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COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday, 25 March 2026

Time: 6.00pm,

Location: Council Chamber

Contact: Gemma O'Donnell (01438) 242216

committees@stevenage.gov.uk

Members: Councillors: Ellie Plater (Chair), Julie Ashley-Wren (Vice-Chair), Kamal Choudhury, Akin Elekolusi, Lynda Guy, Mason Humberstone, Dermot Kehoe, Sarah Mead, Carolina Veres and Peter Wilkins

AGENDA

PART 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2026

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Community Select Committee held on Wednesday 4 February 2026.

3 – 8

3. CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE

The Community Select Committee, sitting as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee is to receive a presentation from the Police on community safety matters that they have been engaged in over the past year. As well as the Police, the Chair of the SoSafe Partnership, SBC Chief Executive, Tom Pike; Executive Portfolio Holder for Stronger Communities, Cllr Tom Plater and the Council's Head of Advice & Support, Sarah Pateman will be in attendance.

9 – 30

4. CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EQUALITIES DIVERSITY & INCLUSION REVIEW

To receive the Cabinet Member response to the Community Select Committee's Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Scrutiny Review report and recommendations.

31 – 42

5. UPDATE ON THE DELIVERY OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2025-26 AND POTENTIAL ITEMS FOR 2026-27

To receive an update on the delivery of the 2025-26 Work Programme and potential options for consideration for the Committee's 2026-27 Work Programme.
43 – 50

6. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS

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

7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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 ground 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.

8. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

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

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, 4 February 2026

Time: 6.00pm

Place: Council Chamber

Present: Councillors: Ellie Plater (Chair), Lynda Guy, Mason Humberstone, Sarah Mead, Carolina Veres, Peter Wilkins and Alistair Gordon

Start / End Time: Start Time: 6.00pm
End Time: 8.00pm

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Apologies were received from Councillors Julie Ashley-Wren, Kamal Choudhury, Dermot Kehoe and Akin Elekolusi.

It was noted that Councillor Alistair Gordon was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Akin Elekolusi.

Councillor Myla Arceno was in attendance as the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Older People.

The following declarations of interest were received from Councillors Mason Humberstone and Myla Arceno.

Councillor Mason Humberstone declared an interest as he was employed as a non-clinical Health Adviser in the NHS.

Councillor Myla Arceno declared an interest as she was employed as a Cardiac Physiotherapist in the NHS.

2 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - 11 DECEMBER 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Community Select Committee meeting held on 11 December 2025 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 **FOCUS ON PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Committee received a presentation from the Director and Deputy Director of Public Health at Hertfordshire County Council.

Officers explained the role of the service and the main health and wellbeing issues affecting Stevenage.

Members were advised of the statutory responsibilities of Public Health and its role

in commissioning and supporting a range of preventative services. This included working in partnership with the NHS, district and borough councils and the voluntary sector to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

The presentation outlined the main challenges for Stevenage, including issues affecting children and young people, mental wellbeing and the needs of an ageing population. It was noted that levels of health inequality were higher in more deprived areas and that a place-based approach was important in addressing these challenges.

Officers highlighted the importance of continued partnership working and aligning local priorities to support healthier communities in Stevenage, including through neighbourhood working, shared facilities and future regeneration and development activity.

Members raised a number of questions in relation to the presentation, including the absence of reference to cancer within the overview and a request for greater visibility of local health statistics to support understanding of performance and trends.

Officers advised that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment provided further detail on the statistics, including cancer data across the town, which would be circulated to Members.

Discussion took place regarding childhood obesity and the wider factors linked to health inequalities, including mental health or family circumstances, and it was noted that these issues should not be attributed solely to deprivation.

Questions were raised as to whether current healthy eating and prevention initiatives could be extended further into secondary schools. Officers explained that a new healthy food and nutrition programme (Nourish) was being introduced in schools. It was noted that the initial phase would focus on primary schools, with plans for the programme to be extended to secondary schools at a later stage.

Officers explained that Public Health worked with partners and with the NHS to increase capacity to focus on young people's mental health and to ensure that services were appropriately targeted to meet local needs.

It was further suggested that a broader and more joined up approach was needed, particularly in relation to the links between mental health, family environments and physical health, to ensure that gaps in provision for children and young people were addressed.

In response to questions, Officers advised that weight management support for children was available, with parents encouraged to participate in family-based programmes promoting healthy lifestyles and affordable nutrition. These services were commissioned county wide and were accessible to residents in Stevenage.

Officers also noted that population growth was increasing the pressure on local services and emphasised the importance of ensuring sufficient health and primary

care infrastructure was in place to meet future demand.

Members were advised that proposals for neighbourhood health and wellbeing hubs were at an early stage and were being developed with NHS partners. The intention was to bring a range of services closer to communities through either new or existing local facilities.

In response to questions, Officers confirmed that asylum seekers accommodated locally were registered with GPs and were able to access primary care. Services were also provided in hotels, including health visits, immunisations and infectious disease support, alongside safeguarding arrangements and staff training.

Members asked for clarification on vaccination uptake among residents, and Officers confirmed that the relevant statistics would be circulated to the Committee.

The Committee then received a presentation on the Council's Healthy Stevenage Strategy and the range of partnership activity underway to improve the health and wellbeing of the town.

Officers explained that the strategy would focus on reducing health inequalities through a preventative, place-based and partnership approach, aligned with NHS and local integrated neighbourhood models.

It was noted that since the adoption of the previous strategy, significant changes had occurred, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the cost of living crisis and changes within the NHS.

Members were advised that evidence from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment showed persistent health inequalities linked to deprivation in specific neighbourhoods, alongside an ageing population and continued challenges relating to mental health, physical activity and dementia.

Officers reported that the new Strategy would provide clearer priorities, stronger use of data and evaluation, improved accountability and lessons learnt from the limitations of the previous strategy. Development of the new Strategy would include partner engagement and public consultation, with approval planned for Summer 2026.

The Committee noted ongoing delivery activity, including the Healthy Stevenage Partnership, the Healthy Hub, active travel programmes, dementia-friendly and age-friendly initiatives and suicide prevention work. This included targeted action at Stevenage railway station and the continued operation of the Nightlight Crisis Café.

Members highlighted the importance of education being included within the Strategy and noted the accessibility issues to residents who were working, had caring responsibilities or families. It was noted that education on healthy living and food choices should form a stronger and more visible part of the Strategy.

Officers confirmed that education would be considered within the Strategy, alongside work to improve messaging and accessibility. It was acknowledged that there were challenges in reaching different groups and in delivering activities at varied times

due to capacity and resource constraints.

Members discussed the adoption of community wide and family based approaches and highlighted the importance of sensitive language and inclusive messaging. Members requested that officers consider identifying ways to encourage residents who don't associate themselves with being healthy or physically active to access healthy habits connected to food and exercise.

In response to questions, Officers explained that private and commercial partners were engaged in the partnership, including Stevenage Football Club's Foundation and that the partnership was open to additional organisations becoming involved.

Members sought clarification on whether the Strategy was a statutory requirement, the costs associated with its development and delivery, and the impact of Local Government Reorganisation.

Officers confirmed that the Healthy Stevenage Strategy was not a statutory requirement but supported the wider public health objectives and partnership working. It was noted that delivery was largely funded externally and that further information on costs would be provided.

Officers explained that the Strategy was intended to continue through partnership arrangements following Local Government Reorganisation and would inform future public health priorities.

Discussions took place regarding the mobile Healthy Hub unit and Hertfordshire County Council's 'Better Health Bus'. It was noted that work would continue to improve its visibility and presence at community venues and locations.

Members thanked the Officers for their presentation.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. Further local health data be circulated to Members, including cancer statistics, Stevenage JSNA focused report and vaccination uptake data.
2. A link to the Herts Sports and Physical Activity page to find local activities in areas to be shared with the Committee.
3. Education and prevention activity to be strengthened within the Healthy Stevenage Strategy, particularly in relation to healthy living and healthy food choices, and awareness of mental and physical wellbeing.
4. A more joined-up and family-based approach to children and young people's health be developed, recognising the links between mental health, family circumstances, and physical health.
5. Accessibility of services and activities be improved, particularly for residents who are in work, have caring responsibilities, or have families, and to consider the timing and location of activities.
6. To identify ways to encourage residents who don't associate themselves with being healthy or physically active to access healthy habits connected to food and exercise.

7. The visibility and outreach provision be improved, including the mobile Healthy Hub unit, and Hertfordshire County Council's Better Health Bus. through increased presence at community venues and locations.
8. Partnership working to continue to be strengthened and expanded, including with education providers, voluntary organisations and private and commercial partners, and by encouraging additional organisations to join the Healthy Stevenage Partnership.
9. Further information on the costs and funding arrangements for the development and delivery of the Healthy Stevenage Strategy be provided to the Committee.
10. Partnership with the Everyone Active Healthy Hub Bus for a Type 2 Diabetes Awareness Campaign.

4 **URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

There was no Urgent Part I Business.

5 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED**:

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 involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 to 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2006 No. 88.
2. That having considered the reasons for the following item being in Part II, it be determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

6 **URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

There was no Urgent Part II Business.

CHAIR

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Stevenage So Safe Partnership

CRIME AND DISORDER PANEL PRESENTATION



Stevenage Community
Safety Partnership

So Safe - Community Safety Partnership

A Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a statutory, multi-agency group established under the [Crime and Disorder Act 1998](#).

The SoSafe Partnership brings together representatives from Local Agencies to tackle crime, antisocial behaviour, and emerging safety issues. CSPs analyse local data to address issues like substance misuse, violent crime and anti-social behaviour, aiming to improve safety, build confidence and quality of life for those residing, working or visiting the town.



The Partnership

Stevenage
Borough
Council

Police

Fire service

Health services

Hertfordshire
County Council

Local Schools

Local
Government
Office

Citizens Advice

Police Crime
and
Commissioner
Office

Probation
Service

Local Voluntary
services

Local
Commissioned
Services

Stevenage So Safe Aims 2025/2028



We have established two overarching aims for the 2025/28 strategy:

- Engage with the community and work co-operatively with partners/residents and those that visit the town.
- Work with the community to support the reporting of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).

Stevenage So Safe Objectives 2025/2028

Within SoSafe's overarching aims, Stevenage has established six key objectives:

- Highlight the risks to the community of drug possession and crime.
- Provide safe reporting and support to victims of violence against women and girls, including Domestic abuse.
- Promote awareness of Cuckooing and the support available to victims.
- Divert individuals from becoming involved in Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Collaborate with Partners and Young People regarding the risks around County Lines and associated Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Raise awareness around online fraud and the warning signs to the community.

Quarterly So Safe Meetings

Partners meet quarterly to review progress, share updates, and coordinate action to help keep Stevenage safe.

This year the meetings have included updates and presentations on:

- Police performance report
- Fire and Rescue performance report
- Strategic Assessment
- Drug & Alcohol Strategy
- Suicide Prevention Network
- County Community Safety Unit updates
- Police and Crime Commissioner updates
- Graffiti Action Plan
- Resettlement Action Plan
- Child Exploitation JSNA
- Violent Assault Dataset
- Drug and Alcohol Deaths Audit
- Crime Reduction Through Sport
- Serious Violence Needs Assessment
- Rough Sleeper Action Plan
- SADA Domestic Abuse Annual Review
- Drugs & Alcohol JSNA
- Prevent Presentation using Home Office Statistics

Stevenage Borough Council Services 2025/2026



Team	Referrals
Strategic Community Safety	158
No More Service	139
SADA Service	916
Resettlement Team	113
Rough Sleeper Team	308
Rough sleeper Count	16
ASB	189
Low Level ASB	37

ASB review

- Driving an Accessible, Pro-Active & Harm-Centred Future Service.
- Commissioned in July 2025, the review was undertaken to address regulatory compliance challenges (including Housing Ombudsman spotlight expectations), improve the triaging and categorisation of ASB versus Good Neighbourhood Management (GNMP) matters, align the service with current best practice, and strengthen overall service resilience and delivery capacity.
- **Top Three Strategic Challenges**
 - Regulatory compliance & Ombudsman expectations
 - Effective triage and appropriate ASB categorisation
 - Evolving practice in evidence gathering and investigation

ASB review - Key Findings

Framework & Compliance

- Lack of clear distinction between ASB and Good Neighbourhood Management(GNMP)
- Policies require alignment with legal, regulatory and best practice standards

Triage, Capacity & Case Management

- High volume of inappropriate ASB classifications (GNMP/environmental issues)
- Capacity pressures causing delays and complaints
- Risk assessment and victim journey require strengthening
- Need for structured early intervention pathways

Partnership & Use of Powers

- Police partnership requires strengthening
- Limited experience using ASB tools (Injunctions, Closure Orders, CPNs, Notices)
- Relationships with Registered Providers and PRS need improvement

Data & Systems

- REACT system under-utilised
- Data monitoring and ASB Case Review processes need improvement
- Evidence gathering practices require strengthening

ASB review - Actions to Improve

Policy & Framework Reform

- Introduce Good Neighbourhood Management Policy
- Review & align ASB Policy

Clear service standards and definitions

- Early Intervention & Harm-Centred Triage
- Create Assessment & Review Officer (Triage role)
- Structured risk assessment pathways & review intervals
- Clear harm thresholds at first contact

System & Performance Improvement

- Upgrade REACT to Cloud platform
- Improve data capture, monitoring & outcome reporting
- Align ASB Case Review process with legislative changes

Strengthen Partnerships

- Introduce new multi-agency forums
- Improve RP & PRS engagement

Workforce Development

- Targeted training on ASB tools and powers
- Customer Contact Centre development
- Embedding proactive case management culture

ASB review - Future Service Vision

Future Service Vision

An accessible, consistent and pro-active ASB service that:

- Intervenes early
- Focuses on reducing harm and vulnerability
- Uses data to prevent escalation
- Applies powers confidently and proportionately
- Delivers measurable improvements in community safety
- An opportunity to build on strong existing work by strengthening joint working with Partners to maximise impact for residents

Stevenage Police

OP SALSIFY: Organised Crime Gangs.

45 disruptions including charge and remands, numerous arrests, drugs and firearms recovered and joint working with SBC to support an individual at risk from exploitation to divert away from criminal behaviour.

OP EHNTHRAL: Overt/covert retail crime.

Created in April to address theft/ASB at local hotspot – expanded to retail locations throughout Stevenage & is now our standard Operation for all retail locations.

OP SCOOT:

Over 100 e-scooters have been seized/destroyed

OP PERFORRIN: County Lines.

- Total lines closed: 17
- Total arrests: 23 (17 of those charged / remanded) (60%+ of subjects have previous arrests/convictions for serious violence)
- Total charges: 40
- Total cash seized: £27,500
- Total bladed weapons seized: 9
- Total other weapons: 1 (cross bow)
- Total safeguarding referrals: 2

OP HOTSPOT:

Home office funding patrols in the hotspot areas.



**HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY**

Stevenage Police



Results to date – April 2025-Dec 2025:

- 248 additional patrols (3052 additional hours completed)
- 43 arrests
- 51 stop searches
- 20 knives seized
- Overall ASB down 6.5% (01/01/25-31/12/25)

Perception of Crime



The gap between actual crime trends and public perceptions has cast a shadow over criminal policy for a number of years. The ‘perception gap’ in relation to crime is distorted and something that needs to be tackled locally as well as nationally. A large part of the explanation is to be found in media coverage and social media platforms. Broadcasted media in all forms play a critical role in what is “heard” by the public.

Locally as part of our priorities we intend to run campaigns and initiatives to tackle perceptions and help people to feel safer in the town.

16 Days of Activism for Domestic Abuse

- **SADA Safe Space Networking Session**

An opportunity for partners to come together to share ideas, showcase services, and strengthen collaboration in supporting those affected by domestic abuse.

- **Awareness-Raising Walk**

In partnership with Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline, North Herts Council, and Stevenage FC Foundation, the walk raised local awareness of domestic abuse and promotes access to support services.

- **Online Campaigns**

Spreading awareness digitally through social media and online platforms to reach a wider audience and highlight support services available during the 16 Days campaign.

- **Promotional Materials**

Raising visibility through branded hoodies and uniforms to reinforce awareness.



16 DAYS OF ACTION

From 25 November to 10 December 2025

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One in five children in the UK experience domestic abuse.

Safer Routes Project

The Stevenage Safer Route project, led by Hertfordshire Constabulary and Stevenage Borough Council, aims to enhance security for pedestrians walking between the Old Town and key transport hubs.

Enhanced Lighting Installation

Upgrade lighting in key areas to ensure bright, consistent illumination and eliminate shadows for safer routes.

CCTV and Surveillance

Install and publicise CCTV coverage in secluded areas to deter crime and increase pedestrian confidence.

Increased Police Presence

Boost visible police and PCSO patrols in evenings to enhance security and provide rapid response capability.

Vegetation Management

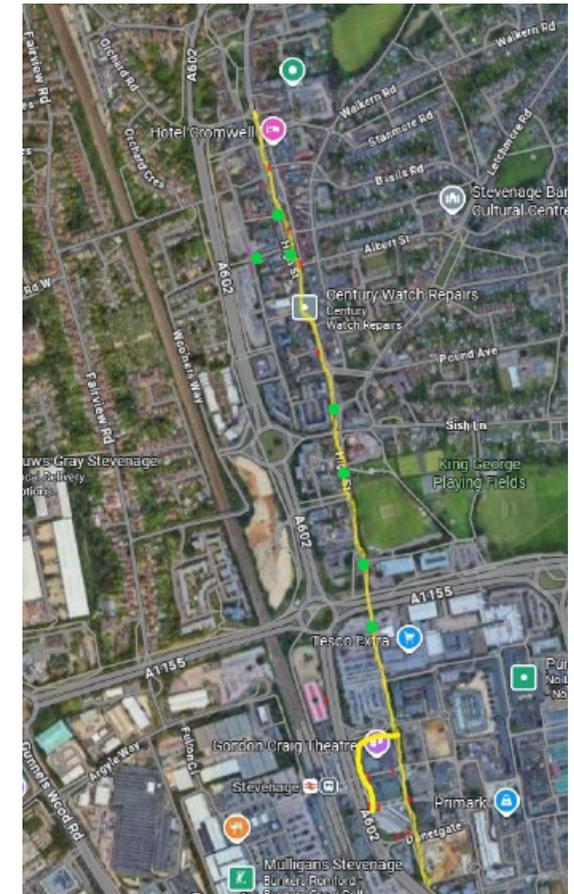
Trim and maintain vegetation to improve sightlines and reduce concealment risks along routes.

Signage and Emergency Support

Add clear signage and SOS/call points to guide pedestrians and provide emergency assistance.

Improved Accessibility

Enhance pavements and crossings to reduce trip hazards, supporting older adults and disabled users.



Community Hub

- Introduction of a Homelessness Community Hub.
- A space that acts as a neutral, welcoming and supportive drop-in for homeless individuals in Stevenage.
- The Hub Provides:
 - A warm space for Rough Sleepers.
 - Opportunities for support for vulnerable clients.
 - Opportunities for other agencies to attend and engage with clients.
 - Hot drinks, food and activities.



“The Orphan” Film

- Creation of a powerful film that builds on our long-standing work to raise awareness of County Lines child criminal exploitation.
- Developed in partnership with Nineveh Productions, the film uses compelling storytelling to bring the realities of exploitation to life, exploring the victim-to-perpetrator cycle, the risks faced by children missing from care, the grooming methods used by organised drug gangs, and the dangers of weapon carrying and serious youth violence.
- The film has been shared with partners to be used as a resource to raise awareness and support education.
- To date it has received 985,204 views on YouTube.
- [The Orphan \(2026\) Crime Drama Short Film | MYM](#)



Additional Achievements – CSP Action Plan

Additional SADA training for all front lines Response/NPT teams.
Total number of officers: 57

Introduction of Community Hubs for the homeless

More SBC staff trained in use of Naloxone.

Awareness stalls at social events and conferences, raising awareness of domestic abuse and the SADA service

Regular Herts Connected Updates:
- 16 days of activism.
- Fire SEN Quiet Open Day.
- International Day of Older Persons
- Halloween and Firework Safety.

Services for Young People delivering targeted projects to develop understanding and impact of Child Exploitation and ASB.

Resettlement Team working with Hotels to raise awareness of Modern Slavery and Domestic Abuse, including Leaflet packs available in a variety of different languages.

Crucial Crew 2025 delivered to over 1000 Year 6 Children.
Workshop themes included:
- Knife Crime
- Staying Safe Online

Resettlement Service offer a Women's Group and drop-ins at the hotels.

3-week Summer Holiday programme supporting young people in reducing risk taking behaviour

No More Service Evolve Properties remain occupied.

Learn to Live Driver Training delivered across Schools in Stevenage.

Priorities for Strategic Assessment

- **Increase of reported crimes around Arson and Criminal damage.**

As a partnership we meet quarterly to assess the impact of arson and criminal damage and utilise courses such as the LIFE project with Fire & Rescue.

- **Non-Crime Domestic.**

Stevenage remains high regarding reporting of domestic abuse; resources have been put in place to support victims, and additional training has been undertaken.

- **Hate Crime.**

We have seen an increase in reports of Hate Crime and Community Tensions around the hotels that house asylum seekers and refugees in Stevenage. The SBC Resettlement team and the Police are working with customers and partner agencies, and we have introduced an Action Plan

- **Stalking & Harassment.**

Stevenage has seen an increase in the reporting of Stalking and harassment, a work stream is being introduced through the Community Safety Partnership to review the reports of stalking and harassment, so we have a better understanding of the associated risks to the victims and how we support them collaboratively.

- **Violence against a person.**

Specific operations to target individuals continue to operate in Stevenage focusing on individuals that target those more vulnerable

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Cabinet Member Response to Review of Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion

Date Recommendations agreed by Community Select Committee:

The draft report and recommendations were considered at Community Select Committee, Tuesday 11 November 2025, where the Committee made amendments to the recommendations (circulated Friday 19 December 2025, following agreement by the Committee on Monday 15 December 2025, with no further changes made by the Committee)

Date responses should be made by:

Executive responses on behalf of the Cabinet Portfolio Holders for: Equalities & Young People the Lead Portfolio and for Resources, should be received by Friday 13 February 2026

Recommendations:

Executive Response:

RECOMMENDATION 1 - Working with the local community to encourage a more diverse range of people involved in leadership roles:

That the Cabinet Portfolio holder for Equalities and Officers be recommended to (i) work with community leaders and the diverse local community to ensure a more diverse range of people can be involved in leadership roles, such as school governors,

Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.

Gemma Marat to comment re Stevenage Equalities Commission & Operation Black Vote Civic Leadership Programme:

1. Citizenship Programme – Partnership with Operation Black Vote

magistrates, and other public offices, working with initiatives like the citizenship programme with Operation Black Votes and (ii) Members and officers look at ways to provide support for the Equalities Commission Legacy Group to succession plan and help identify the next generation of community leaders to support this voluntary role

Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods

A Service Level Agreement has now been agreed between Stevenage Equalities Commission (SEC) and Operation Black Vote (OBV) for the delivery of a targeted Citizenship and Civic Engagement Programme over a 4–6 week period.

The programme has been designed to respond directly to the democratic deficit identified through the Commission’s work, particularly in relation to underrepresentation of Black and Brown residents in civic and public life.

Delivery will include:

- A diagnostic phase reviewing equality, education and community health data to better understand barriers to civic participation in Stevenage.
- Structured engagement with local residents and community partners, with a focus on lived experience and practical routes into leadership roles.
- A feedback and recommendations session to shape a locally grounded civic leadership pathway.
- The programme will specifically explore routes into roles such as school governorships, magistracy, local boards, and other public appointments. It is intended to build awareness, confidence, and practical understanding of how to step forward into these positions.
- Interim check-ins will take place at the end of each phase, with a final report setting out findings and recommended next steps to sustain impact.

2. Community Engagement and Leadership Pipeline

The approach recognises that increasing diversity in leadership requires more than awareness-raising. It requires:

- Clear information about opportunities and application processes.

- Visible role models from underrepresented communities.
- Ongoing mentoring and peer support.
- Practical help navigating systems that can feel inaccessible.
- Through workshops and dialogue sessions, the programme will test what support mechanisms are most needed locally. This will inform whether a structured leadership pathway, mentoring network, or annual civic development offer should follow.

3. Support for the Equalities Commission Legacy Group

Alongside the OBV programme, officers and Members are asked to consider practical support for the Equalities Commission Legacy Group to strengthen succession planning.

This may include:

- Identifying emerging community leaders through the Citizenship Programme and connecting them to the Legacy Group.
- Providing light-touch officer support for coordination and continuity.
- Establishing clearer role descriptions and pathways for involvement to make participation more accessible.
- Exploring small-scale development or mentoring opportunities for new volunteers.
- The intention is to ensure that the voluntary leadership within the Legacy Group remains sustainable and representative over time, and that new voices are supported to step into civic roles.

4. Next Steps:

- Programme commencement date to be confirmed.
- Community workshops scheduled in partnership with local organisations.
- Interim progress update to be provided to the Portfolio Holder at the midpoint of delivery.
- Final report and recommendations to inform longer-term civic

	<p>leadership development planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This work marks a practical step towards embedding more inclusive leadership across Stevenage’s public life and creating clearer pathways for residents who have historically been underrepresented in decision-making spaces.
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 2 - Increased collaboration between Members and the Equalities Commission Legacy Group:</u></p> <p>That the Assistant Director Housing and Neighbourhoods be recommended to work with Members to encourage their involvement in an annual or bi-annual event with the Equalities Commission legacy group and the wider community to strengthen and sustain the Commission’s initiatives.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.</i></p> <p><i>Gemma Marat to comment re Stevenage Equalities Commission:</i></p> <p>Work undertaken through the Citizenship and Civic Engagement Programme with Operation Black Vote is supporting delivery of Recommendation 2 by creating structured opportunities for engagement between Members, the Equalities Commission Legacy Group and the wider community.</p> <p>The programme includes facilitated workshops with local residents and community partners, alongside a formal feedback session setting out findings and recommendations on civic participation and leadership. These sessions provide a direct forum for Members to engage with lived experience, hear evidence emerging from the community, and contribute to discussions about strengthening representation in public life.</p> <p>This approach strengthens collaboration by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating focused spaces where Members and the Legacy Group engage together with residents. • Grounding discussion in local data and community insight. • Identifying practical barriers to civic participation that Members can help address. <p>The feedback session offers a structured opportunity for Members and the Legacy Group to reflect jointly on the findings and consider how to sustain</p>

	<p>and strengthen the Commission’s initiatives.</p> <p>There is also clear potential for this model of engagement to move into a more formalised annual or bi-annual structured session, bringing together Members, the SEC Legacy Group and the wider community. Using the evidence and themes emerging from the Citizenship Programme, these sessions could provide a regular platform to review progress, highlight leadership opportunities and maintain momentum around civic participation and equalities work.</p> <p>In addition, the programme is helping to identify emerging community leaders who may engage further with the SEC Legacy Group, strengthening continuity and reinforcing the connection between community voices and elected representatives.</p> <p>Overall, the Citizenship Programme is reinforcing collaborative working between Members and the Equalities Commission Legacy Group by providing shared evidence, shared dialogue, and a clearer link between community engagement and civic leadership development, with scope to embed this engagement in a structured and ongoing way.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 3 - The voices and lived experience of the trans community are heard in discussions and at events to help combat misconceptions and hatred:</u></p> <p>That officers and Members ensure that the voices of the trans community are invited into discussions and events, hearing people’s lived experience to help address misconceptions and combat hatred.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.</i></p> <p>Events team (Alex Marsh and Ryan Ansell) to comment on how the Pride area is included in Stevenage Day and how they look to increase security to avoid incidents like last year etc.</p> <p>Following an incident at Stevenage Day 2025, we have engaged with the Stevenage Police Hate Crime Team and members of the LGBTQ+ community to review arrangements for the Pride area at the event. It was agreed that we would work closely with both the Police and our onsite security team in advance of this year’s event and ensure that clear</p>

	<p>operational details are included within all event documentation. Security staff will receive a briefing from the Stevenage Police Hate Crime Team ahead of the event opening to ensure they are aware of the context, potential risks, and appropriate responses. We will strengthen security provision within this area and establish a clear reporting procedure to enable attending organisations to report any incidents promptly, ensuring they are appropriately escalated and addressed.</p> <p>This escalation process will enable issues to be addressed in real time and will help ensure that the event remains inclusive and safe for all those attending.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 4 – carry out an audit of the provision of benches and seating in the town centre:</u></p> <p>That the Assistant Director Planning and Regulation carry out an audit of the provision of benches and seating in the town centre and at the neighbourhood shopping areas to ensure there is enough seating for older people and those with mobility issues.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Director Planning and Regulation</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Planning & Regulation and the Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.</i></p> <p>Gemma Marat to comment re benches across the town:</p> <p>The use of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funding to install and enhance bench provision across parks and neighbourhood shopping areas is currently taking place and has been driven by member requests.</p> <p>An audit of existing seating provision could be developed as part of this wider programme to ensure that future investment is evidence-led and aligned to need. This audit would be best placed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map the current number and location of benches in the town. • Assess condition, accessibility and spacing between seating points. • Identify gaps along key pedestrian routes, near bus stops, health facilities, retail areas and open spaces. <p>In addition, it should be noted that the needs of older residents and people with mobility issues have already been a consideration within the Council's Age Friendly Stevenage programme. When installing benches in recent years, attention has been given to appropriate seat height, the inclusion of</p>

	<p>armrests and back support, and thoughtful positioning along pedestrian routes and in accessible locations. The proposed audit could build on this existing approach, ensuring consistency across all areas and identifying where further improvements may be required.</p> <p>It is important to note that this would need to be a cross-business unit initiative. Seating provision and public realm management sit across multiple service areas and, in some locations, land or highways fall under Hertfordshire County Council control. As such, this cannot be treated solely as a community development function. Coordination would be required between Planning and Regulation, Housing and Neighbourhoods, Parks and Environmental Services, and relevant partners at county level to ensure a comprehensive and accurate assessment.</p> <p>Linking the audit to UKSPF-funded works has helped ensure that findings translate into practical improvements. However, as UKSPF funding is approaching completion and all capitol funds provided for this are now spent, any further phases of seating improvements identified through the audit would require alternative funding sources or future capital allocation.</p> <p>Developing the audit alongside current and planned installations would provide a structured way to understand existing provision, highlight shortfalls, and support a coordinated, accessible approach to seating across the town centre and neighbourhood shopping areas.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 5 - Address concerns around digital exclusion for older people be addressed:</u></p> <p>That the Director Business Change be invited to acknowledge the concerns raised by input from Age Concern regarding the digital exclusion of some of the local community's older people and describe ways the Council has put mitigations in place Action: Director Business Change & Digital</p>	<p>The Director for Business Change and Digital and the Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas & Resources, Cllr Jeannette Thomas, acknowledge the concerns raised by Age Concern around the digital exclusion faced by some of the communities' older people.</p> <p>The concern was raised with particular reference to the Winter Fuel payment, which caused significant worry amongst older residents as</p>

some were not able to access online services, leading them to seek in person support from Age Concern.

Access to the UK government's Winter Fuel Payment services is indeed primarily digital, through central government's gov.uk website which provides information on eligibility and the claiming process.

In 2025 the government launched the UK Digital Inclusion Action Plan (2025), the first national strategy in over a decade to address the digital divide. It focuses on supporting local efforts, improving skills, reducing device/data poverty and enhancing service accessibility.

For the services that it provides, the Council is committed to digital inclusion, as outlined in its Digital Strategy 2025-28.

[Stevenage Borough Council Digital Strategy 2025-2028](#)

To combat digital exclusion, the Council recognises that face-to-face and telephone services remain essential for reasons such as access, personal choice, and the complexity of individual needs, and is committed to maintaining these options to ensure continued accessibility for all.

The Council's Customer Service Centre handles around 90,000 calls per year, offers 2,400 bookable appointments per year and offer 40 hours per week for people in need. There is clear, consistent messaging around how to access services, ensuring that residents can easily engage with the Council.

The Council recognises that there will always be people whose needs

	<p>cannot be fully met through digital channels, and by digitising services for the majority, the Council can free up capacity to support those who most need it.</p> <p>To support residents who would like to be more digitally engaged, the following measures are being put in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive design for individuals with disabilities or limited digital literacy • Service design based on customer feedback, and a deeper understanding of service use and customer needs • Attracting grant funding to support with skills training and confidence building projects with community partners. • Engaging with the LGA Digital Inclusion Network to share best practice, develop plans and coordinate to better tackle digital exclusion
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 6 – Address concerns raised by Age Concern around the lack of provision of mobility scooter hire service from the bus interchange:</u></p> <p>Age Concern reminded Members that there were originally plans to locate a mobility scooter hire service from the bus interchange. This had not been possible. Members requested that subject to funding being available to support such a project, officers should take forward Age Concern’s offer to investigate what would be required to create a mobility buggy storage and hire options from the bus interchange.</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas & Jeannette Thomas, Resources</i></p> <p><i>Estates/Facilities (Mel Chiknagi & Gary Cupid) to comment:</i></p> <p>Herts Mobility are currently located within the new Stevenage Indoor Market at Park Place. Estates will be meeting with them to explore whether there is an opportunity to support a mobility scooter hire or loan service that could benefit users of the Stevenage Bus Interchange.</p> <p>As part of these discussions, Estates will consider what would be</p>

<p>Action: Assistant Director Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods & Head of Estates</p>	<p>required to support such a service in practice. This includes suitable storage arrangements, safety considerations such as charging and fire risk, day to day management, insurance, maintenance and the hire costs associated with operating the service. These factors will help determine whether a mobility buggy storage and hire offer could realistically be supported at the Interchange or through a nearby managed location.</p> <p>Mobility equipment hire is also available locally through providers such as Walkwel in the Westgate Shopping Centre, who offer short term hire of mobility scooters, wheelchairs and other mobility aids. Estates will consider how existing services such as this could complement any future offer linked to the Interchange.</p> <p>Following these discussions, Estates will review what may be feasible and provide a further update. Any future provision would need to be considered alongside operational requirements, safety considerations, funding availability and partnership arrangements.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 7 - Address the needs of young people by supporting extracurricular activities in schools and in the community via sports, interests and social clubs:</u></p> <p>Members recommended that the Council, and specifically Members via their Local Community Budgets, support young people in relation to combating mental health needs with greater access to extracurricular activities, particularly sports clubs, mentoring to encourage social interaction and personal development.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.</i></p> <p>Leisure team (Geoff Caine & Ryan Ansell) to comment on what options are in place for young people re sports etc.</p> <p>Our leisure provider, Everyone Active delivers a comprehensive Active Communities programme for young people, offering sessions in a variety of sports including basketball, golf, badminton, netball, and other multi-sport activities. They have additionally supported initiatives such as This Girl Can, which aims to increase participation in sport among women and girls. Alongside this, the Stevenage FC Foundation continues to deliver the Premier League Kicks</p>

	<p>programme, as well as soccer camps and multi-sport sessions for young people. We also work in partnership with the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team to provide programmes within schools that focus on mental health, healthy eating, and physical activity. All partner organisations have previously accessed, and continue to utilise, Local Community Budget funding to support the delivery of these activities for young people.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 8 - To address support for neurodiversity, encourage better collaboration between the Council and external mental health experts:</u></p> <p>Members are recommending greater collaboration between the Council and external mental health experts would improve service delivery and noted this as an area for development.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas.</i></p> <p>Mind in Mid Herts are part of the Social Inclusion Partnership (Stevenage CAN). SBC Health and Wellbeing colleagues interact with them regularly. Mind in Mid Herts have also been a key consultee in the emerging Healthy Stevenage Strategy with a prominent focus in the strategy on mental health.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATION 9 - Address the needs of the sight loss community:</u></p> <p>Members recommend (i) supporting the sight loss community with high-visibility markings on bollards to enhance safety for visually impaired residents. In addition, the accessibility of council leaflets should be addressed with the use high-contrast text and background to help the visually impaired and (ii) officers investigate a project to enhance the screens adjusting their height and screen resolution to make them accessible to the visually</p>	<p><i>Response supported by Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods and Executive Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Equalities & Young People, Cllr Colleen De Freitas & Jeannette Thomas, Resources.</i></p> <p>Since the attendance of the Stevenage Sightlife and Herts Vision Loss Groups at the Community Select Committee meeting in January 2025, the Council has liaised directly with these groups and Cllr Colleen De Freitas attended a Stevenage Sightlife Group meeting in September 2025 to hear their concerns directly. Contact has also been made through the Council's</p>

impaired and possible audio bus announcement system at the bus interchange and identify sources of funding to support such enhancements.

Action: Assistant Director Housing & Neighbourhoods & Head of Estates

Community Partnership Officer for involvement within the charity and volunteer partner network.

In terms of the specific issues raised under this recommendation,

The Head of Planning and Enforcement outlined that for (ii) the Council is aware of issues with the screens at the Bus Interchange and are looking to into whether there are any remaining S.106 funds available to resolve this in a timely manner. Further, from October 2026 it will become mandatory for every local bus to provide audible announcements and visual displays identifying the route and direction, each upcoming stop, and the beginning of any diversions. Thus, since this announcement, buses have been retrofit to comply with the new legislation.

Lead AD	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford
Deputy	AD Building Safety & Housing Property Services, Denise Lewis
Chair	Cllr Ellie Plater
Vice-Chair	Cllr Julie Ashley-Wren

Progress update on delivery of the Work Programme – March 2026

Community Select Committee Scrutiny Work Programme 2025-26

(Including main review items, one-off meetings, statutory and standing items, review revisits and policy development items)

The work programme is the main guide to the Committee’s work throughout the year. However individual items can be raised at Committee meetings and consider as one-off items on a case-by-case basis at future meetings.

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii) Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ ✗	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
<u>Progress of the new Housing Allocations policy</u>	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, Head of Community Advice, Sarah	Meeting in the Autumn (Sep/Oct 2025) ahead of report to Cabinet in	(i) This should be covered in a single meeting (ii) No scope required.	A one-off update to CSC Members providing balance between affordability criteria and the Council’s statutory responsibilities as a Social Housing Provider.	✗ It has not been possible to schedule this item and it will remain on the	✓ This item will now be rolled forward to be considered in 2026-27

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Agenda Item 5

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii) Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ ✖	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
Page 4	Pateman, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing, Cllr Jackie Hollywell.	December 2025. Tuesday 21 October 2025			work programme for 2026-27	
	<u>Tenant Enforcement/ tenancy Audits</u>	Tuesday 16 September 2025	(i) This should be covered in a single meeting (ii) No scope required.	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods has suggested that there is a need for a Tenancy Audit Policy – to provide a procedure for staff and a policy for tenants so all parties know what is expected)	✓ The Committee received a presentation on Tenancy Audits at its meeting on 16 September 2025	Not required
<u>One-off update item on Housing Damp & Mould</u>	AD Building Safety and Property Services, Denise	Tuesday 16 September 2025 – Officer Briefing ahead	(i) This should be covered in a single meeting	Members to receive an update on Damp & Mould – AD Housing & Neighbourhoods suggested	✓ The Committee received a	Not required

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii) Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ *	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
	Lewis, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing, Cllr Jackie Hollywell.	of legislation changes in Oct 2025.	(ii) No scope required.	a briefing could be provided to Members in August/Sep ahead of Awabb's Law coming into effect Oct 2025.	presentation on damp and mould at its meeting on 16 September 2025 Minute	
<u>Equalities & Diversity</u> (Initially a one-off meeting, but could lead to a main review)	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, SLT Lead for E&D, Corp Policy and Business Support Manager, Daryl Jedowski, Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities including Equalities, Cllr Coleen De Freitas.	Final report 11 November 2025	(i) Final meetings of the review – It is likely that the review would be brought to 2 Committee meetings, (i) a draft report and receive an update on the Council's cultural strategy; and (ii) Final report.	A Member briefing and written briefing note is being prepared to be shared with CSC Members on Community Cohesion. Officers can bring an update on the existing cultural strategy to a future meeting. Which could include an invitation to the new Cabinet Portfolio holder, Cllr Simon Speller. Beyond this a more detailed piece on the Council's Cultural Strategy (2018-2028) could be included in a future CSC	✓ The final report and recommendations were agreed at the CSC meeting on 11 November 2025 The Committee will receive the Cabinet Portfolio Holder response to the review in 2026.	✓ The Committee will receive the Cabinet Portfolio Holder's response to the review

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii)Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ ✗	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
				work programme/Municipal Year as the Strategy is in need of a refresh.		
<u>Older People</u> Page 46	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, Health & Sport Strategy Manager, Ryan Ansell, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Neighbourhoods and Older People, Cllr Myla Arceno	11 December 2025	This could be the focus of one meeting of the Committee.	Officers can provide a session focusing on Older People – including the Council’s policies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age Friendly Community & Age Friendly Conference • Dementia Friendly Community • Digital exclusion • How older people access our services • Housing for Older People (this could be a separate larger piece of work to a future work programme/Municipal Year) 	✓ The Committee received a presentation to its meeting on 11 December 2025 See Link to the Minutes of the meeting	Not required

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii)Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ ✗	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
<u>Community Centre's</u> Page 47	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, Strategic Director and Statutory Section 151 Officer, Clare Fletcher Cabinet Member with responsibility for Co-operative Council, Cllr Nigel Williams.	To be advised – possibly a briefing note that could be considered at a meeting of the Committee.	Possibly one meeting with potential to lead to further meetings.	The Assistant Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods has agreed to liaise with the Council's Section 151 Officer regarding the status of the current policy and would provide feedback to Members.	✗ It has not been possible to schedule this item and it will remain on the work programme for 2026-27	✓ This item will now be rolled forward to be considered in 2026-27
<u>Statutory Item – Crime & Disorder Committee</u>	AD Stevenage Direct Services, Lead Officer Sarah Pateman, Portfolio Holder for Stronger Communities – Cllr Tom Plater	Meeting scheduled for: 25 March 2026	(ii) Yes, covered in one meeting (ii) No scope required (iii)Interviews with Chair of RAG, Herts Constabulary, Portfolio Holder with	The annual meeting this year could provide an opportunity to highlight the work of joint working with the Police and the strategies and work of the SoSafe Partnership.	✓ The Chair has asked if there could be a profile on the Council's work regarding Anti-Social Behaviour.	✓ This is a statutory standing item at CSC

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii) Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ ✗	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
Page 48			responsibility for Community Safety looking at past performance of the Community Safety Action Plan and future priorities			
<u>Standing Item - Public Health</u>	AD Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, and Health & Sports Strategy Manager, Ryan Ansell, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Wellbeing, Cllr Simon Speller	Meeting scheduled for: 4 Feb 2026	(i) Yes, covered in one meeting (ii) No scope required (iii) Interviews with the HCC Director of Public Health, SBC Executive Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Public Health and the SD for Community. (iv)	Members indicated that they previously valued the sessions with the HCC Director of Public Health and would like to reinstate these meetings with focus on general health and wellbeing and specifically on Health Inequalities for Stevenage. The HCC Director of Public Health (or a Member of the	✓ The Committee met with HCC Director of Public Health and SBC Health & Wellbeing Manager and received a presentation from both to its meeting on 4 Feb 2026	✓ This is a non-statutory standing item at CSC

Scrutiny Review items 2025/26: (Main review, one-off updates, briefings etc.)	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Other details: i.e. (i) Number of meetings item can be covered in? (ii) Whether scoping required? (iii)Expectation/ style of meeting & (iv) other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/Deputy	Complete ✓ *	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
Page 49			Other Members to be invited – SBC Rep on HCC Health Scrutiny Cttee.	HCC Public Health Team) be invited to update Members on the NHS Integrated Care Boards (which have replacing Clinical Commissioning Groups) and on matters relating to Public Health and Stevenage (if possible, including the “tartan rug” the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment)		
<u>2026-27 Work Programme</u>		25 March 2026.	One off meeting		Scheduled for 25 March 2026	

