

Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Commission Scrutiny Remits

This document sets out the remits of the overview and scrutiny committee/commission in relation to the various areas of cabinet member responsibilities listed in the council constitution. This information has been extracted from section 3.3 of the constitution [[Cabinet Portfolios 2022-23](#)]. Due to individual cabinet portfolios cutting across the remit of more than one committee/commission it has been necessary to divide up individual cabinet portfolios to reflect those areas relevant to the commissions, as such portfolios will appear within the remit of more than one commission but with only the relevant portfolio areas contained.

Note: This document is for reference purposes and only reflects information detailed in the cabinet member portfolios. Given the wider remit of scrutiny, including the review and scrutiny of performance of other public bodies, it should not be viewed as a full list of issues the overview and scrutiny committee/commissions can scrutinise. Information relating to the full remit of overview and scrutiny committee and its commissions is contained in section 9 of the council constitution [[overview and scrutiny procedure rules](#)].

Contents

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – remit	3
Leader of the Council.....	3
Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital	3
Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development	4
Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure.....	4
Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	5
Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air	5
Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission – remit	6
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education ..	6
Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital	6
Cabinet Member for Jobs, Business and Town Centres.....	6
Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure.....	7
Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission - remit	8
Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development	8
Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital	8
Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure.....	8
Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air	9
Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission - remit	10
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education	10
Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	10

Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Commission - remit	11
Cabinet Member for Council Homes and Homelessness	11
Cabinet Member for Community Safety.....	12
Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development	13
Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air.....	13

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – remit

Leader of the Council

Portfolio

- Setting the political and strategic direction for the council
- The Borough Plan and Council Delivery Plan
- External Affairs, campaigns and public affairs
- Emergency planning and business continuity
- Major projects oversight
- Strategic partnerships and relationships with government, NHS, City Hall, the Mayor of London and major anchor organisations within the borough
- Performance management of the Cabinet and Deputy Cabinet Members

Delivering commitments

No commitments specified in cabinet portfolio.

Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital

Portfolio

- The Council's budget and financial strategy
- Performance and financial management across the council
- The Council's response to the cost of living crisis
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)
- Council's response to welfare reform
- Customer services, the call centre, complaints and members' enquires
- Digital inclusion
- Digital infrastructure, improving broadband and the free WiFi network
- Corporate IT and IT shared services and the council's website
- Pension Funds
- Legal and Constitutional services
- Electoral services, electoral registration and postal vote uptake
- Registrar's and Coroners services
- Human resources and workforce training and skills
- Increasing equality and diversity in the council's workforce
- Council's internal relationship with staff trade unions
- Facilities and the Operational Estate

Delivering commitments

- Establishing a new Southwark Cost of Living Fund
- Make the council's pension fund zero carbon by 2030
- Provide free access to the internet through our network of community buildings

- Stand against big companies who dodge their taxes
- Keep council tax low

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

Portfolio

- Ensuring development in Southwark:
 - Delivers for the whole community
 - Meets low carbon and net-zero ambitions
 - Increases the supply of new genuinely affordable homes
 - Creates economic growth that works for all Southwark residents
 - Improves biodiversity and enhances the public realm
 - Meets the social infrastructure needs of the population, including the needs for education, health and community facilities
- Building control, planning policy and performance
- Area Action Plans, including Old Kent Road and Canada Water
- Major infrastructure projects, including the Bakerloo Line Extension
- Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 payments
- Council owned commercial properties and commercial assets

Delivering commitments

- Launch a Land Commission to identify how more land in Southwark can be freed up for public good
- Back local people to establish Community Land Trusts, housing cooperatives and partnerships
- Deliver brand new parks at Canada Water and off the Old Kent Road

Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure

Portfolio

- Developing the council's approach to creating successful neighbourhoods
- Equalities
- Southwark Community Support Alliance
- Southwark Stands Together programme
- Increasing the voice and influence of black, Asian and minority ethnic communities
- Promoting equality and diversity in the cultural and arts sectors
- Women's rights
- LGBTQ+ rights
- Faith communities
- Borough of Sanctuary, refugees and asylum seekers
- Volunteering and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)

- Community grants and investment, including: Local Community Infrastructure Levy (LCIL); Common Purpose Fund; Cleaner, Greener, Safer Fund (CGS); Democracy Fund; Neighbourhoods Fund; and, Resident Participation Fund
- Community buildings
- Advice Services
- No recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- Civic issues

Delivering commitments

- Ensure your local area is a great place to live, with all the essentials of life close to your home
- Empower communities to shape the places they live in and make decisions about issues which affect their lives
- Ensure the whole council is focussed on closing the gap in life chances within our borough
- Invest £20 million in community-led action to make Southwark fairer, greener and safer, working with residents to set priorities for their neighbourhoods
- Strengthen Southwark's network of community-led hubs
- Celebrate Southwark's rich diversity, funding local community groups to deliver events and festivals that showcase the diverse histories, music, food and art of our communities
- Build on Southwark's Borough of Sanctuary commitment
- Establish a 'Southwark Together' civic leadership programme
- Work with the community to establish a Latin American cultural space
- Secure a new permanent LGBTQ+ cultural space

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Delivering commitments

- Establish a new Inclusive Southwark Forum

Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air

Portfolio

- Street cleaning, fly-tipping and graffiti
- Estate cleaning and grounds maintenance
- Pest control
- Flooding, flood defences, internal waterways, moorings, marinas and associated infrastructure
- Cemeteries and crematorium services

Delivering commitments

- Keep your streets and estates clean

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission – remit

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

Portfolio

- Play
- Early years' services, health visiting and children and family centres
- Child care
- Schools, nurseries and special education needs
- Free healthy school and nursery meals and fruit
- Children's social care, corporate parenting and care leavers
- Fostering and adoption
- Unaccompanied asylum seeking children
- Young people and youth services
- Youth offending services
- Further, higher and adult education
- Relationship with Southwark College

Delivering commitments

- Put our new Southwark Youth Parliament in the driving seat
- Launch a new sure-start for teenagers service
- Local high quality playgrounds, including play equipment for children with disabilities
- Keep school standards high
- Launch a School Inclusion Charter to prevent permanent exclusions and end off-rolling.
- Launch 'Let's Go Zero' schools network
- Create a 'We Are Southwark' curriculum

Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital

Portfolio

- Procurement and social value

Cabinet Member for Jobs, Business and Town Centres

Portfolio

- Local economic strategy
- Town centres and highstreets
- Community Wealth Building
- Growing Southwark's key industries such as; life sciences, green jobs, hospitality, cultural and construction
- Support for local businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises

- Increasing employment, apprenticeships, internships and work experience
- Pre-employment programmes
- 18 year old and care leavers' employment, education and training (working with the Cabinet member for Children, Young People and Education)
- Supporting businesses to engage with schools and colleges (working with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education)
- Promoting equality and diversity in the private sector
- Affordable workspaces
- Markets
- Relationship with Jobcentre Plus

Delivering commitments

- Create 250 paid internships for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds
- Create 2,000 apprenticeships and 3,000 training opportunities
- Deliver free support to get a job for people who face the most barriers
- Create more career opportunities for local people
- Creating a new Southwark Living Wage Unit to tackle low pay
- Champion workers' rights and the benefits of trade union membership
- Create 2,000 green jobs and open a new Green Skills Centre
- Launch a new Thriving High Streets Fund
- Establish a world class health innovation district
- Back Southwark residents to start more businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises
- Keep more wealth within our community, ensuring the council and other big institutions in Southwark buy more goods and services locally
- Make Southwark one of the most digitally connected boroughs (working with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Digital and Democracy)

Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure

Delivering commitments

- Expand our library service even more, increasing the range of services you can access through them
- Open a new library on the Aylesbury and an expanded library on the Kingswood Estate
- Provide free English, maths and digital skills courses at your local library or family centre

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission - remit

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

Portfolio

- Reducing carbon emissions and promoting climate justice
- Green energy

Delivering commitments

- Halve the council's carbon emissions again by 2026
- Launch Southwark Green Finance
- Stronger planning rules to make sure all new developments meet high green standards
- Streamline planning applications for new and retrofit projects that meet high green standards
- Build on the work of the Southwark Climate Change Citizen Jury
- Establish a free green homes advice service for homeowners to help you make your home greener and lower carbon
- Streamline planning applications to green your home
- Create a 'retrofit learning network' to bring together experts to share information on the potential costs, available discounts and carbon savings from making your homes more environmentally friendly

Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital

Delivering commitments

- Launch a new Southwark Energy Savers service

Cabinet Member for Equalities, Neighbourhoods and Leisure

Portfolio

- Community engagement, participation and development
- Leisure services, including indoor and outdoor sports and gym facilities
- Working with local sports clubs and groups
- Libraries, culture, heritage and events

Delivering commitments

- Establish a new in-house Active Southwark Service designed to help you stay healthy and fit

Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air

Portfolio

- Parks, trees and biodiversity
- Transport policy and travel strategy
- Active travel, walking and cycling
- Public transport and accessible travel
- Relationship with TfL
- Highways and parking

Delivering commitments

- Deliver more high quality green spaces and parks
- Plant 20,000 trees and create more tree canopy cover
- Improve air quality and road safety at every Southwark school
- design safer, greener and healthier streets and routes for walking and cycling
- Work with TfL to reduce traffic on main roads and make bus journeys quicker and more reliable
- Ensuring older and younger people, women and our Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities all have a full say, so we design streets and public transport that works for everyone
- Deliver on our Equal Pavements Pledge
- Make Southwark a Cycle Friendly Borough.
- Offer free cycle lessons for all Southwark residents
- Double the number of cycle hangars
- More segregated cycle lanes and extending cycle hire
- Create new ways for residents on low incomes to access an affordable bike
- Encourage people to switch to less polluting cars
- Pilot incentives to residents to give up their cars altogether
- Deliver 1000 more electric vehicle charging points in Southwark
- Help businesses switch to zero pollution delivery vehicles
- Work with the Mayor of London to upgrade Southwark's train and tube stations
- Campaign with the Mayor of London to protect and improve public transport
- Ensure Southwark has one of the highest recycling rates in inner London, including extending food waste recycling to estates
- Upgrade street and estate lighting across the borough, installing clearer, safer, greener LEDs

Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission - remit

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

Delivering commitments

- Guarantee mental health support for all Southwark children and young people
- Support new families, ensuring you have a family centre close to where you live

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Portfolio

- COVID-19
- Older people
- Adults with disabilities
- Public health, including health improvement, protection and intelligence
- Adult social care, including nursing and care homes
- Local health services, including GP practices
- Integration of health and social care services
- Childhood obesity (working with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education)
- Drug and alcohol services
- Sexual health, contraception and HIV
- Commissioning of supported, extra care and sheltered housing

Delivering commitments

- Make Southwark a Right to Food Borough
- Ensure all Southwark residents can access mental wellbeing support
- Reduce inequalities in access to healthcare
- Expand our Community Health Ambassadors network
- Provide a defibrillator (AED) for every school and in public buildings
- Introduce support for all unpaid carers
- Roll out our new Residential Care Charter
- Every care home having a Family Forum
- Open a new nursing home and more extra care housing
- Seek opportunities to bring social care services in house
- Campaign to keep our NHS in public ownership
- Establish a modern centre for Black African and Caribbean elders run by and for the community they serve

Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Commission - remit

Cabinet Member for Council Homes and Homelessness

Portfolio

- Southwark's Housing Strategy
- Management of the council's homes, including sheltered and extra care homes
- Council housing repairs and major works services
- Delivery of new council homes, including older people's homes
- Tenant and homeowner involvement, including relationships with Tenants and Resident Associations (TRAs) and Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs)
- Services and advice for council tenants, leaseholder and freeholder
- Maintenance of tenants and residents halls and related facilities on our estates
- Housing allocations and lettings
- Management of council owned temporary accommodation
- Homes for Gypsy, Roma and traveller communities
- Housing fire safety, cladding and remediation
- Relationship with housing associations
- Tackling empty homes and absentee landlords

Delivering commitments

- Start at least 1,000 more council homes by 2026
- Start building 500 homes for key workers
- Build new council homes for older people
- Increase support for council tenants if you want to downsize
- Launch a Good Lettings Agency
- Guarantee support to everyone who is on the street in Southwark to access a home of their own
- Campaign for the government action needed to end rough sleeping for good
- Ensuring repairs to council homes are done right first time
- Clear the backlog of repairs that has resulted from the pandemic within one year
- Launch a new resident-led repairs board to oversee progress
- Deliver major improvements to the Aylesbury, Tustin, Ledbury and Abbeyfield estates
- Provide more support to start a Tenants and Residents Association or to run key services on your estate
- Provide free independent advice and mediation for council leaseholders
- Support homeowners affected by the Cladding Crisis
- Make all of our future council homes projects net zero council homes
- Piloting Southwark's first 'Passive House' council homes

- Make our existing council homes warmer and greener
- Take a zero tolerance approach to empty homes and use all our powers to bring more long-term empty homes back into use

Cabinet Member for Community Safety

Portfolio

- Reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance
- Violence Against Woman and Girls (VAWG)
- Community Harm and Exploitation Hub
- Modern day slavery
- Community wardens
- The Southwark Young Advisors
- Public spaces protection orders (PSPOs)
- Strengthening community relations with the police and promoting equitable policing
- Private rented housing and short-term lets
- Licensing, Trading Standards, Environmental Health and gambling

Delivering commitments

- Launch a new anti-social behaviour task force
- Invest in our CCTV network
- Work to end youth violence
- Work with the local community and police to ensure stop and search is used fairly
- Campaign with the Mayor of London to fully reverse damaging police cuts
- Challenge misogyny, working with our schools, employers and community groups to deliver a major campaign to promote positive male behaviours towards women and make clear male harassment and violence towards women will not be tolerated in Southwark
- Work with women to help them feel safe in our borough
- Improve public spaces where women tell us they feel unsafe
- Request all organisations that operate in Southwark sign our Women's Safety Charter
- Establish a ground-breaking Women's Safety Centre
- Work with the Metropolitan Police to tackle male violence against women
- Make clear there is no place for hate in Southwark, taking a zero tolerance approach to hate crimes
- Roll out more protections and support for private renters, extending our licensing scheme
- Funding free advice services so support is there if your landlord is acting unfairly
- Campaign for further powers to regulate the sector including three-year tenancies and powers to control rents

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

Delivering commitments

- Use our planning powers to robustly require new social rent homes

Cabinet Member for Parks, Streets and Clean Air

Delivering commitments

- A new right to community gardens or food growing plots on estates