

Minutes of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 9 June 2026

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Committee members present:

Councillor Powell

Councillor Azad

Councillor Jarvis

Councillor Stares

Councillor Lancaster

Councillor Turkson Wood

Councillor Altaf-Khan

Councillor Corais

Councillor Ottino

Councillor Elphinstone

Councillor Max Morris

Officers present for all or part of the meeting:

Jonathan Malton, Committee and Member Services Manager

Dr Brenda McCollum, Committee and Member Services

Apologies:

Councillor Qayyum sent apologies. Councillors Turkson Wood, Corais, and Altaf-Khan sent apologies for a late arrival.

1. Election of Chair for the Council Year 2026/27

Councillor Ottino nominated Councillor Powell for the position of Chair, and this was seconded by Councillor Jarvis. Councillor Powell was elected to the role of Chair of Scrutiny.

2. Election of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2026/27

Councillor Jarvis nominated Councillor Ottino for the position of Vice-Chair, and this was seconded by Councillor Morris. Councillor Ottino was elected to the role of Vice-Chair.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

4. Chair's Announcements

Councillor Powell thanked the Committee for his re-election to the position of Chair.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Committee resolved to **approve** the minutes of the meeting held on 07 April 2026 as a true and accurate record.

6. Addresses by members of the public

None received.

7. Councillor addresses on any item for discussion on the Scrutiny agenda

None.

8. Establishment of the Scrutiny Standing Working Groups and Review Group

The Director of Law, Governance and Strategy had submitted a report to establish Working Groups and Review Groups for the 2026/27 municipal year and appoint standing Working Group and Review Group membership and chairs.

Councillor Powell presented the report to the Committee and outlined the different working groups of the Scrutiny Committee.

The Scrutiny Committee resolved to:

1. Agree to establish the following working groups for the 2026/27 municipal year with the following remits:

- a) Finance and Performance Working Group – finance and budgetary issues and decisions, annual review of the Council's budget, quarterly monitoring of finance and performance (including performance of the Council's companies), executive decisions made in relation to any companies wholly or partly owned by the Council.
- b) Housing and Homelessness Working Group – strategic housing and landlord issues and decisions, homelessness, housing services performance and interaction with the Tenant's Forum.
- c) Climate and Environment Working Group – climate and environmental issues and decisions, progress and performance monitoring, monitoring delivery of existing strategies, policies and projects.

2. Agree the Terms of Reference for:

- a) Climate and Environment Working Group at Appendix 1
- b) Finance and Performance Working Group at Appendix 2
- c) Housing and Homelessness Working Group at Appendix 3

3. Agree to appoint members and chairs of the Finance and Performance, Housing and Homelessness, and Climate and Environment Working Groups or any other working groups as agreed by the Committee in accordance with nominations made by political groups.

- a. **Finance and Performance:** Cllrs James Fry, James Thorniley, Chris Smowton (Chair), Ian Yeatman
- b. **Housing and Homelessness:** Cllrs Lizzy Diggins, Rosie Rawle (Chair), Roz Smith, Anne Stares
- c. **Climate and Environment:** Cllrs Louise Upton, Chris Jarvis (Chair), Katherine Miles, Judith Harley

4. Agree to establish a Budget Review Group, comprising the membership of the Finance and Performance Working Group and **note** that the proposed scope and Terms of Reference will be agreed at a future Scrutiny Committee meeting.

5. Agree the schedule of meetings as presented within the report;

9. Scrutiny Work Plan

The Chair presented the report. The Committee **approved** the workplan.

10. Cabinet responses to Scrutiny recommendations

The Chair provided a summary of Cabinet's responses to the Committee's previous recommendations, as set out in the report.

Councillor Ottino expressed disappointment in the Cabinet's response to the flooding and watercourses issue that had raised. He asked how they could request a fuller response from Cabinet on this issue.

The Committee agreed that Councillor Powell would ask the Cabinet member for more details and for a timeline on the issue. The Committee agreed to add further consideration of this issue into their workplan.

The Committee discussed Cabinet's response to the CIL spending and pricing list. The Committee and Member Services Manager clarified that it was difficult for them to provide a ballpark figure on the projects done through CIL and ward member spends because they are all bespoke and quite different from one another. The Committee discussed how it was possible to fund bigger projects and clarified that they should reach out to the director of planning for these applications.

The Committee agreed that Councillor Powell would reach out to Cabinet in the areas where they had not provided a clear response.

The Committee **noted** Cabinet’s responses to its recommendations.

*Councillor Corais arrived during this item at 18:08.
Councillor Turkson Wood arrived during this item at 18:13.*

11. Endorsement of Recommendations from Working Groups

The Committee noted that since the Scrutiny Committee’s previous meeting on 7 April 2026 there had been no further recommendations made by the Working Groups which required endorsement.

12. Dates of future meetings

The Committee **noted** the dates of future meetings.

Councillor Altaf-Khan arrived during this item at 18:15

The meeting started at 18:00 and ended at 18:15.

Chair

Date: Tuesday 30 June 2026

*When decisions take effect:
Cabinet: after the call-in and review period has expired
Planning Committees: after the call-in and review period has expired and the formal decision notice is issued
All other committees: immediately.
Details are in the Council’s Constitution.*