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| <b>Item No.</b><br>13                  | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>20 September<br>2023   | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Environment and<br>Community Engagement<br>Scrutiny Commission |
| <b>Report title:</b>                   |                                | Cover report for the Environment and<br>Community Engagement Scrutiny<br>Commission Work Programme 2023-24 |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups<br/>affected:</b> |                                | N/a  |  |
| <b>From:</b>                           |                                | Project Manager, scrutiny.   |  |

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission note the work programme attached as the Work Programme, plus appendix.
2. That the Environment 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 that have been or are to be considered in line with the commission's terms of reference.

#### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 5. Set out in the Work Programme and review scope appendixes are the issues and reviews the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission is due to consider in 2023-24.
- 6. The work programme is a standing item on the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers   | Held At                   | Contact                           |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes   | Southwark Council Website | Julie Timbrell<br>Project Manager |
| Link: <a href="https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518">https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518</a> |                           |                                   |

## APPENDICES

| No. | Title  |
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|     | Work Programme 2023-24<br>Appendix A<br>Appendix B |

## AUDIT TRAIL

|   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>   | Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny          |                          |
| <b>Report Author</b>  | Julie Timbrell, Project Manager, Scrutiny. |                          |
| <b>Version</b>  | Final                                      |                          |
| <b>Dated</b>  | 15 September 2023                          |                          |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>  | No   |                          |
| <b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b> |  |                          |
| <b>Officer Title</b>  | <b>Comments Sought</b>                     | <b>Comments Included</b> |
| Director of Law and Governance  | No   | No                       |
| Strategic Director of Finance and Governance                            | No   | No                       |
| <b>Cabinet Member</b>   | No   | No                       |
| <b>Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team</b>                          | 15 September 2023                          |                          |