

Lead AD	SD Richard Protheroe
Deputy	
Chair	Cllr Ellie Platter
Vice-Chair	Cllr Matthew Hurst

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2026-27
(Including review items, statutory Budget and Policy Framework items, and policy development items)

Scrutiny Review items 2026/27:	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 Strategic Director/Assistant Director	Other Details	Complete ✓ * ✗	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)	Head of HR & OD, Kirsten Frew, Head of Corporate Policy & Performance, Daryl Jedowski, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Devolution, Cllr Loraine Rossati.	As required	(i) One-off meetings (ii) No scope required (iii) O&S Members to receive update as and when Cabinet receives reports/make decisions re LGR.		The Chair of O&S will meet with the Deputy CE, Strategic Director, Richard Protheroe to discuss how scrutiny can assist with the LGR decision making process in 2026-27 O&S Members to assist with LGR Preparedness as and when required.		✓ O&S Members will continue to scrutinise LGR at various stages throughout the year when the Cabinet receives formal reports.
ICT Cyber Security	Director, Chief Technology Officer & Senior Information Risk Owner, Matt Canterford.	June 2026	(i) One meeting. (ii) No scope required. (iii) Presentation from officers leading to a Q&A with Scrutiny Members.	The ICT Strategy is due to go to the Cabinet in June 2026, and Cyber Security features as a significant part of the strategy so			✓ It is recommended that the Director for IT, Matt Canterford, attend the O&S

Scrutiny Review items 2026/27:	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 Strategic Director/Assistant Director	Other Details	Complete ✓ ✖	Inclusion in work programme for 2026/27
				can be scrutinised at this time.			to present the strategy
Social Value of Contracts (as a subset of financial oversight)	Director Finance, Atif Iqbal		(i) One meeting. (ii) No scope required. (iii) Presentation from officers leading to a Q&A with Scrutiny Members.		The Strategic Director and Sec 151 Officer, Clare Fletcher, provided an explanation to the O&S Committee that the investments held by the Council as part of its treasury management are short term deposits with other local authorities, banks and money market funds, which were unlike Pension Funds, so the authority would not be able to use the same ethical investment decisions regarding these short term investments.		<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> Members could receive presentation on the Council's initiatives regarding social value in contracts and updated Stevenage Works in 2026/27

Monitoring of Previous Recommendations/Actions								
Scrutiny items:	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Number of meetings item can be covered in?	Expectation/ Style of meeting	Scoping details (whether full scope or simple scope required)	Other details	Comment by lead Assistant Director/ Deputy	Complete ✓ x
Consider the Committee's Action Tracker	Deputy CE & Strategic Director, Richard Protheroe, Scrutiny Officer, Stephen Weaver.	2026-27 date to be advised – likely to be July 2026	One meeting	Members comment on the document – which may lead to further monitoring	No scope required	This item will be scheduled for consideration at the O&S in July 2026. From 2025-26 Work Programme items – review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Communications • Member Enquiries/ YourSay System • Workforce Survey 		✓

Any monitoring of previous reviews will be agreed when the Committee considers the action tracker at its meeting in July 2026.

Statutory Budget & Policy Framework Items:	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Number of meetings item can be covered in?	Expectation/Style of meeting	Scoping details (whether full scope or simple scope required)	Other details Completed ✓ x
The 2027/2028 HRA and Rent Setting	Clare Fletcher SD Sec 151 Officer/	December 2026	Yes, covered in one meeting	Presentation by AD with	No scoping required	

Statutory Budget & Policy Framework Items:	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Number of meetings item can be covered in?	Expectation/Style of meeting	Scoping details (whether full scope or simple scope required)	Other details Completed ✓ ✗
	Portfolio Holder for Resources			supporting papers		
Budget Options 2027/28	Clare Fletcher SD Sec 151 Officer/Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources	November 2026	Yes, covered in one meeting	Presentation by SD with supporting papers	No scoping required	
Council Tax Support Scheme (refresh of scheme reviewed annually by the Cabinet)	Clare Fletcher SD Sec 151 Officer Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources	January 2027	Normally covered in one meeting	Usually a presentation by SD & AD with supporting papers	No scoping required	Due to the proximity of LGR this may not be practicable to undertake in 2026-27 with the need to harmonise schemes.
General Fund Budget and Council Tax Setting	Clare Fletcher SD Sec 151 Officer/Executive Portfolio Holder for Resources	January 2027	Yes, covered in one meeting	Presentation by SD & AD with supporting papers	No scoping required	

Pre-Scrutiny Policy Development Items:	Strategic Director, Assistant Director, Lead Officer(s) & Portfolio Holder	Provisional meeting date(s) identified	Number of meetings item covered in?	Expectation/ Style of meeting	Scope details	Other details	Complete ✓ ✗