

Cabinet Member Portfolio Responsibilities - Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Commission Remits 2023/24

This document details the remits of the overview and scrutiny committee/commissions based on the cabinet member portfolio responsibilities set out in [section 3.3](#) of the council constitution. The document is for reference purposes only and serves to highlight the cabinet member portfolio responsibilities covered by the overview and scrutiny committee and the scrutiny commissions. The terms of reference detailing the role and responsibilities of the overview and scrutiny committee and its commissions in full, is contained in [section 9](#) of the council constitution (see paragraphs 5 and 6 in particular).

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee – remit

Leader of the Council

Portfolio

- Setting the political and strategic direction for the council
- Southwark 2030 and the Council Delivery Plan
- Southwark Stands Together
- Communications, campaigns and public affairs
- Emergency planning and business continuity
- Major projects oversight
- Strategic partnerships and relationships with government, the Mayor of London, City Hall, Transport for London, The NHS and major anchor organisations within the borough
- Performance management of the Cabinet & Deputy Cabinet Members

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Refugees

Portfolio

- **Refugees and asylum seekers** – including our work to ensure Southwark is a Borough of Sanctuary and support for people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Clean Air & Streets

Portfolio

- **Cleaning, pest control & grounds maintenance** – street and estate cleaning; flytipping and graffiti removal; pest control; and maintenance of verges and green spaces on the council's highways and estates.

Cabinet Member for Communities, Democracy & Finance

Portfolio

- **Community involvement** – including empowering communities programme, ward forums; volunteering and consultations.
- **Cost of living support** – financial support; Council Tax Reduction Scheme; access to benefits, advice services and Community Support Alliance
- **Digital** – digital inclusion and infrastructure (including broadband); and the council's corporate IT and website
- **Voluntary, community and faith sector** – including community hubs
- **Equalities** – as they relate to women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights and working with the Forum for Equalities and Human Rights

- **Funding for community projects and events** – including the Neighbourhoods Fund, Cleaner Greener Safe Fund, Local Community Infrastructure fund, Democracy Fund, Common Purpose Grants; Equalities Grants, Food And Fun Fund; Getting Involved Fund; Culture Together Grants; Positive Futures Fund, Cultural Celebrations Fund, Black History Month Grants and Windrush 75 Fund
- **Customer services** – call centre, complaints and members' enquires
- **Finance & governance** – the council's budget; financial and performance management; legal and constitutional services; procurement; income collection; pension fund; and civic matters
- **Workforce** – the council's workforce and internal relationship with staff trade unions
- **Facilities management** – of the buildings within the council's operational/civic estate
- **Property** – including decisions relating to the council's acquisitions and disposal of properties
- **Registrar's and coroners services**
- **Electoral services** – electoral registration and postal vote uptake.

Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks

Portfolio

- **Neighbourhoods** – working with residents to develop strategic plans to improve each neighbourhood as well as the council's overarching strategy to transform the organisation to operate on a neighbourhood basis (working with the Cabinet Member for Communities, Democracy & Finance)
- **Waterways** – including moorings & marinas and flood defences
- **Cemeteries and crematorium services**
- **The renewal of Peckham Library square.**

Cabinet Member for New Homes & Sustainable Development

Portfolio

- **Planning & building control** – planning applications, enforcement and policy (including the Southwark Plan, neighbourhood plans, area action plans and supplementary planning documents); Section 106 agreements and payments; and building control and dangerous structures
- **Old Kent Road** – working with the community to shape development in the OKR opportunity area, including the delivery of new affordable homes and community infrastructure
- **Major infrastructure projects**, including the Bakerloo Line Extension, new Elephant & Castle Northern Line station, wider improvements to train and tube stations; and Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- **Responding to the Southwark Land Commission.**

Deputy Cabinet Member for Equalities

Portfolio

- Promoting equality and diversity, including the equalities framework and audit
- Increasing the voice and influence of black, Asian and minority ethnic communities
- 'Southwark Together' civic leadership programme
- Diverse Councils commitments
- London Councils Tackling Racial Inequality Standard pilot.

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission – remit

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Refugees

Portfolio

- **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.**

Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills & Business

Portfolio

- **Increasing employment** - support to find a job or start a new career; 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.

Deputy Cabinet Member for Young People

Portfolio

- Increasing the voice and influence of young people
- Southwark Youth Parliament
- The council's in-house and commissioned youth services
- Positive Futures Fund
- Southwark Young Advisors.

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission - remit

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Clean Air & Streets

Portfolio

- **Reducing carbon emissions** – engaging local people and organisations in action to reduce carbon emissions; promoting climate justice; delivery and ongoing development of the Southwark Climate Action Plan; and ending the council's own emissions
- **Adaptation to climate change** – ensuring plans and action are in place to make Southwark resilient to changes in the climate including heatwaves and extreme weather events
- **Air quality** – improving air quality, reducing harmful emissions and air quality monitoring
- **Walking and cycling** – making Southwark a great place to walk, wheel or cycle; including cycle lessons, infrastructure, hire and storage
- **Streets & parking** – creating safer, greener and healthier streets; road safety; parking (on the council's highways and estates); street lighting (including on council estates and in parks); and highways maintenance
- **Transport** – including improving local bus services and public transport, accessible travel (including blue badges and the Freedom Pass), promoting sustainable freight; reducing traffic and electric vehicle charging; and managing the council's fleet
- **Waste & recycling** – waste and bin collection and the council work to reducing waste and increasing recycling.

Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks

Portfolio

- **Leisure centres** - management of the councils leisure centres, swimming pools and gyms
- **Sport** - management of the council's multi-sport, athletics, football, tennis and cycling facilities; supporting and promoting grassroots sports; and the council's relationship with local sports clubs
- **Culture** - events and festivals; theatres, galleries, museums and performing arts; opening a Southwark LGBTQ+ cultural space; establishing a Latin American cultural space; and promoting Southwark as an centre for film making
- **Libraries** - council's libraries, heritage and archives service
- **Parks & Play** – parks, green spaces, playgrounds and adventure play
- **Biodiversity & trees** - tree planting and maintenance; increasing biodiversity and nature;

- **Gardening** – community gardening, food-growing and allotments, including on the councils estates.

Deputy Cabinet Member for Green Finance

Portfolio

- Launch Southwark Green Finance
- Identifying opportunities to secure increased investment into action to reduce carbon emissions in Southwark
- Engaging relevant sectors to explore and support opportunities around green finance
- Engaging the residents of the borough to support green finance initiatives.

Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission - remit

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Refugees

Portfolio

- **Children's mental health** – including mental wellbeing support in schools; the council's Nest open access mental health service for children and families; and improving access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health services.

Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing

Portfolio

- **Public health** – including reducing health inequalities; Covid19 and health protection; Community Health Ambassadors; vaccinations, immunisation and screening; health visiting, school nursing and childhood obesity; sexual health, contraception and HIV; and smoking, drug and alcohol services
- **Adult social care** – including adult safeguarding; home care; nursing and care homes; occupational therapy, aids and adaptations; and commissioning extra care, sheltered and supported housing
- **Health & wellbeing partnerships** – overseeing key stakeholder relationships such as Partnership Southwark and SC1
- **Improving health services** – working with the NHS, general practice (GPs), local hospitals, community health services and pharmacists,
- **Adult mental health**
- **Older people** – including ensuring Southwark is an age friendly borough and opening a modern centre for Black African and Caribbean elders
- **Adults with disabilities** – including social care support; increasing the voice and influence of people with disabilities and their families in local decision making
- **Carers** – support for people who are providing unpaid care for adult family members or friends with a disability or health condition, including respite care
- **Food** – making Southwark a Right to Food borough with access to affordable healthy food for all.

Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Commission - remit

Cabinet Member for Community Safety

Portfolio

- **Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour** – including community wardens, antisocial behaviour team, noise service, CCTV, public spaces protection orders, preventing hate crime, tackling modern day slavery
- **Violence reduction** – working to end misogyny and violence against women and girls; and youth violence and the criminal exploitation of young people
- **Domestic abuse** – support for people who have experienced domestic abuse, Women's Safety Centre and safe spaces
- **Improving policing** – promoting equitable policing and strengthening community relations with the police
- **Licensing** – of premises serving alcohol or late night refreshment and of gambling
- **Environmental health** – including trading standards, food safety and environmental protection
- **Private rented housing** – increasing protections for private renters licensing and advice services for private sector renters.

Cabinet Member for Council Homes

Portfolio

- **Management of the council's homes** – including council homes, sheltered and extra care homes, council owned temporary accommodation, high needs hostels and homes and sites for Gypsy, Roma and traveller communities
- **Residents involvement and services** – including services and advice for council tenants, leaseholders and freeholders and support for Tenants and Resident Associations and Tenant Management Organisations
- **Housing maintenance** – including repairs and major works; heat networks; communal repairs; gas and electrical safety and refurbishment of voids
- **Fire safety** – ensuring council homes meet fire safety standards and leading the council's work on fire safety, cladding and remediation for private sector and housing association residential buildings
- **Housing allocations** – oversight of the council's Housing Solutions Service and the allocation of council homes, housing association, social rent and key worker homes to Southwark residents
- **Renewal of the Aylesbury, Tustin, Ledbury and Abbeyfield estates** – working with residents to deliver new and improved homes and estates (working with the Cabinet Member for New Homes and Sustainable Development)
- **Tenants and residents' halls** – including their maintenance, ongoing improvement and ensuring they are the best possible facilities for residents of our estates and broader community.

Cabinet Member for New Homes & Sustainable Development

Portfolio

- **New council homes** – the council’s work to build thousands of new council homes; including new council homes for older people; net-zero homes; and working with the Cabinet Member for Council Homes to deliver new council homes on the Aylesbury, Tustin, Ledbury and Abbeyfield estates
- **New affordable homes** – including housing association social rent homes; keyworker homes; community land trusts and housing cooperatives; homes for refugees; and temporary accommodation.
- **Homelessness** – Including support for people who are at risk of being or who become homeless; working to end rough sleeping; securing good quality temporary accommodation; and establishing the council’s Good Lettings Agency
- **Empty homes and short-term lets** – including the council’s Empty Homes Action Plan; and the Good Lettings Agency.

Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing Allocations

Portfolio

- Updating the council’s housing allocations and lettings policy for council homes and housing association homes
- Developing a new approach to housing allocations that maximises the number of people in housing need who are able to move to a home that is right for their needs
- Improving support for council tenants who want to downsize to a home that meets their needs.