

Merton Council Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel



Date: 29 June 2022

Time: 7.15 pm

Venue: Council chamber - Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX

AGENDA

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4	Cabinet Member priorities	
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The meeting room will be open to members of the public from 7.00 p.m.**

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Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel Membership

Councillors:

Stuart Neaverson (Chair)
Daniel Holden (Vice-Chair)
John Braithwaite
Caroline Charles
Anthony Fairclough
Dan Johnston
Gill Manly
Stephen Mercer
Martin Whelton
James Williscroft
Victoria Wilson

Substitute Members:

Edward Foley
Klaar Dresselaers
Slawek Szczepanski
Samantha MacArthur
Max Austin

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. For further advice please speak with the Managing Director, South London Legal Partnership.

What is Overview and Scrutiny?

Overview and Scrutiny describes the way Merton's scrutiny councillors hold the Council's Executive (the Cabinet) to account to make sure that they take the right decisions for the Borough. Scrutiny panels also carry out reviews of Council services or issues to identify ways the Council can improve or develop new policy to meet the needs of local people. From May 2008, the Overview & Scrutiny Commission and Panels have been restructured and the Panels renamed to reflect the Local Area Agreement strategic themes.

Scrutiny's work falls into four broad areas:

- ⇒ **Call-in:** If three (non-executive) councillors feel that a decision made by the Cabinet is inappropriate they can 'call the decision in' after it has been made to prevent the decision taking immediate effect. They can then interview the Cabinet Member or Council Officers and make recommendations to the decision-maker suggesting improvements.
- ⇒ **Policy Reviews:** The panels carry out detailed, evidence-based assessments of Council services or issues that affect the lives of local people. At the end of the review the panels issue a report setting out their findings and recommendations for improvement and present it to Cabinet and other partner agencies. During the reviews, panels will gather information, evidence and opinions from Council officers, external bodies and organisations and members of the public to help them understand the key issues relating to the review topic.
- ⇒ **One-Off Reviews:** Panels often want to have a quick, one-off review of a topic and will ask Council officers to come and speak to them about a particular service or issue before making recommendations to the Cabinet.
- ⇒ **Scrutiny of Council Documents:** Panels also examine key Council documents, such as the budget, the Business Plan and the Best Value Performance Plan.

Scrutiny panels need the help of local people, partners and community groups to make sure that Merton delivers effective services. If you think there is something that scrutiny should look at, or have views on current reviews being carried out by scrutiny, let us know.

For more information, please contact the Scrutiny Team on 020 8545 4035 or by e-mail on scrutiny@merton.gov.uk. Alternatively, visit www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny

Agenda Item 3

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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

8 MARCH 2022

(7.15 pm - 9.20 pm)

PRESENT Councillors Councillor Aidan Mundy (in the Chair),
Councillor Laxmi Attawar, Councillor David Dean,
Councillor Nick Draper, Councillor Anthony Fairclough and
Councillor Dave Ward

John Bosley (Assistant Director Public Space Contracts and Commissioning), Elliot Brunton, Mitra Dubet (Future Merton Commissioning Manager), Cathryn James (Interim Assistant Director, Public Protection), James McGinlay (Assistant Director for Sustainable Communities) and John Morgan (Interim Director, Community & Housing)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Cllr Daniel Holden will be speaking on the call-in therefore Cllr Nigel Benbow is present as his substitute on the Panel.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

The minutes were agreed with one amendment on page 5 – Tenants Champion item. The votes were recorded incorrectly. Recommendations E and F are noted as not having passed, however all recommendations were passed, with various majorities, except for Recommendation D. The official record will be amended.

The Chair paid tribute to those colleagues who sadly won't be re-standing. They are Cllr Geraldine Stanford, Cllr Nick Draper, Cllr David Ward and substituting regularly on the panel Cllr Ben Butler.

4 ACTIONS LOG (Agenda Item 4)

One amber item outstanding relating to the Green Spaces strategy due by the end of the month.

Green items on the action log have been achieved.

5 PERFORMANCE MONITORING (Agenda Item 5)

- Public Space indicator CRP124 - percentage of street enquiries rectified within the specified time frame. The service itself issued a service improvement

notice to Veolia. We have received a response from Veolia and a supporting action plan which will hopefully improve that outcome.

- CRP097 percentage of household waste recycled – There has been a 2% increase from December to January which is a positive improvement
- Looking at leisure services SP405 – Seeing a higher activity within our leisure centres.
- Number of minor planning applications determined within eight weeks seems to be relatively low however the figures have been recorded incorrectly going back so far as April – The team are in the process of recalculating.

A Panel Member passed on the comments of a number of residents pleased at how well the Council cleaned up after the winds a couple weeks ago.

6 CALL- IN: W2 CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE (CPZ) (Agenda Item 6)

To begin, the Chair invited Cllr David Williams to speak to the call in.

The representations made to us from residents mirrored our own reservations that you can see in the report on page 30.

Both Alwyne and Compton Road residents approached us making different comments of disappointment and we've heard subsequently from Worcester Road where there was very little participation in any of the consultations.

The discussion tonight centres around 'clarity of aims and desired outcomes' and 'consideration and evaluation of alternatives' so members please keep in mind that originally both the 2017 and 2019 consultations were about extending the hours of operation of the CPZ to match roads in the town centre as residents find it hard to park close to their homes at night and at the weekends.

Will these additional parking bays help that? No

Will replacing single yellow lines with double yellow lines help? Also no, they'll actually make it worse.

Our role has been to try to facilitate an outcome that would satisfy a wider body of opinion. Several ideas agreed in a paper generated by the Wimbledon East Hillside Residents Association last summer still carry general support but officers seem to have plumped for an either or solution that few find fully attractive.

We have been seeking to see if there's a compromise, for example, a more gradual or incremental approach to implementation including a temporary traffic management order and we ask the Cabinet Member to look this decision again.

Cllr Daniel Holden expanded upon Cllr Williams points and explained that we need a solution that helps reach a more acceptable compromise with the residents as a whole.

The Council aims have not been met by this decision, the Council hasn't shown evidence for the increased demand in parking bays as a whole entity.

On page 91 you'll see a table of parking bays and we welcome that more existing shared use bays will become resident permit only but there are alternatives that are

missing. I ask you listen to the views expressed tonight by us and the public speakers and refer the decision back.

In response to a Panel Member question, Cllr Holden explained that last year the Ward Cllrs spoke to the residents about this proposed decision and suggested they create a working group. They did this and spent the summer and the early autumn putting together plans and ideas that would be acceptable. Their report was sent to officers to consider. This report had the consensus view of residents and all the roads affected but was dismissed by officers.

The Chair invited the Public Speakers to share their views and allowed two minutes each to speak:

Guy Halifax spoke in favour of the council's decision. I believe that the Panel should recommend that council proceed with this decision. This matter has been going on for five years with three consultations and numerous different options explored to improve the situation. I am speaking on behalf of the silent majority, the residents without off street parking and the residents that experience issues on a regular basis with the parking in the area. The council decision is, in our view, better than the current situation. It's worth noting that there are something like 720 households in the area but only a small minority are now speaking out in opposition to this decision. The Council's proposals give us most of what we want and by that I mean dedicated residents parking bays and additional residents parking bays.

Compton Road, being the closest street to the town centre, is the parking street of choice for visitors to Wimbledon's night-time economy and it also acts as the overspill car park from other roads which do not have enough parking spaces. I would like to suggest the panel recommend that the council proceed with this decision

Leon Tong described how it was felt that at least two decision-making principles of the council's own constitution have been breached. They are namely 'clarity of aims and desired outcomes' and 'consideration and evaluation of alternatives' and this is why the decision should be referred back. Firstly what were the aims and what were the desired outcomes? Was the aim to encourage car use or discourage it? Was the aim to increase safety for road users or was the aim to increase access to Wimbledon town centre? Clear aims cannot be found in the consultation letter or in any document presented to the public.

Jason Evans Tovey stated that in terms of addressing the consideration and valuation of alternatives, the Cabinet Member has chosen instead to implement all mechanisms. This is somewhat surprising because of the 48 representations made, the vast majority were against all the proposals and indeed on my reckoning only two were in favour of all the proposed mechanisms.

Plausible alternatives were simply not addressed or evaluated. There was no evaluation of whether one or a couple of mechanisms could be implemented. The cabinet member decided to implement all mechanisms and in evaluative terms, this was disproportionate.

The Chair thanked everyone for taking the time to speak so passionately about the issue at hand and invited the Cabinet Member, Cllr Martin Whelton, to input

This proposal is creating additional spaces and it is my view as Cabinet Member that both roads can accommodate these additional spaces. I am conscious that there are considerable parking pressures in the local area and not everybody has access to off street parking and I believe that this decision is the correct one to take.

With regards to questions about reviews, we used to have a process of reviewing CPZ's after three years but unfortunately because of funding and resources, a decision was made that we will review a zone only if the residents petition us for a change.

The Chair moved to discuss the recommendations and read out loud the options provided in the report:

“That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel consider the information provided in response to the call-in request and decide whether to:
A. Refer the decision back to the Cabinet Member for reconsideration; or
B. Decide not to refer the matter back to the Cabinet Member, in which case the decision shall take effect immediately”.

With 2 votes for recommendation A and five votes for recommendation B, the decision by this Panel is not to refer the matter back to the Cabinet Member therefore the decision will take immediate effect.

The Chair recommended a review is conducted in a 12 month period. Officers commented that one year is not enough time for embedding s and secondly reviews are resource intensive. There is a mechanism to do so if there is a forthcoming petition from residents.

7 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT - PRESENTATION (Agenda Item 7)

Lesley Barakchizadeh, Interim Head of Development Management and Building Control, spoke to the report and the accompanying action plan.

Members were reminded that planning enforcement is primarily about breaches of planning consent and is not a statutory service but purely at the discretion of the Council.

In response to further questions from Panel Members;

- We currently have a very small team with a heavy reliance on agency staff
- Our number one priority is to reduce the backlog by improving our procedures
- 400 to 450 cases received a year
- Three months ago, one additional officer was appointed to assist with the backlog and that officer so far been allocated 48 cases, 24 of which are ready for closure.

8 HOUSING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE (Agenda Item 8)

Elliot Brunton, Interim Head of Housing, updated the Panel on the work of the Housing Enforcement Team.

The Housing Health and Safety Rating System is a local authority tool which is set out in the Housing Act 2004. It is a risk-based approach to assessing issues that arise in the private sector. It is dependent on the households involved - for examples if you've got an open fire and one household with children and one without children, the risks are different.

In response to Panel Members questions, the Interim Head of Housing responded;

Investigations are often prompted by tenants and/or their advocates coming to the Council to report an issue.

Category one hazards have to be acted upon by the Local Authority so in the majority of cases we visit housing association properties and liaise with the housing associations very closely. We do find in some situations that the issue has not been reported to the housing association in the first instance.

On occasion we have had to serve notices but generally we maintain a collaborative approach with the housing associations in the Borough.

Some situations with private landlords require 'works in default' but that is a last resort because in these circumstances, the Council has to put a charge on the property. Prior to that we would serve a preliminary notice, which sets out category one and all category two hazards and the time scale with which to rectify the problem, which can then be followed up with a formal notice.

9 TOPIC SUGGESTION REQUESTS (Agenda Item 9)

Members were reminded to submit their topic suggestions to the Scrutiny Officers.

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Environment and Regeneration Performance dashboard

Public Protection performance

Dept.	PI Code & Description	May 2022					2022/23				
		Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend
Parking											
Parking	CRP 044 Parking services estimated revenue (Monthly)	1,749,633	TBC				3,075,845	TBC			
Parking	SP 258 Sickness- No of days per FTE from snapshot report	1.17	0.66				2.46	1.32			
Parking	SP 509 % of Permits applied/processed online (Monthly)	96%	98%				97%	98%			
Parking	SP 510 % of PCN Appeals received online (Monthly)	81%	83%				82%	83%			
Parking	SP 511 Blue Badge Inspections - cumulative (Monthly)	24	22				34	33			
Parking	SP 512 Total cashless usage against cash payments at machines (Monthly)	84%	75%				84.5%	75%			
Parking	SP 513 Percentage of cases 'heard' and won at ETA (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory services											
Regulatory Services	CRP 120 / SP 562 % of Regulatory Services service requests with an initial response within the "defined timescale" (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	90%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	CRP 121 / SP 565 Number of monitoring stations that meet annual Particulate air quality objectives (Annual)	Annual measure					N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	CRP 122 / SP 566 Number of monitoring stations measuring below the Nitrogen Dioxide air quality objectives (Annual)	Annual measure					N/A	50	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	DATA 010 Safeguarding older people - number of cases investigated and intervene in cases of residents being targeted by financial scams and abuse (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	Data only	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	DATA 011 Number of new high risk massage and special treatment premises inspections carried out within 20 working days of the premises being ready to trade (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	Data only	N/A	N/A	N/A










Regulatory Services	DATA 012 Number of Air Quality Audits (using GLA toolkit) of schools, prioritising those in the highest pollution areas (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure	N/A	Data only	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	DATA 017 PREVIOUSLY SP 563 Safeguarding young people - carry out age restricted sales physical interventions for knives, alcohol, fireworks, tobacco and e-cigarettes (Annual)	Annual measure	N/A	Data only	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	SP 521 Total % compliance of non-road mobile machinery on major construction sites with GLA emissions standards (Annual)	Annual measure	N/A	95%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	SP 561 Percentage of alcohol and regulated entertainment licences issued within 10 working days of the conclusion of the 28 day consultation period, excluding those that are subject to a licensing hearing (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure	N/A	95%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Services	SP 564 High risk A & B and non-compliant C-rated food establishments due for inspection completed (Annual)	Annual measure	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Public Spaces

Age 8	Dept.	PI Code & Description	May 2022					2022/23				
			Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend
Waste Services												
Waste Management & Cleansing	CRP 097 / SP 065 % Household waste recycled and composted (Monthly in arrears)	42.61%	50%				42.61%	45%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	CRP 103 / SP 454 % of fly-tips removed within 24 hours (Monthly)	84.2%	95%				84.2%	95%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	CRP 123 / SP 567 % of sites surveyed on local street inspections for litter that meet the required standard (Monthly) and quarterly in line with NI 195 reporting	82.93%	87%				84.98%	87%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	CRP 124 / SP 568 % of street reports rectified within the contract standard time frame (Monthly)	42.15%	90%				46.27%	90%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	CRP 125 / SP 570 % of sites surveyed that meet the required standard for detritus (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	80%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Waste Management	CRP 126 / SP 573 Number of refuse collections including	125	80				125	80				

& Cleansing	recycling and kitchen waste (excluding garden waste) missed per 100,000 (Monthly)											
Waste Management & Cleansing	DATA 013 Number of street cleansing site inspections undertaken by Client team (target 868 per month, 10,416 per year) (Monthly)	929	Data only				1,891	Data only				
Waste Management & Cleansing	DATA 016 Number of Environmental Enforcement incidents formally (NOT formerly) processed (Monthly)	485	Data only				929	Data only				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 064 % Residents satisfied with refuse collection (Annual) (ARS)	Annual measure					N/A	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 066 Residual waste kg per household (Monthly in arrear)	39.58	40				39.58	40				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 067 % Municipal solid waste sent to landfill (waste management & commercial waste) (Monthly in arrear)	3%	6%				3%	6%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 262 % Residents satisfied with recycling facilities (Annual) (ARS)	Annual measure					N/A	75%	N/A			
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 269 % Residents satisfied with street cleanliness (Annual) (ARS)	Annual measure					N/A	57%	N/A			
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 354 Total waste arising per households (KGs) (Monthly in arrear)	68.97	75				68.97	75				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 407 % FPN's issued that have been paid (Monthly) FLAGGED	50.99%	70%				50.99%	70%				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 485 No. of fly-tips in streets and parks recorded by Contractor (Monthly)	1,673	1,500				1,673	1,500				
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 569 % of sites surveyed that meet the required standard for weeds (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	90%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 571 % of sites surveyed that meet the required standard for graffiti (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	95%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 572 % of sites surveyed that meet the required standard for flyposting (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	97%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Waste Management & Cleansing	SP 574 Resident satisfaction with the Household Re-use and recycling facility (Garth Road) (Annual)	Annual measure					N/A	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Parks

Parks and Green Spaces	CRP 119 / SP 558 Average Performance Quality Score (Litter and Cleansing Standards) (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure			4.74	4.95					
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 026 % of residents who rate parks & green spaces as good or very good (Annual) (ARS)	Annual measure			N/A	79%	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 027 Young peoples % satisfaction with parks & green spaces (Annual) (ARS)	Annual measure			N/A	87%	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 032 No. of Green Flags (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	7	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 318 No. of outdoor events in parks (Monthly)	12	18				15	32			
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 514 Income from outdoor events in parks (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	£560,000	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 515 Average Performance Quality Score (Grounds Maintenance Standards) (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	4.9	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 517 Number of street trees planted (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	245	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 557 Average Performance Quality Score (Grass Verge Standards) (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure			N/A	4.5	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 559 % of tree works commissions completed within SLA (30 days) (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure			N/A	87%	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Parks and Green Spaces	SP 560 Number of friends and similar groups volunteering within Merton's parks and open spaces (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	30	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Transport

Transport	SP 136 Average % time passenger vehicles in use (transport passenger fleet) (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	85%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transport	SP 137 % User satisfaction survey (transport passenger fleet) (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	97%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transport	SP 271 In-house journey that meet timescales	Annual measure			N/A	85%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transport	SP 526 % of Council fleet using diesel fuel (Annual)	Annual measure			N/A	80%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Transport	SP 456 Days lost to sickness absence - Transport	3.33	0.75				6.88	1.5			
Leisure											
Leisure	SP 251 Income from Watersports Centre (Monthly)	£21,052	£26,500				£37,052	£42,500			
Leisure	SP 349 14 to 25 year old fitness centre participation at leisure centres (Monthly)	9,641	7,782				18,925	15,816			
Leisure	SP 405 No. of Leisure Centre users (Monthly)	96,302	76,938				185,612	153,066			
Leisure	SP 406 No. of Polka Theatre users (cumulative) (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	8279	N/A	N/A	N/A

E&R Sustainable Communities

Dept.	PI Code & Description	May 2022					2022/23				
		Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend
Development and Building Control											
Development and Building Control	CRP 045 / SP 118 Income (Development and Building Control) (Monthly)	116,639	163,833				180,337	327,666			
Development and Building Control	CRP 051 / SP 114 % Major applications processed within 13 weeks or within agreed timescales (Monthly)	66.67%	81%				75%	81%			
Development and Building Control	CRP 052 / SP 115 % of minor planning applications determined within 8 weeks or within agreed timescales	100%	73%				83.33%	72%			
Development and Building Control	CRP 053 / SP 116 % of 'other' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or within agreed timescales	94.96%	84%				87.54%	83%			
Development and Building Control	DATA 007 /SP 414 Volume of planning applications (Monthly)	425	Data only				703	Data only			
Development and Building Control	SP 040 % Market share retained by LA (Building Control) (Monthly)	38.89%	55%				37.9%	55%			
Development and Building Control	SP 113 No. of planning enforcement cases closed (Monthly)	59	45				131	90			
Development and Building Control	SP 117 % appeals lost (Development & Building Control) (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	35%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Dept.	PI Code & Description	May 2022					2022/23				
		Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend	Long Trend
Development and Building Control	SP 380 No. of backlog planning enforcement cases (Monthly)	543	300				543	300			
Future Merton											
Future Merton	CRP 096 / SP 020 New Homes (Annual)	Annual measure					N/A	918	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Merton	CRP 101 / SP 389 Carriageway condition - unclassified roads, % not defective (annual)	Annual measure					N/A	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Merton	CRP 108 / SP 475 Number of publicly available Electric Vehicles Charging Points available to Merton Residents	Annual measure					N/A	250	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Merton	DATA 008 Streetworks - number of utility works overrun incidents (FPN issued) (Monthly)	4	N/A				16	N/A			
Future Merton	DATA 009 £ fines from Streetworks FPNs (Monthly)	8,160	N/A				23,100	N/A			
Future Merton	SP 327 % Emergency callouts attended within 2 hours (traffic & highways) (Monthly)	100%	98%				100%	98%			
Future Merton	SP 328 % Streetworks permitting determined (Monthly)	100%	98%				100%	98%			
Future Merton	SP 391 Average number of days taken to repair an out of light street light (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Merton	SP 476 Number of business premises improved (Annual)	Not measured for Months					N/A	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Merton	SP 508 Footway condition - (% not defective, unclassified road) (Annual)	Not measured for Months					N/A	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Property											
Property	SP 024 % Vacancy rate of property owned by the council	Quarterly measure					N/A	3%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Property	SP 025 % Debt owed to LBM by tenants inc businesses	Quarterly measure					N/A	7.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Property	SP 386 Property asset valuations (Annual)	Not measured for Months					N/A	150	N/A	N/A	N/A
Property	SP 518 Number of completed Rent reviews (Quarterly)	Quarterly measure					N/A	70	N/A	N/A	N/A



Sustainable Communities Work Programme 2022/23

This table sets out the draft Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme for 2022/23 following discussions at the topic workshop on 7 June 2022.

The work programme will be considered at every meeting of the Panel to enable it to respond to issues of concern or to request new pre-decision items ahead of their consideration by Cabinet/Council.

The work programme table shows items on a meeting by meeting basis, identifying the issue under review, the nature of the scrutiny (pre decision, policy development, issue specific, performance monitoring, partnership related) and the intended outcomes.

Chair: Cllr Stuart Neaverson
Vice-chair: Cllr Daniel Holden

Scrutiny Support

For further information on the work programme of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel please contact: -
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For more information about overview and scrutiny at LB Merton, please visit www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny

Meeting date: 29 June 2022 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 22 June 2022*)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Holding the executive to account	Cabinet Member Priorities	Verbal update with Q&A	Cabinet Members for: Housing and Sustainable Development, Local Environment, Green Spaces and Climate	To understand current priorities in relation to Panel work programme
Holding the executive to account	Fly tipping strategy and Action Plan review		John Bosley Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Green Spaces and Climate	
Performance management	Performance monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	AD for Public Space, AD for Sustainable Communities	To highlight any items of concern and/or request additional information
Setting the work programme	Work programme 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 1 September 2022 (**Deadline for papers: 5pm, 23 August 2022**)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Standing items	Cabinet Member Priorities	Verbal update with Q&A	Cabinet Member for Transport	To understand current priorities in relation to Panel work programme
Holding the executive to account	Climate Change and Net Zero progress	Report	Tara Butler; Dominique Hill	Receive update on the Climate Change action plan and the Council's Net Zero progress
Holding the executive to account	Active Travel: Cycling infrastructure and facilities in the borough, including cycle lanes and storage spaces/hangars.	Report	Paul McGarry, Head of FutureMerton Cabinet Member for Transport	
Holding the executive to account	School Streets – Lessons learned review	Report	Paul McGarry, Head of FutureMerton	The panel RESOLVED in January to request officers produce a lessons learned paper on the implementation of school streets.
Performance management	Performance monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	Adrian Ash, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To highlight any items of concern and/or request additional information
Setting the work programme	Work programme 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 3 November 2022 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 25 October 2022*)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Holding the executive to account	Clarion: Repairs and Maintenance	Written report	Representatives from Clarion will be invited to attend the session	Monitor progress of recommendations
Budget scrutiny	Budget/business plan scrutiny (round 1)	Written report	Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To discuss and refer any comments to the O&S Commission
Holding the executive to account	Clarion Housing: Estate Regeneration – including climate elements of building	Written report		
Performance management	Performance monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	Adrian Ash, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To highlight any items of concern and/or request additional information
Setting the work programme	Work programme 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 19 January 2023 (**Deadline for papers: 5pm, 10 January 2023**)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Budget scrutiny	Budget and business planning (round 2)	Report	Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To comment on the budget and business plan proposals at phase 2 and make any recommendations to the Commission
Holding the executive to account	Tree Strategy development	Written report to include Nature based solutions to pollution – pocket parks, hedgerows; Polluted hotspots in borough where hedgerows and tress could mitigate.	John Bosley; Cabinet Member	Consider hotspots from session on air quality - Request recommend hotspots get hedgerows. Polluted hotspots in borough where hedgerows and tress could mitigate.
Holding the executive to account	Idverde	Focus on sustainability and best practice.	John Bosley, Andrew Kauffman	
Performance management	Performance monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	Adrian Ash, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To highlight any items of concern and/or request additional information
Setting the work programme	Work programme 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 23 February 2023 (**Deadline for papers: 5pm, 14 February 2023**)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Holding the executive to account	Air Quality	Tracking poor air quality hotspots & HGV traffic and pollution hotspots in the borough	Jason Andrews Cabinet Member	Consider nature-based solutions
Holding the executive to account	Flooding issues	Report	Tom Sly, Flood Management Officer	Thames Water independent review on flooding events in the borough
Holding the executive to account	Housing: Support for renters		Elliot Brunton, Head of Housing and Strategy	
Performance management	Performance monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	Adrian Ash, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To highlight any items of concern and/or request additional information
Setting the work programme	Work programme 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 8 March 2023 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 27 February 2023*)

Scrutiny category	Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Holding the executive to account	Disability Access	Written report		Include accessibility at stations
Holding the executive to account	Council Retrofitting Plans	Written report		
Holding the executive to account	Planning enforcement	Written report	Cabinet member, James McGinlay, Lesley Barakchizadeh	Invite Officers to report back on the backlog of cases
Standing item	Performance Monitoring	Basket of indicators plus verbal report	Adrian Ash, Director of Environment and Regeneration	
Setting the work programme	Topic suggestions 2022/23	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To seek suggestions from the Panel to inform discussions about the Panel's 2022/23 work programme

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