

Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee

Forward Work Programme 2025 – 2026

Chairman: Keith Witham

Scrutiny Officer: Dilip Agarwal | Democratic Services Assistant: Jacob Schanzenbach

| Date of Meeting | Type of Scrutiny | Issue for Scrutiny | Purpose | Outcome | Relevant Organisational Priority | Cabinet Member/Lead Officer |
|------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| July 2025 | | | | | | |
| 3 July | Performance Review | Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Performance Report | To provide the Select Committee with performance information on the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service. This will include Inspection Review. SFRS (one of two bi-annual scrutiny events which form an important part of SFRS governance framework) | The Committee to review the performance, provide oversight and feedback. | Empowered and thriving communities Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue, and Resilience; |
| | | TBC | | | | |

October 2025

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|--------------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| 9 Oct | Policy development and pre-decision scrutiny | The Nature Recovery strategy to include countryside, rural matters and land management. | To review draft Nature Recovery strategy and provide input to development ahead of a September 2025 Cabinet decision. The Team is going through a consultation process, so scrutiny is dependent on when that concludes. | The Committee to provide input on the new strategy. | Enabling a Greener Future Empowered and thriving communities | Marisa Heath, Cabinet Member for Environment; |
| | Performance Review (tbc) | Quarterly Performance Report and/or Annual Climate Change Delivery Report | Select Committee to receive an update on progress on the ongoing delivery report (Annual review) | The Committee to review the performance, provide oversight and feedback. | Enabling a Greener Future Empowered and thriving communities | Marisa Heath, Cabinet Member for Environment; |

December 2025

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| 5 December | Budget Scrutiny | Budget 2025/26 | Select Committee to receive draft budget proposals for 2025/26. | The Select Committee scrutinises the Council's budget proposals, provides feedback and makes recommendations, if required. | Empowered and thriving communities Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit | David Lewis, Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources; |
| | Performance Review | SFRS Performance report and progress against the new Inspection Improvement Plan (plus briefing on Grenfell Tower phase 2 report, tbc) | To provide the Committee with an update by SFRS on performance, plus the outcome of the inspection review (Inspectors returned to Surrey in August 2025) and an update on learning from the Grenfell Tower Phase 2 report by government. | The Committee to review the performance, provide oversight and feedback. | Empowered and thriving communities | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue and Resilience; |

March 2026

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|-----------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| 12 March | Performance Review | Coroner's Service: Digital Post-Mortem Project | To provide the Committee with an update on the delivery of a digital post-mortem service in Surrey and a review of initial operations. | The Committee to review the performance, provide oversight and feedback. | Empowering communities Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member; |
| | Performance Review | Registration & Nationality Service: New Service Delivery Model | To provide the Committee with an update on the roll-out of new service delivery model for Registrations and a review of service performance. Interim progress update by the end of the year. | The Committee to review the performance, provide oversight and feedback. | Empowering communities Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit | Denise Turner-Stewart, Cabinet Member; |

WRITTEN UPDATES, INFORMAL BRIEFING SESSION, VISITS or WORKSHOPS

| Tentative Date | Type of Scrutiny | Issue for Scrutiny | Purpose | Outcome | Relevant Organisational Priority | Cabinet Member/Lead Officer |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| TBC | Background briefing session | Aviation and Sustainable Transport | To provide an update to the Committee on performance in this area to see if the Committee wants to scrutinise further Aviation will consider Gatwick, Heathrow and also Farnborough Airport with regard to flight paths and noise pollution. | Post briefing, Committee to determine if they require further work in this area. | Enabling a greener future Empowered and thriving communities | Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth; |
| TBC 23 May 2025 | Background briefing session | Horizon Highway Asset Maintenance programme | A significant amount of Highways spend relates to Horizon. To provide an update to Vice Chairman Mark Sugden on the management and oversight of the budget and the work achieved. | Post briefing, the Chairman and Vice Chairmen will determine if they require further scrutiny. | Empowered and thriving communities | Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth; |

ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY

| Tentative Date | Type of Scrutiny | Issue for Scrutiny | Purpose | Outcome | Relevant Organisational Priority | Cabinet Member/Lead Officer |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------|---|---|
| TBC | | Flood Prevention | To provide an update to the Committee on performance in this area to see if the Committee wants to scrutinise further | | Enabling a greener future Empowered and thriving communities | Marisa Heath, Cabinet Member for Environment; |
| TBC | | Emergency Management | Awaiting discussion at Forward Work Planning meeting on 6 Feb 2025 | | | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue, and Resilience; |
| TBC | | Trading Standards | Note: this is a shared service with Bucks Co Council. The work is overseen by a joint Committee (Committee Manager is Joss Butler). | | Empowered and thriving communities | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue, and Resilience; |
| TBC | | Community Safety | | | Empowered and thriving communities | Kevin Deanus, Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue, and Resilience; |

GREENER FUTURES MEMBER REFERENCE GROUP

| Date | Type of Scrutiny | Issue for Scrutiny | Purpose | Outcome | Relevant Organisational Priority | Cabinet Member/Lead Officer |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 18 June 2025 | | TBC | | | | |
| 4 September 2025 | | TBC | | | | |
| 3 December 2025 | | TBC | | | | |

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