

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – Work Programme 2025-26

Chair: Councillor Brian Steele
Governance Manager: Barbel Gale

Vice-Chair: Cllr Joshua Bacon
Link Officer: Phil Horsfield

The following principles were endorsed by OSMB at its meeting of 5 July 2023 as criteria to long/short list each of the commission's respective priorities:

Establish as a starting point:

- What are the key issues?
- What is the outcome that we want?

Agree principles for longlisting:

- Can scrutiny add value or influence?
- Is it being looked at elsewhere?
- Is it a priority – council or community?

Developing a consistent shortlisting criteria e.g.

- T: Time: is it the right time, enough resources?
- O: Others: is this duplicating the work of another body?
- P: Performance: can scrutiny make a difference
- I: Interest – what is the interest to the public?
- C: Contribution to the corporate plan

Meeting Date	Responsible Officer	Agenda Item
Wednesday 7 May 2025	Sharon Kemp / Jo Brown	Council Plan 2025 - 2028 & New Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Pre-decision
	Ian Spicer	Review of the Non-Residential Charging Policy - Pre-decision
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 4 June 2025	Judith Badger / Rob Mahon	Finance Update - June 2025 - Pre-decision
	Sharon Kemp / Jo Brown	Social Value Annual Report - Pre-decision
	Ian Spicer / John Holman	Employment Solutions 2025-26 - Pre-decision
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
Wednesday 2 July 2025	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
	John Edwards / Jo Brown	Council Plan 2022-2025 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan Progress Update 2024-25 - Pre-decision
	Judith Badger	Ethical Procurement Policy - Pre-decision
	Judith Badger / Rob Mahon	Financial Outturn 2024- 25 - Pre-decision
	Judith Badger / Rob Mahon	Treasury Management Outturn 2024-25 - Pre-decision
	Judith Badger / Rob Mahon	May 2025-26 Financial Monitoring Report - Pre-decision
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
Tuesday 9 September 2025	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
	Andrew Bramidge / Simon Moss / Fiona Fletcher	Progress update on the implementation Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme
	Barbel Gale	Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-2025
	Judith Badger / Rob Mahon	July 2025-26 Financial Monitoring Report - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge / Emma Ellis	Community Safety Strategy 2025-2028 - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Judith Badger / Kevin Fisher	Investing in our Community Facilities - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
Wednesday 8 October 2025	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
	Andrew Bramidge	Rotherham Employment & Skills Strategy - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Andrew Bramidge	Selective Licensing Policy - Pre-decision scrutiny - joint with IPSC
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
Wednesday 12 November 2025	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
		Rotherham Employment & Skills Strategy - Pre-decision scrutiny
	Fiona Boden	Complaints Annual Report
	Sam Barstow	Safer Rotherham Partnership Annual Report
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Wednesday 10 December 2025		
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Tuesday 13 January 2026	John Edwards	Council Plan 2025 - 2028 & New Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Pre-decision
		Leader Q&A - to be scheduled after Council plan on the agenda.
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 4 February 2026		Question and answer session, Mayor Coppard, South Yorkshire Combined Mayoral Authority.
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 11 March 2026	Sam Barstow	Modern Slavery Transparency Statement - Annual Refresh
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Wednesday 8 April 2026	Andrew Bramidge / Simon Moss / Fiona Fletcher	Progress update on the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme
	Barbel Gale	Work Programme
	Each Governance Advisor	Work in progress from Select Commissions
	Barbel Gale	Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Substantive Items for Scheduling		
January 2026 & July 2026	Barbel Gale	Leader Q&A - to be scheduled after Council plan on the agenda.
Feb-26	Barbel Gale	Question and answer session, Mayor Coppard, South Yorkshire Combined Mayoral Authority.
Jul-26	John Edwards	Council Plan 2025 - 2028 & New Year Ahead Delivery Plan - Pre-decision
TBC	Andrew Bramidge	Selective Licensing - Joint with IPSC
Reviews for Scheduling		
In progress	Sam Barstow	A spotlight review - Life-saving equipment and related byelaws
Off agenda briefing provided	Lynsey Linton	Spotlight Review - Agency Staff - A briefing has been provided with other aspects being picked up as part of other tasks on this work programme. Nothing further to be done at this time.
Completed	Sam Barstow	Spotlight Review - Grass Cutting / Ground Maintenance
Items to be Considered by Other Means (e.g. off-agenda briefing, workshop etc)		
Completed	Ian Spicer / John Holman / Paul Elliott	A report be provided to OSMB within three months detailing the performance information for the Employment Solutions Team.
Sep-25	Lynsey Linton	A briefing to be provided to OSMB detailing information on the number of vacancies where recruitment to those vacancies was held for a period of time, listed by directorate and the potential impacts of delaying that recruitment process.
Apr-26	Andrew Bramidge	An update on progress following the implementation of Waste Service Route Optimisation programme be brought back to OSMB within twelve months via an off-agenda briefing.
Apr-26	Andrew Bramidge	An update on the progress following the implementation of the Street Safe Team programme be brought back to OSMB within twelve months via an off-agenda briefing.
TBC	Andrew Bramidge	Replacement of refuse vehicles: Off-agenda briefings to be provided to give an update on the procurement of the new refuse vehicles and progress against the target for renewal of the fleet. These briefings should be split to represent the different phases of the programme.
TBC	Andrew Bramidge / Sam Barstow	Public on street bin collections: Off-agenda briefing to be provided regarding the emptying of public bins. This information should include details of how overflowing bins can be reported, how often collections are scheduled for and how those are monitored, what join arrangements are in place with Parish Council's, if any, and a list of the locations of bins under RMBC management, if available.

TBC	Luke Sayers	<p>IT Systems:</p> <p>Workshop to be arranged for members of OSMB to understand what IT systems the Council is using, what the purpose of those systems is, are those systems as up to date as possible, how updates to those systems are managed, how the Council is using artificial intelligence (AI), is the Council using outdated technology, and was the Council spending too much or too little in this area.</p>
TBC	Lynsey Linton	<p>Recruitment:</p> <p>Initially an off-agenda briefing has been requested to understand how recruitment is carried out across the Council, indicating if the same processes were used across all directorates, detailing if recruitment was centralised, was there a reliance on agency staff to cover staff vacancies. After consideration of the off-agenda briefing Members of OSMB will then consider if a workshop needs to be held to discuss this in more detail.</p>
Items for Future Consideration		
Apr-26	TBC	Future Rothercare Model
Cross Commission scrutiny opportunities		
TBC	Andrew Bramidge	<p>Town Centre Developments (Forge Island, Markets & Library Redevelopments:</p> <p>An initial site visit to be arranged to consider a midterm evaluation of the Market's redevelopment including a briefing detailing information on construction costs, the retention of market traders along with information on the plan for encouraging new businesses. The site visit is to involve Councillor Williams, Councillor Steele, Councillor Bacon, Councillor McKiernan, Councillor Tinsley, Councillor Jones, Councillor Sheppard, and Andrew Bramidge.</p> <p>Then to be followed by an off-agenda briefing providing a progress update for these projects, indicating if slippages had occurred, if there was underspend or overspend on any of the schemes and the proposed mitigates, if any.</p>
TBC	Ian Spicer / John Holman	<p>Energy Efficiency:</p> <p>An off-agenda briefing to be provided to members of OSMB and IPSC to provide information on the energy efficiency retrofits in social housing. This should cover aspects such as the feasibility and prioritisation of upgrades to heating systems and insulation across the borough. It would include details on how these retrofits align with the Council's net-zero goals, what potential funding was available to support this and timescales for implementation.</p>