

IPSC Chair's Briefing: for OSMB meeting on 3 February 2026

Items covered since the last update meeting:

- At its meeting on Tuesday 16th December 2025, IPSC had opportunity to consider the **Bereavement Services Annual Report**. The Annual Report from Bereavement Services provided a summary of progress across the year on council-retained services and properties, together with a review of the Council's performance management of the contract with Dignity Funerals Limited (Dignity). Representatives from Dignity were also in attendance, which allowed Members the opportunity to scrutinise and ask questions relating to Dignity's Annual Performance Report and Operational Plan. At the time of the meeting, Dignity had yet to confirm the level of its fees for the upcoming year and Members therefore await an update on this, once available.

Work programme 2025-26 updates:

- School Road Safety Review**

Work on this review continues and Member attendance and engagement has been high. A number of meetings have now taken place with officers from across the council to consider the following areas - School Engagement & Liaison; Crossing Patrol; and Parking Enforcement.

The Governance Advisor is due to arrange a further meeting with contacts at SYMCA and after that, Members will consider if there is anything further they wish to look at before the work of pulling together outcomes and potential recommendations begins.

- ASB Workshop**

The Anti-Social Behaviour workshop delivered by Housing took place on 4th December 2025. This was a very useful and insightful workshop which allowed Members with the opportunity to ask questions of a number of Officers who work within Housing across the borough.

Members also took part in a breakout Case Study group session where Members and Officers worked through a number of real-life scenarios together and were able to discuss the particular complexities of each case and valuable lessons learnt. Feedback from the session was that both Members and Officers found it very useful to consider each other's experiences. The presentation from the session is now available to view on the Member Portal.

- Market/Library Redevelopment Site Visit**

The site visit to the Market/Library redevelopment is now set to take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 10 February 2026. The Members due to attend are as follows – Cllrs Steele, Bacon, McKiernan, Tinsley, Sheppard and Jones. Cabinet Members Cllrs Williams and Marshall are also due to attend, along with officers from Regeneration & Environment. The Governance Advisor will accompany Members on the visit and the

intention is to report back on the visit via a Briefing Note to be presented at either IPSC/OSMB or, potentially, at both meetings.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

At the next meeting of IPSC on 27 January 2026, members will scrutinise the following items:

- Flooding Alleviation Update; and
- Thriving Neighbourhoods Annual Report (postponed from December).