

Improving Places Select Commission – Work Programme 2025-26

Chair: Cllr Cameron McKiernan

Governance Advisor: Kristianne Thorogood

Vice-Chair: Cllr Adam Tinsley

Link Officer: Andrew Bramidge

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 desired outcome?

Agree principles for longlisting:

- Can scrutiny add value or influence?
- Is this being looked at elsewhere?
- Is this a priority for the council or community?

Developing a consistent shortlisting criteria, e.g.

- T: Time: is it the tight 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
Tuesday 10 June 2025	Chris Willis John Holman, Sarah Watts Governance Advisor Governance Advisor	Independent Review of the Muslim Burial Provision in Rotherham Rotherham Employment and Skills Strategy Housing Strategy 2022-25: Action Plan Update/ Final Report Nominate representative to the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel Work Programme 2025-2026
Tuesday 8 July 2025	John Holman, Luke Chamoun, Levi Karigambe Governance Advisor	Tenant Scrutiny Review on Tenancy Health Checks Work Programme 2025-2026
Tuesday 2 September 2025	John Holman, Sarah Watts, Garry Newton Andrew Bramidge, Emma Ellis Simon Moss, Megan Hinchliff Governance Advisor	Housing Strategy 2025-2030 Review of Selective Licensing 2020-2025 Plan for Neighbourhoods 2025-2035 Work Programme 2025-2026
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Andrew Bramidge, Emma Ellis	Selective Licensing - Joint with OSMB
Friday 17 October 2025	Governance Advisor	School Road Safety Review - initial meeting
Tuesday 21 October 2025	John Holman, Sarah Watts, Garry Newton Simon Moss, Lorna Vertigan Governance Advisor	Housing Strategy 2025-2030 - Draft Action Plan Pride in Place Programme for Rotherham Central (previously Plan for Neighbourhoods) 2025-2035 Work Programme 2025-2026
Thursday 4 December	Paul Walsh/Cllr Beresford	ASB Workshop (Housing/Tenancies) @ Town Hall
Tuesday 16 December 2025	Phil Horsfield / Bal Nahal / Ashleigh Wilford Governance Advisor	Bereavement Services Annual Report Work Programme 2025-2026

Tuesday 27 January 2026	Kyle Heydon, Richard Jackson Martin Hughes Governance Advisor	Flooding Alleviation Update Thriving Neighbourhoods Annual Report Work Programme 2025-2026
Tuesday 10 March 2026	Chris Siddall/Rachel Stothard Polly Hamilton/Leanne Buchan Governance Advisor	Draft Playing Pitch Strategy Review of Borough-wide Events Work Programme 2025-2026
Tuesday 21 April 2026	Polly Hamilton Simon Moss/Lorna Vertigan Governance Advisor	Allotments Annual Update Update on Maltby East Pride in Place Programme Work Programme 2025-2026
Substantive Items for Scheduling		
Jun-26	Sarah Clyde	Update on Housing Stock Survey
TBC	Simon Moss	Town Centre Strategy
TBC	TBC	Nature Recovery Strategy - South Yorkshire Mayor Combined Authority
every July	Sarah Clyde	Housing Strategy Action Plan Annual Report
Late 2026/early 2027	Andrew Bramidge	Rotherham Gateway - Mainline & Tram/Train station
Reviews in Progress		
In Progress	Governance Advisor & Kevin Fisher/Nat Porter	Scrutiny Review - School Road Safety
Potential Off-Agenda Briefings		
Spring 2026	Simon Moss	Update on Our Places Fund projects across the Borough
Autumn 2026	Andrew Bramidge	Street Safe Team - Off-Agenda Briefing (joint with OSMB) providing an update on progress following the implementation of the Street Safe Team.
Autumn 2026	Andrew Bramidge	Waste Service Route Optimisation - Off-Agenda Briefing (joint with OSMB) providing an update on progress following implementation of the programme
TBC	Andrew Bramidge	Briefing/workshop on Bassingthorpe Farm development/lessons from Waverley
Potential Site Visits		
Feb-26	Simon Moss, Lorna Vertigan	Market/library redevelopment - see below, joint with OSMB item/visit
Early 2026	Andrew Bramidge	Hellaby Depot
Items for Future Consideration		
Late 2026/early 2027	Andrew Bramidge / Sam Barstow	Outcome of waste policy pilot.
Jun-26		Nominate representative to the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel
Cross Commission scrutiny opportunities		
Feb-26	Andrew Bramidge	<p>Joint with OSMB - Town Centre Developments (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, Cabinet Members and officers from R&E.</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 / Sarah Clyde	<p>Joint with OSMB - 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>