

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 7 January 2026

6.30 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 Cassandra Brown
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Esme Hicks
Councillor Laura Johnson
Councillor Richard Leeming
Councillor Jason Ochere
Councillor Bethan Roberts
Councillor Martin Seaton
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted Member)
Claire Williams (Co-opted Member)
Mannah Kargbo (Co-opted Member)
Alie Kallon (Co-opted Member)

Reserves

Councillor Rachel Bentley
Councillor Sunil Chopra
Councillor Sabina Emmanuel
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Hamish McCallum
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Cleo Soanes

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

You have the right to request to inspect copies of minutes and reports on this agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

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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: 19 December 2025



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Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
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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

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 11 November and 11 December 2025. *(To follow)*

5. COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE

To receive a report on the Council Delivery Plan Performance from Councillor Stephanie Cryan, Cabinet Member for Equalities, Democracy & Finance supported by officers. *(To follow)*

6. BUDGET LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT

To receive a verbal update from Councillor Stephanie Cryan, Cabinet Member for Equalities, Democracy & Finance and officers on the Budget Local Government settlement.

7. COMMUNITY REVIEW PANEL - REGENERATION OLD KENT ROAD

To receive an update on the Community Review Panel and the regeneration of Old Kent Road from Councillor Helen Dennis, Cabinet Member for New Homes & Sustainable Development supported by officers. *(To follow)*.

8. RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) INVESTMENT AT TRAIN/TUBE STATIONS

To receive a report from Councillor Helen Dennis, Cabinet Member for New Homes & Sustainable Development supported by officers. *(To follow)*

9. WORK PROGRAMME 2025-26

1 - 9

To note the work programme as at 7 January 2026.

DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.

Date: 19 December 2025

Meeting Name:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	7 January 2026
Report title:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Commission Work Programmes 2025/26
Ward(s) or groups affected:	N/a
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/a
From:	Head of Scrutiny

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the committee consider and agree annual work programmes for overview and scrutiny committee and its commissions for the 2025/26 municipal year.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Paragraph 6 of the overview and scrutiny procedure rules states that terms of reference of the overview and scrutiny committee will be:
 - 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.

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.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. In accordance with the provision set out in 2(a) above, the overview and scrutiny committee established four commissions for the 2025-26 municipal year at its meeting held on 17 May 2025.
 - Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
 - Environment, Community Safety and Engagement Scrutiny Commission
 - Housing Scrutiny Commission
 - Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission
5. In accordance with the provision set out in 2(b) above, overview and scrutiny committee is being recommended to agree scrutiny work programmes for the 2025-26 municipal year.
6. In considering the work programmes the overview and scrutiny committee is recommended to focus on key issues where scrutiny can make a significant impact for local people, and issues aligned to the council's strategic priorities.
7. Attached as an appendix are the proposed remits of overview and scrutiny committee and its commissions based on the cabinet portfolio responsibilities set out in the council constitution and the Southwark 2030 Goals. The document is for reference purposes only and serves to highlight the cabinet member portfolio responsibilities and Southwark 2030 Goals covered by the overview and scrutiny committee and the scrutiny commissions with a view to assist in directing potential issues for consideration to the correct committee/commission undertaking actions referred to in paragraph 3 above.
8. The work programmes are a standing item on the overview and scrutiny committee and commission agendas and enables the committee/commissions to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Council Constitution • Section 3.3 - Cabinet Portfolios • Section 9 - Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules • Southwark 2030 Strategy	Southwark Council Website	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221
Link: Council Constitution Southwark 2030 Strategy		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Work Programme 2025-26

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny		
Report Author	Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer		
Version	Final		
Dated	19 December 2025		
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		No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team			19 December 2025

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2025-26

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
23 June 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Commission Work Programme 2025-26 	Lead officer – Vishal Seegoolam (Everton Roberts)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny Improvement Review Implementation - Update June 2025 	Lead officer – Vishal Seegoolam (Everton Roberts)
8 October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Review of the Chilton Grove Estate Rooftop Homes and 2018-19 QHIP Major Works Project 	Lead member – Cllr Situ Lead officer – Hakeem Osinaike
	Southwark Community Safety - Strategic Assessment and Draft Community Safety Plan	Lead member – Cllr Enin Lead officer – Stephen Douglas (Caroline Thwaites)
11 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget introduction and scene setting - training, fair funding consultation, current financial strategy 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Tim Jones)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of Living - Southwark 2030 goals including economies 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Dominic Cain (Eugen Nixon)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Workforce report 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Doreen Forrester Brown (Ben Plant)

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
7 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Delivery Plan Performance 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Rhona Cadenhead (Moushumi Bhadra & Alice Granville)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Local Government settlement – Verbal update 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Tim Jones)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Review Panel - Regeneration Old Kent Road 	Lead member - Cllr Dennis Lead officer - Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts) Tim Cutts, Neil Kirby & Colin Wilson
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rail Infrastructure - CIL investment at train/tube stations 	Lead member – Cllr Dennis Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts) Neil Kirby
19 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual budget Scrutiny (daytime meeting) (TBC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2026-2027 agreed budget savings ➤ In-year budget delivery ➤ Transformation delivery 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan, Cllr Ali and Cllr Dennis Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Tim Jones)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Scrutiny – Formulation of OSC recommendations to cabinet (daytime meeting) (TBC) 	Lead member – Cllr Wingfield
20 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southwark 2030 Goal – Well Run Council (TBC) 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Rhona Cadenhead

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
20 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Commission work (TBC) 	Lead member – Cllr Dennis Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts) Neil Kirby
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees / Borough of Sanctuary (Task and Finish Group Setup) 	Lead Member – Cllr Ali Lead Officer – Stephen Douglass
12 February 2026	TBC	
16 March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Transformation Agenda (TBC) 	Lead member – Cllr Cryan Lead officer – Rhona Cadenhead
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leader of the Council Interview 	Lead Member- Cllr King
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy Framework (NCIL) (Pre-scrutiny) (TBC) 	Lead member – Cllr Dennis Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts)

Agenda items to be scheduled

Meeting (tbc)	Agenda items	Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees / Borough of Sanctuary (Task and Finish Group) 	Lead Member – To be appointed 2 meetings preferred.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth services and Play Investment (TBC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Youth Provision ➤ Investment in Youth Services 	Lead Member – Cllr Mwangangye Lead Officer – Toni Ainge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National gov investment in Southwark youth services (the youth transformation programme) ➤ Investment we have made for young people in our open spaces, playgrounds, and our sports facilities. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member Interviews <p>Cllr Sarah King, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Cllr Jasmine Ali, Children, Education & Refugees</p> <p>Cllr Evelyn Akoto, Health & Wellbeing</p> <p>Cllr John Batteson, Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business</p> <p>Cllr Stephanie Cryan, Equalities, Democracy & Finance</p> <p>Helen Dennis, New Homes & Sustainable Development</p> <p>Cllr Natasha Ennin, Community Safety & Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Cllr Michael Situ, Council Homes</p>	To be determined (as and when appropriate).

	<p>Cllr James McAsh, Clean Air, Streets & Waste</p> <p>Cllr Portia Mwangangye, Leisure, Parks & Young People</p> <p>Cllr Sam Dalton, Supported Housing</p> <p>Cllr Margy Newens, Cleaner Southwark</p> <p>Cllr Bethan Roberts, Landlord Services</p> <p>Cllr Joseph Vambe, Neighbourhoods</p>	
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Agenda item to be scheduled in the next council year 2026-2027

Meeting (tbc)	Agenda items	Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southwark Equality Framework (pre-decision scrutiny) 	<p>Lead member – Cllr Cryan</p> <p>Lead officer – Ben Plant (Evereth Willis)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemeteries and crematorium services 	<p>Lead member – Cllr Mwangangye</p> <p>Lead officer – Toni Ainge/ Aled Richards</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of social purpose of land framework 	<p>Lead member - Cllr Helen Dennis</p> <p>Lead Officer - Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Water 	<p>Lead member – Cllr Dennis</p> <p>Lead officer – Clive Palfreyman (Stephen Platts)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Homes Investment Strategy 	<p>Lead member – Cllr Situ</p> <p>Lead officer – Paul Wood</p>

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**MUNICIPAL YEAR 25/26****AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)****NOTE:** Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to amit.alva@southwark.gov.uk

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members		Officers	
Paper copy		Joseph Brown – Cabinet Office	
Councillor Suzanne Abachor	1	Arthur Holmes – Cabinet Office	
Councillor Victor Chamberlain	1	Oliver Bradfield – Liberal Democrat	
Councillor Laura Johnson	1	Group Office	
Electronic Versions (no hard copy)		Paper copy	
Councillor Cassandra Brown		Sarah Feasey, Legal Department	1
Councillor Esme Hicks		Amit Alva, Governance and Assurance (Spares)	10
Councillor Richard Leeming			
Councillor Jason Ochere			
Councillor Bethan Roberts			
Councillor Martin Seaton			
Councillor Irina Von Wiese			
Councillor Ian Wingfield			
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted Member)			
Alie Kallon (Co-opted Member)			
Mannah Kargbo (Co-opted Member)			
Claire Williams (Co-opted Member)			
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Councillor Sunil Chopra			
Councillor Sabina Emmanuel			
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Councillor Catherine Rose			
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