

Cabinet Member Portfolio Responsibilities - Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Commission Remits 2024/25

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
- Communications, campaigns and public affairs
- Emergency planning and business continuity
- Strategic partnerships and relationships with government, the Mayor of London, City Hall, Transport for London and major anchor organisations within the borough
- Performance management of the Cabinet and Deputy Cabinet Members

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education and 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 Equalities, Democracy and Finance

Portfolio

- **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, volunteering, community involvement and consultations
- **Equalities** - as they relate to women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights and working with the Forum for Equalities and Human Rights
- **Funding for projects and events** - the Democracy Fund, Common Purpose Grants; Equalities Grants, Black History Month Grants and Windrush 75 Fund
- **Customer services** - call centre, complaints and members' enquires
- **Finance and 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
- **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**

Cabinet Member for New Homes and 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)
- Opening a **Southwark LGBTQ+ cultural space**; establishing a **Latin American cultural space**
- **Local Community Infrastructure Levy (LCIL)**
- **The renewal of Peckham Library Square**
- **Responding to the Southwark Land Commission**

Cabinet Member for Clean Air, Streets & Waste

Portfolio

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

Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks & Young People

Portfolio

- **Moorings & marinas**
- **Cemeteries and crematorium services**
- Key local funds including **Culture Together Grants; Positive Futures Fund, Cultural Celebrations Fund**

Deputy Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

Portfolio

- Strengthening the way the council works with local communities at a neighbourhood level, including, oversight of local democratic structures, future neighbourhood funding arrangements, and plans for our ten neighbourhoods

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission – remit

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education and 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 Climate Emergency, Jobs & 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

Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks & Young People

Portfolio

- Increasing the voice and influence of young people through the **Southwark Youth Parliament**
- **Young people** - Commissioned youth services and Southwark Young Advisors

Environment Scrutiny Commission – remit

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs & Business

Portfolio

- **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
- **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

Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks & Young People

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; and promoting Southwark as a centre for filmmaking
- **Libraries** - council's libraries, heritage and archives service
- **Parks and Play** - parks, green spaces, adventure play, playgrounds, including on the council's estates
- **Biodiversity and trees** - tree planting and maintenance; increasing biodiversity and nature
- **Gardening** - community gardening, food-growing and allotments, including on the councils' estates

Cabinet Member for Clean Air, Streets & Waste

Portfolio

- **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 and 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, surface water & flood risk

- **Road transport** - including improving local bus services and public transport, promoting sustainable freight; reducing traffic and electric vehicle charging; and managing the council's fleet
- **Accessible travel** - including blue badges and the Freedom Pass
- **Waste and recycling** – waste and bin collection and the council work to reducing waste and increasing recycling
- **Flood risk** and surface water

Deputy Cabinet Member for Green Finance

Portfolio

- 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 and 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 and 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 and wellbeing partnerships** – overseeing key stakeholder relationships such as Health & Wellbeing Board and the South East London Integrated Care Partnership, 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, including the Food & Fun Fund

Housing, Community Safety and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission - remit

Cabinet Member for New Homes and 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
- **Empty homes and short-term lets** - including the council's Empty Homes Action Plan; tackling empty homes across the private rented sector
- **Renewal of the Aylesbury, Tustin, Ledbury and Abbeyfield estates** - working with residents to deliver new and improved homes and estates

Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Neighbourhoods

Portfolio

- **Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour** - including community wardens, anti-social 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, 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
- **Licencing** - of premises serving alcohol or late night refreshments and gambling
- **Environmental health** - including trading standards, food safety and environmental protection
- **Private rented housing** - increasing protections for private renters licencing and advice services for private sector renters
- **Neighbourhoods** - working with residents in each neighbourhood to develop strategic plans to improve each neighbourhood, current ward forum arrangements and empowering communities programme, including the Neighbourhoods Fund and Cleaner Greener Safe Fund

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
- **Housing allocations** – lettings policy and allocation policy. Allocation of council, social rent and key worker homes to Southwark residents, supporting them to find a home the right size for their needs
- **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, including Getting Involved Grants
- **Housing maintenance** - including repairs and major works; heat networks; communal repairs; gas and electrical safety and refurbishment of empty council homes
- **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
- **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

Deputy Cabinet Member for Supported Housing

Portfolio

- **Supported Housing Strategy** – Setting out the future provision of supported housing for older people, people with disabilities and vulnerable people

Deputy Cabinet Member for Resident Engagement

Portfolio

- Ensuring the council's engagement and communication with residents about its services is effective and works for the residents of our borough