

# Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## Agenda

**Monday, 27 November 2023 6.30 p.m.**  
**Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel**

**Members:**

**Chair:** Councillor Musthak Ahmed

**Vice Chair:** Councillor Bodrul Choudhury

Councillor Ahmodur Khan, Councillor Abdul Malik, Councillor Abdul Mannan, Councillor Maisha Begum, Councillor Marc Francis, Councillor Asma Islam and Councillor Sabina Khan

**Co-opted Members:**

Jahid Ahmed and Halima Islam

**Deputies:** Councillor Shafi Ahmed, Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled, Councillor Amin Rahman, Councillor James King, Councillor Sabina Akhtar and Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

**Contact for further enquiries:**

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<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>



## Public Information

### Viewing or Participating in Committee Meetings

The meeting will be broadcast live on the Council's website. A link to the website is detailed below. The press and public are encouraged to watch this meeting on line.

### Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.

<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

### Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website from day of publication.

To access this, click [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee) and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

Agendas are available on the Modern.Gov, Windows, iPad and Android apps



Scan this QR code to view the electronic agenda



## A Guide to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Local Government Act 2000 established the overview and scrutiny function for every council, with the key roles of:

- Scrutinising decisions before or after they are made or implemented
- Proposing new policies and commenting on draft policies, and
- Ensuring customer satisfaction and value for money.

The aim is to make the decision-making process more transparent, accountable and inclusive, and improve services for people by being responsive to their needs. Overview & Scrutiny membership is required to reflect the proportional political makeup of the council and, as well as council services, there are statutory powers to examine the impact of work undertaken by partnerships and outside bodies, including the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and local health bodies.

In Tower Hamlets, the function is exercised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC). The OSC considers issues from across the council and partnership remit. The Committee has 3 Sub-Committees:

- Children & Education Scrutiny Sub Committee
- Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee
- Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Sub Committee

The committee's quorum is three voting members.

### Public Engagement

OSC usually meets once per month (a few days before Cabinet, to allow scrutiny of decisions scheduled to be made there). These meetings are open to the public to attend, and a timetable for meeting dates and deadlines can be found on the Council's website. More detail of how residents can engage with Overview and Scrutiny are available here

[Overview and scrutiny \(towerhamlets.gov.uk\)](https://towerhamlets.gov.uk/overview-and-scrutiny)

# London Borough of Tower Hamlets

## Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 27 November 2023

6.30 p.m.

### SECTION ONE

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST AND OTHER INTERESTS (PAGES 7 - 8)

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests form and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

#### 3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES (PAGES 9 - 20)

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 9 October 2023 and 23 October 2023.

#### 4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE SPOTLIGHT

#### 5. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The following items are due to be considered at the Cabinet meeting 29 November 2023. The committee is invited to consider the reports below:

##### 5.1 Youth Justice Annual Plan

**5.2 Council tax discounts and premiums for empty properties and second homes.**

**6. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT**

**6.1 Community Engagement Strategy (Pages 21 - 34)**

**7. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS**

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented at the 29 November 2023 meeting of Cabinet.

**8. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG**

**9. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS**

To hear updates from the Overview and Scrutiny Leads on their work across the Council.

**10. FORTHCOMING DECISIONS**

**11. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'**

No decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet 25 October 2023 in respect of unrestricted reports on the agenda were 'called in'.

**12. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS**

To receive any petitions (to be notified at the meeting).

**13. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

To consider any other unrestricted business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

**14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

“That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.”

**EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (Pink Papers)**



The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please hand them to the Committee Officer present.

## **SECTION TWO**

### **15. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

### **16. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'**

Nil Items.

### **17. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL) CABINET PAPERS**

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated 15 minutes).

### **18. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

#### **Next Meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

Monday, 11 December 2023 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel

