



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, 20 January 2026

Time: 6.00pm,

Location: Council Chamber - Daneshill House, Danestrete

Contact: Gemma O'Donnell 01438 242216

committees@stevenage.gov.uk

Members: Councillors: Jim Brown (Chair), Andy McGuinness (Vice-Chair), Sandra Barr, Phil Bibby, Stephen Booth, Robert Boyle, Leanne Brady, Kamal Choudhury, Peter Clark, Akin Elekolusi, Alistair Gordon, Lynda Guy, Ellie Plater and Ceara Roopchand

AGENDA

PART 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 December 2025.

5 – 10

3. STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKFORCE PRESENTATION

Members are invited to receive a presentation to consider the Committee's work programme item regarding the Council's Workforce.

11 – 34

4. PART I DECISION OF THE CABINET - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FINAL BUDGET AND RENT SETTING 2026/27

To consider the decision of the Cabinet on the proposals for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets and rent setting for 2026/27, to be considered by Council on 21 January 2026.

Notice of Decisions to follow in separate document.

35 – 92

5. PART I DECISION OF THE CABINET - DRAFT GENERAL FUND AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2026/27

To consider the decision of the Cabinet on the Council's draft 2026/27 General Fund

Budget, Council Tax Support Scheme and draft proposals for the 2025/26 Council Tax.
93 – 152

6. PART I DECISION OF THE CABINET - DRAFT GENERAL FUND CAPITAL STRATEGY 2025/26 TO 2029/30

To consider the decision of the Cabinet to approve revisions to the 2025/26 Capital Programme and Strategy and approve the draft 2026/27 Capital Programme.
153 – 178

7. PART I DECISION OF THE CABINET - 2025 RESIDENTS SURVEY FINDINGS

To consider the decision of the Cabinet on an overview of the key findings from the 2025 Residents Survey, which was undertaken independently by an external research agency over a five-week period between May and June 2025.
179 – 218

8. URGENT PART I DECISIONS OF THE CABINET - LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND LOCAL ELECTIONS 2026

To consider the decision of Cabinet on the potential postponement of their local election in May 2026 following the publication of the English Devolution White Paper.
219 – 230

9. URGENT PART I DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To consider any urgent Part I Decisions authorised by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10. URGENT PART I BUSINESS

To consider any Part I business accepted by the Chair as urgent

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider the following motions:

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 – 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.
2. That Members consider the reasons for the following reports being in Part II and determine whether or not maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

12. PART II MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve as a correct record the Part II Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 December 2025.

13. URGENT PART II DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF THE

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To consider any urgent Part II Decisions authorised by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

14. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

To consider any Part II business accepted by the Chair as urgent