governor Representatives Marcin Jagodzinski Jonathan Clay</p> <p>Reserves Members</p> <p>Councillor Gavin Edwards Councillor Ketzia Harper Councillor Sunny Lambe Councillor Jason Ochere Councillor Victor Chamberlain Councillor Adam Hood</p>		<p>Joseph Brown – Senior Cabinet Officer</p> <p>Euan Cadzow-Webb - Liberal Democrat Group Office</p> <p>Sarauniya Shehu- Cabinet Office Manager</p> <p>Dated: September 2024</p>	