

Public Document Pack

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Thursday, 12th September,
2024
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Blackman (Chair)
Councillor Every
Councillor Y Frampton
Councillor Kloker
Councillor Leggett
Councillor McManus
Councillor Powell-Vaughan
Councillor Renyard
Councillor Stead

Appointed Members

Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Rob Sanders, Church of England
Vacant, Primary Parent Governor

Contacts

Joni Goodman
Democratic Support Officer
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Mark Pirnie
Scrutiny Manager
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PUBLIC INFORMATION

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee holds the Executive to account, exercises the call-in process, and sets and monitors standards for scrutiny. It formulates a programme of scrutiny inquiries and appoints Scrutiny Panels to undertake them. Members of the Executive cannot serve on this Committee.

Role of Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny includes the following three functions:

- Holding the Executive to account by questioning and evaluating the Executive's actions, both before and after decisions taken.
- Developing and reviewing Council policies, including the Policy Framework and Budget Strategy.
- Making reports and recommendations on any aspect of Council business and other matters that affect the City and its citizens.

Overview and Scrutiny can ask the Executive to reconsider a decision, but they do not have the power to change the decision themselves.

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2022-2030 sets out the four key outcomes:

- **Strong Foundations for Life**.- For people to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.
- **A proud and resilient city** - Southampton's greatest assets are our people. Enriched lives lead to thriving communities, which in turn create places where people want to live, work and study.
- **A prosperous city** - Southampton will focus on growing our local economy and bringing investment into our city.
- **A successful, sustainable organisation** - The successful delivery of the outcomes in this plan will be rooted in the culture of our organisation and becoming an effective and efficient council.

Procedure / Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Access is available for disabled people.

Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

Fire Procedure: -

In the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound, and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

Mobile Telephones: - Please switch your mobile telephones to silent whilst in the meeting

Use of Social Media: - The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording, or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Smoking Policy: - The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Dates of Meetings for the Municipal Year:

2024	2025
20 June	2 January
11 July	23 January
22 August	20 February
12 September	20 March
24 October	24 April
21 November	
12 December	

CONDUCT OF MEETING

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The general role and terms of reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with those for all Scrutiny Panels, are set out in Part 2 (Article 6) of the Council’s Constitution, and their particular roles are set out in Part 4 (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – paragraph 5) of the Constitution.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 4.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any “Disclosable Pecuniary Interest” or “Other Interest” they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

- (iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.
- (iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.
- (v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.
- (vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.
- (vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:
 - a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
 - b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an, 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

- Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature
- Any body directed to charitable purposes
- Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect the Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2024-2025.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

4 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

6 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING) (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 August 2024 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendix to the following Item

Appendix 3 of this report is not for publication by virtue of categories 3 (information

relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 7A (obligation of confidentiality) of paragraph 10.4 of Southampton City Council's ("the Council's") Access to Information Procedure Rules, as contained in the Council's Constitution.

It is not in the public interest to disclose this information as the report contains confidential and commercially sensitive information. It would prejudice the Council's ability to operate in a commercial environment and obtain best value in contract negotiations and would prejudice the Council's commercial relationships with third parties if they believed the Council would not honour obligations of confidentiality.

9 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 5 - 36)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

10 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE (Pages 37 - 40)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

Wednesday, 4 September 2024

Director – Legal and Governance

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 AUGUST 2024

Present: Councillors Blackman (Chair), Y Frampton, Leggett, McManus, Greenhalgh, Laurent, Windle and Barnes-Andrews
Appointed Members: Rob Sanders

Apologies: Councillor Stead
Appointed Members: Catherine Hobbs

10. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

It was noted that following receipt of the temporary resignation of Councillors Every, Kloker, Powell-Vaughan and Renyard from the Committee, Monitoring Officer, acting under delegated powers, had appointed Councillors Windall, Greenhalgh, Barnes-Andrews and Laurent to replace them for the purposes of this meeting and in addition noted the apologies of Councillor Stead.

11. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

It was noted that in the absence of several committee members this item be deferred to next meeting.

12. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel – How do we get a better deal for private renters in Southampton held on 18 April 2024 and the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 11 July 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendix to the following Item.

Appendix 1 of this report is not for publication by virtue of category 7A (obligation of confidentiality) of paragraph 10.4 of Southampton City Council's ("the Council's") Access to Information Procedure Rules, as contained in the Council's Constitution.

It was not in the public interest to disclose this information as the report contains confidential and commercially sensitive information in relation to one of the Council's suppliers. It would prejudice the Council's ability to operate in a commercial environment and obtain best value in contract negotiations and would prejudice the Council's commercial relationships with third parties if they believed the Council would not honour obligations of confidentiality.

14. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee received and noted the report of the Scrutiny Manager which enabled the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

i) Budget Matters – Interim Transformation Partner

Councillor Fielker, Leader of the Council and James Fleming-Wills, Director of Transformation were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting setting out the background, scope, and current progress in relation to the appointment by the Council of a transformation partner.

The Committee noted that the full scope of the forthcoming decision would be presented to Cabinet and Council in September. However, the Committee questioned the Leader and officer on the scope and timescales of potential savings, associated costings and sought to better understand the nature of the forthcoming decision and its potential to reduce expenditure.

Members were concerned over potential accountability and governance issues of any future relationship and concluded that the Chairs of the Council's Governance, Audit and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee should meet to review matters.

RESOLVED

That, the Chairs of the Governance, Audit and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meet to discuss details once published.

15. **PROTECTING, PRESERVING AND PROMOTING THE RIVER ITCHEN IN SOUTHAMPTON INQUIRY - PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Green City and Net Zero providing the Committee with a requested update on progress implementing agreed recommendations from the River Itchen Scrutiny Inquiry.

Councillor Savage - Cabinet Member for Green City and Net Zero, Ian Collins – Environment Director, and Lindsay McCulloch - Service Manager for Environment and Sustainability were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The Committee raised and discussed the following points:

- The progress made implementing the approved recommendations to date, including referencing the limited responses within the report to a number of the recommendations and the lack of action against others.
- The importance of the River Itchen Flood Alleviation Scheme (RIFAS) to the growth and prosperity of the city and concerns relating to the funds available to deliver the project in full.
- The continued challenges relating to water quality and the importance of SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems).
- Community engagement and future full membership of the Solent Forum.
- Ongoing issues with regards negative impacts to wildlife, recreational and commercial activities on and around the river.

RESOLVED that,

- i) To enable the Committee to hold the Executive to account for the implementation of the approved recommendations within the scrutiny inquiry report, the Chair and Scrutiny Manager arrange for the item to return to the Committee in 2024/25 with a further update on progress across the full range of issues raised by the inquiry.
- ii) In recognition of the importance of the scheme, the Committee requested that an update report on The River Itchen Flood Alleviation Scheme (RIFAS) was considered by the Committee at a future date.

16. **SCRUTINY INQUIRY 2024/25 - SHORTLIST**

The Committee considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Committee considers the shortlist of subjects for the 2024/25 scrutiny inquiry and identifies a preferred topic for which terms of reference can be developed for consideration at the October 2024 meeting of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the two options at length. In recognition that problem gambling has a considerable impact on the city and that the scope for the proposed housing inquiry requires further clarification and definition, it was agreed that problem gambling should be the subject of the 2024/25 scrutiny inquiry.

RESOLVED that the scrutiny inquiry for 2024/25 will be on problem gambling and that terms of reference are developed for consideration at the October 2024 meeting of the Committee.

17. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee considered and discussed the responses from the Executive to recommendations from previous meetings.

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Agenda Item 9

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	FORWARD PLAN		
DATE OF DECISION:	12 SEPTEMBER 2024		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Enabling Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
<p>Appendix 3 of this report is not for publication by virtue of categories 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 7A (obligation of confidentiality) of paragraph 10.4 of Southampton City Council's ("the Council's") Access to Information Procedure Rules, as contained in the Council's Constitution.</p> <p>It is not in the public interest to disclose this information as the report contains confidential and commercially sensitive information. It would prejudice the Council's ability to operate in a commercial environment and obtain best value in contract negotiations and would prejudice the Council's commercial relationships with third parties if they believed the Council would not honour obligations of confidentiality.</p>			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive to ensure that forthcoming decisions made by the Executive benefit local residents.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee discuss the items listed in paragraph 3 of the report to highlight any matters which Members feel should be taken into account by the Executive when reaching a decision.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To enable Members to identify any matters which they feel Cabinet should take into account when reaching a decision.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			

3.	The Council's Forward Plan for Executive Decisions from 17 September 2024 has been published. The following issues were identified for discussion with the Decision Maker:		
	Portfolio	Decision	Requested By
	Leader	Corporate Performance Reporting	Cllr Blackman
	Communities & Safer City	Community Safety / Refresh of City Safety Strategy	Cllr Blackman
	Compliance & Leisure	Leisure Service	Cllr Blackman
4.	Briefing papers responding to the items identified by members of the Committee are appended to this report. Members are invited to use the papers to explore the issues with the decision maker.		
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS			
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>			
5.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.		
<u>Property/Other</u>			
6.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.		
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS			
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>			
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.		
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>			
8.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.		
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS			
9.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.		
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS			
10.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.		
KEY DECISION		No	
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:		None directly as a result of this report	
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>			
Appendices			
1.	Briefing Paper - Corporate Performance Reporting		

2.	Briefing Paper - Refresh of the Southampton Safe City Partnership Strategic Plan	
3.	Briefing Paper - Leisure Services (Confidential)	
Documents In Members' Rooms		
1.	None	
Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		Identified in Executive report
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		Identified in Executive report
Other Background Documents		
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)	
1.	None	

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: Corporate Performance reporting process
DATE: 12 September 2024
RECIPIENT: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

Southampton City Council recognises the importance of effective performance management in delivering high-quality services to its residents. By implementing an updated, comprehensive reporting process, the council aims to foster an evidence and intelligence-led culture, as outlined in its Data and Intelligence Strategy.

The performance report is being developed on an iterative basis, and in time will align to ensure it is reflective of strategic outcomes in the City Plan, Master Plan and other key strategies.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

Southampton City Council is committed to providing high-quality services to its residents. To ensure effective performance management, the council has implemented an updated performance reporting process that aligns with our Data and Intelligence Strategy. This report outlines the reporting process, current challenges, and future improvements.

Currently Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been reviewed with leadership from across the council to ensure they provide a broad picture of performance including those measures outlined in the corporate plan. Targets have been agreed in some areas and this will be further developed across the suite of measures, aligning to business plans and associated activity. The report also allows users to benchmark indicators against the national average and comparator areas (where available) to get a broader understanding of relative performance and where Southampton may be an outlier to focus actions accordingly.

Whilst maintaining a focus on core data, the report will be developed iteratively, and new indicators may be added or removed by exception. As key plans (City Plan, Master Plan, revised Corporate Plan) are developed, the report will be reviewed and updated.

Performance Reporting Process

The performance reporting process involves the following key elements:

1. **Monthly updates:** The KPI Performance report is updated monthly, alongside the HR and Finance dashboards, and circulated to managers through a single Management Reporting Power BI Application. Performance data is brought together with finance and HR data into a single location through a Power BI application, allowing managers to better manage their services.

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2. **Engagement:** Services are expected to fully engage with the process by reviewing KPI performance at Directorate Management Team (DMT) level, contributing to the organisational Business Planning & Performance Group, and providing commentary for the corporate report. Actions to address areas of concern, as well as share good practice and positive outcomes are core to these discussions.
3. **Quarterly reporting:** The report will be brought to Management Board and Cabinet Member Briefings on a quarterly basis, forming the basis of a quarterly performance discussion at a Cabinet/Executive Management Team session, prior to a formal Cabinet paper being submitted.

Current Challenges

The council faces several challenges in implementing an effective performance reporting process:

1. **Data accessibility:** The report relies on accessing data across the authority, much of which is still disparate, not joined up, and reliant on individuals and manual processes.
2. **Automation:** Only a small proportion of the indicators are fully automated through the council's central data warehouse or Application Programming Interface (API) functionality. As a result there is still a significant amount of manual work to produce reports.
3. **Continuous improvement:** Team changes and continuous improvement initiatives often require system and complex reporting changes, which impact the capacity to deliver improvements and efficiencies.

Future Improvements

To address these challenges, the following improvements are being implemented:

1. **Data Strategy:** Through the Data and Digital Strategies work (as part of Transformation), the council will further develop a centralised Data Warehouse and connect to an increasing number of systems to help automate data processing tasks. Where automation has been effectively implemented, work effort to produce reports has already been evidenced. The data strategy work also focuses on our predictive analytics capabilities so that we improve forecasting and 'what if' scenario planning to better understand the impact of early actions and interventions.
2. **Power BI Report:** An enhanced report is being developed to automate descriptive commentary and enable services to focus on value, add commentary and actions, inputting directly in the report. This report will also have some basic forecasting functionality built in.
3. **Business Partner support:** The level of business partner involvement has improved significantly over recent months. Further utilising specialist expertise through the involvement of the Business Partners will help interpret the information (Data, HR, Finance, etc.) and support services in understanding their performance and associated actions required.
4. **Performance management:** DMTs have regular performance items on their agendas, and Executive Directors have committed to ensuring representatives regularly attend

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the Business Planning and Performance Group. Focus on organisational as well as service performance is also seen as core to individual performance management.

- 5. Dedicated performance roles:** Services with dedicated performance or quality assurance roles (as a single point of contact) are most engaged with the process, making it more efficient and effective. This is being taken into consideration as part of service redesigns.

As outlined above, the performance reporting process has been established to ensure a comprehensive approach to monitoring and understanding of, and taking action on, key indicators of performance across the council as a whole. Implementing the proposed improvements will support further performance ownership and improvement alongside supporting the development of the evidence led culture through the wider implementation of the data and intelligence and digital strategies.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Performance reporting delivered through BAU resource.

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

Alternative options considered: No corporate reporting process in place, with reporting ad-hoc or on request. Rejected as regular performance reporting and assessment of associated actions is essential for the council to effectively manage its business. A rigorous, regular reporting process is more efficient and reliable than ad-hoc reporting.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Improves performance management of the organisation and early sight of warning indicators so that appropriate proactive action can be taken.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

N/A

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Munira Holloway – Strategy & Performance Director
	Tel:	(023) 8083 4476
	E-mail:	Munira.holloway@southampton.gov.uk

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: Refresh of the Southampton Safe City Partnership Strategic Plan
DATE: 12 September 2024
RECIPIENT: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

The local Community Safety Partnership, 'Southampton Safe City Partnership' (SSCP), has a strategy to prevent and reduce crime, as required by Sections 5-7 Crime and Disorder Act 1998, for 22-27.

The opportunity to conduct a mid-term strategy review has coincided with the election of Rob Henderson as the new Chair of the SSCP. Over the life cycle of a 5-year strategy, key partner representatives change, as do crime and disorder trends, so, whilst the core priorities of the strategy remain, the focus of tactical and operational activities needs to be reviewed.

The overarching SSCP priorities remain:

1. Keeping People safe from harm
2. Preventing and Reducing Reoffending
3. Creating Safe and Strong Communities

The key crime issues to respond to for 2024-28, identified by the annual SSCP 'Safe City' assessment are:

1. Tackling Violent Crime including serious youth violence, domestic abuse and rape
2. Tackling Theft especially burglary, retail theft and car theft
3. Tackling anti-social behaviour through rapid and effective partnership responses.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

1. The SSCP is managed by the Council's Stronger Communities team on behalf of the following statutory partners:
 - Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary
 - Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service
 - Hampshire, Southampton, and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board
 - National Probation Service (Southampton).
2. Under section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act the SSCP (of which Southampton City Council is a statutory member) has a legal obligation to formulate and implement:

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- (a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment);
- (b) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol, and other substances in the area; and
- (c) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area.
3. A high-quality, annual Safe City Assessment allows a data-led approach to fulfilling both the statutory duties of the CSP (Community Safety Partnership), but also the key crime and disorder issues affecting communities. This assessment is published on the Southampton Data Observatory website:
- data.southampton.gov.uk/media/m20a2aoj/safe-city-strategic-assessment-report-2022-23.pdf
4. After publication of the report in late 2023, the SSCP strategic board met on 29 January 2024 in a workshop format to discuss and agree the key tactical areas ('Obsessions') for action in the remaining years of the Strategy.
5. The result is a refocused tactical plan, achieving the SSCP priorities by focusing on the key crime issues identified by data analysis and the public survey. This is attached as Annex 1.
6. The strategy refresh builds on the existing partnership working and now includes for each tactical 'obsession':
- A summary of data
 - What need to be done
 - How we will do it
 - Measures of success.
7. The board includes non-statutory partners which helps with the development of a shared focus and working on the key issues across the City. Non-statutory partners include:
- No Limits
 - Saints Foundation
 - OPCC (Office of Police and Crime Commissioner) Violence Reduction Unit
 - Southampton Voluntary Services
 - Victim Support.
8. The revised strategy was reviewed and agreed at the SSCP strategic board on 1 July 2024. The progress and review of key performance indicators will then be managed by the Strategic Board. Preparation for a full review of the strategy will commence in 2026/27. The lead Cabinet Member is Cllr Lambert, the Cabinet Member for Communities and Safer City.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

9. The SSCP work to prevent and reduce crime fits with the Corporate Priority for 'A Proud and Resilient City' and is specifically mentioned as part of 'Help communities feel safer within their neighbourhoods with a sense of belonging'.

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10. Community Safety Partnerships are a statutory requirement under Section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

11. The SSCP has no budget allocation from Southampton City Council, nor any other partners. Various funding bids to the Home Office, OPCC etc, led by the Partnership Manager (The Head of Service - Stronger Communities), have brought the city approximately £1.1m to tackle:

- Violent crime
- Violence against Women and Girls
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Residential burglary

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

12. The attached draft refresh of the strategy is scheduled to be considered by Cabinet at the 29 October meeting. A communications plan is being developed to launch the strategy update following the next meeting of the SSCP. This will be followed by regular updates on tactical activities, namely:

- Safer Streets 5 – VAWG, ASB and Residential Burglary prevention, including extra CCTV
- UKSPF – safer streets work stream (Youth Diversion from Crime/ASB)
- Young Peoples Service – ASB youth diversion, Serious Youth Violence

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

13. The key risk for Southampton City Council is, as a statutory partner, non-delivery of the statutory requirement to be part of a Community Safety Partnership. This strategy refresh ensures continued statutory compliance and demonstrates the efficiency and effectiveness of the SSCP.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

1. Annex 1 – Refresh of Southampton Safe City Strategy
2. Annex 2 – Rolling 12 month comparison for key crime types in Southampton

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Chris Brown – Head of Service, Stronger Communities
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Southampton Safe City Strategy

Priorities and current statistics
August 2024

Community Safety KPI's



Priority 1:
Keeping people
safe from harm



Priority 2:
Preventing
and reducing
offending



Priority 3:
Creating safe
and stronger
communities

Community Safety KPI's

Provisional data from April 2023 – March 2024



Any declines may not reflect a genuine decline, due to changes in crime counting rules introduced in 2023. More information can be found in the Office for Statistics Regulation Publication. [\(Click here for more info\)](#)

Our obsessions

Obsession 1

2024/25:

Tackling Violent Crime including serious youth violence, domestic abuse and rape

Obsession 2

2024/25:

Tackling Theft especially burglary, retail theft and car theft

Obsession 3

2024/25:

Tackling anti-social behaviour through rapid and effective partnership responses





Violent Crime

**All violent crime
down -1.9%**



**Serious Violence
down -19.9%**



**Domestic Abuse DV
down -4.8%**



- All violent crime -1.9%
- Serious Violence -19.9%
- Domestic Abuse DV -4.8%
- Sexual Offences +0.8%, Rape +8.3%
- What do we need to do?
- Make our Violent Crime Hotspots safer
- Reduce the number of repeat Domestic Abuse offences
- Reduce Rape incidents
- Tackle Serious Youth Violence

Continue our public health approach to understand and tackle the underlying causes of serious violence in our city, by defining and measuring the problems, to implement effective strategies and evaluating their impact.

Violent Crime – How will we do this?

**Sexual Offences
up +0.8%**



**Rape
up +8.3%**

- Establish a multi-agency governance mechanism to identify, engage and monitor young people involved in violent crime and evaluate impact
- Work in partnership to reduce city centre night-time economy violence and Violence against Women and Girls (Op Defender)
- Work with the Violent Crime Task Force to tackle violence hotspots
- Develop the domestic abuse service to focus increasingly on perpetrators and family safeguarding
- Undertake a deep dive analysis on Rape and develop a multi-agency response plan

How will we measure this?

- Community Safety dashboard KPI's

Violent Crime – What does success look like?

Theme	Current picture	Proposed targets
Overall violent crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southampton had a violent crime rate of 58 crimes per 1k population in 2022/23 Southampton is ranked second highest for violent crime among comparator CSPs and 11th nationally placing Southampton in the worse 5% of CSPs nationally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southampton's violent crime rate (58 per 1k population) to be lower than our comparator average (41.9 per 1k population)
Domestic abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 5,645 domestic flagged crimes in Southampton during 2022/23 Repeat victimisation and offending remains a substantial issue: 30.3% of victims experienced multiple domestic flagged crimes in the year; increasing for the fourth consecutive year since 2019/20 34.2% of domestic crime offenders committed more than one domestic flagged offence in the year, also a third consecutive increase since 2019/20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of domestic flagged crimes – through improved identification of domestic flagged crimes and more victims reporting A reduction in the proportion of repeat domestic abuse victims and offenders
Sexual offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southampton has the highest rate of sexual offences among comparator CSPs and 7th highest in England and Wales (296 with a valid sexual offences rate total) There was a +0.8% increase in the number of sexual offences in Southampton and a +8.3% increase in Rapes between 2021/22 and 2022/23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southampton's sexual offence rate (5.4 per 1k population) to be lower than our comparator average (3.7 per 1k)
Community Safety Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A large proportion of respondents answered 'don't know' when asked about key issues in their local area, which highlights an opportunity for raising awareness and increase crime reporting: Domestic abuse (54%) Sexual offences (41%) Serious violent crime (29%) Over half of respondents experiencing or witnessing crimes are not reporting them, this is particularly concerning for high harm and priority crimes such as violent crime, domestic abuse and sexual offences Feelings of safety after dark in Southampton are low, both in the city centre (28% felt safe) and in local areas (41%). There continues to be a significant gap in feelings of safety between males and females. Approximately a third (34%) of females felt safe in their local area after dark compared to over half of males (51%) and less than a quarter of females (22%) felt safe in the city centre after dark compared to almost two fifths (38%) of males. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness and reporting of crimes, particularly high harm and priority offences. Monitored through the annual community safety survey An increase in the proportion of respondents in the Southampton community safety survey feeling safe after dark, particularly for females

Theft – What do we need to do?

▲
All theft
up +17.7%

▲
Burglary non-res
up +20.4%

▲
Vehicle Crime
up +27.9%

- Reduce retail theft
- Prevent offences in our burglary hotspots
- Prevent more keyless vehicle thefts



Theft – How will we do this?

- Work with the chambers of commerce and retail industry to establish a retail theft action plan
- Identify high volume perpetrators and reduce their impact
- Implement property marking schemes in priority streets
- Develop and deliver vehicle crime prevention campaigns

How will we measure this?

- Police Crime data

Theft – What does success look like?

Theme	Current picture	Proposed targets
Overall theft offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft offences emerged as one of the top priorities for the first time in the Safe City Strategic Assessment • In 2022/23, Southampton experienced 40.4 theft offences per 1k population, which is significantly higher than the national average and second highest among comparators • Southampton experienced a +17.7% increase in the volume of theft offences between 2021/22 and 2022/23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southampton's overall theft offence rate (40.4 per 1k population) to be lower than our comparator average (34.7) • Southampton's rate of residential burglaries (5.4 per 1k population) to be lower than our comparator average (3.5) • Southampton's rate of vehicle offences (11 per 1k population) to be lower than our comparator average (8.6)
Residential burglary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 5.4 residential burglaries per 1k population in Southampton during 2022/23, which is significantly higher than the national average (3.3) and highest amongst comparators • Despite a decline in the volume of residential burglaries (-1.1%) over the last year, residential burglary is one of the most severe theft offences 	
Vehicle offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 2,719 vehicle offences in Southampton during 2022/23, which equates to a rate of 11 offences per 1k population, significantly higher than the national average (7.1) • Southampton has the fourth highest vehicle offence rate among comparators 	

Anti-Social Behaviour – What do we need to do?

**Anti-Social Behaviour
down 30.4%**



- Establish a clear mechanism for community reporting of ASB to help identify hotspots and trends
- Tackle motorcycle nuisance through partnership action
- Reduce ASB associated with begging in the City Centre, signposting to appropriate support services
- Strengthen our collective responses to address all forms of anti-social behaviour across our city.

Anti-Social Behaviour – How will we do this?

- Hold Police and Communities Together meetings in our communities on a regular basis
- Work with police, council, communities and landowners to target harden and respond to repeated incidents
- Establish an ASB coordinator across the partnership
- Establish a multi-agency rapid response service to disrupt anti-social behaviour and engage perpetrators constructively in positive activities
- Increase the numbers of redeployable CCTV cameras to respond quickly to areas of concern

How will we measure this?

- Police Crime data
- Increase confidence in Police
- Increase the community perception of Southampton as a safe city

Anti-Social Behaviour – What does success look like?

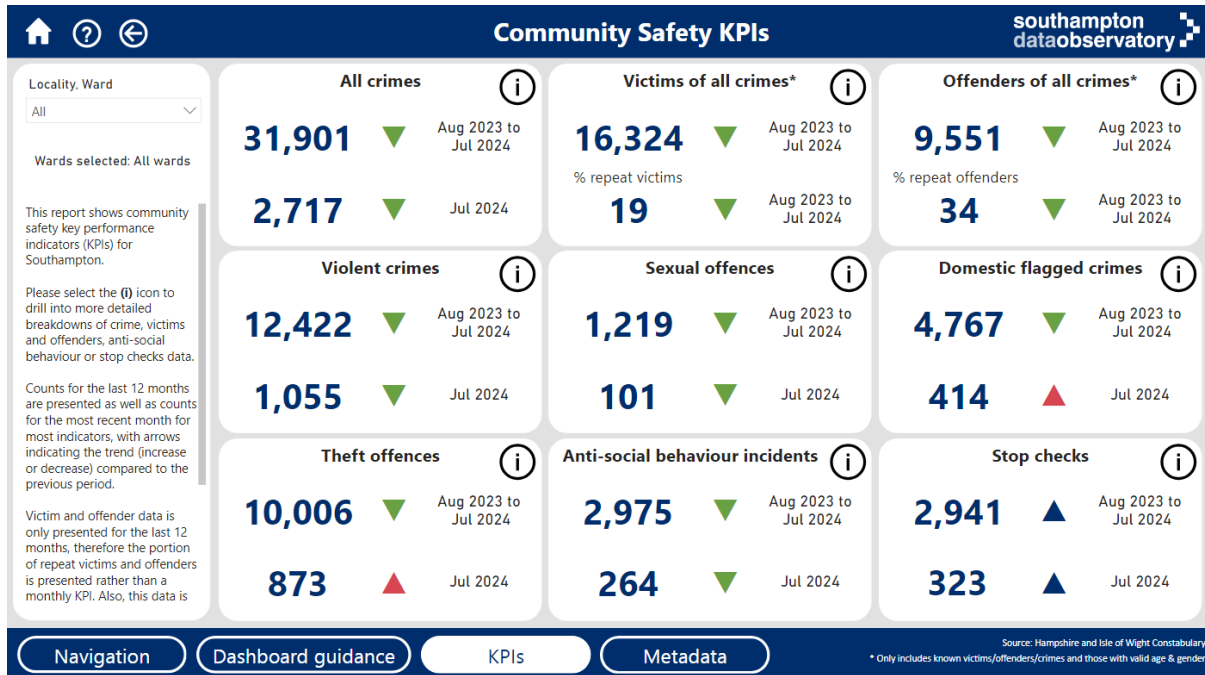
Theme	Current picture	Proposed targets
Recorded incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-social behaviour declined by -30.4% between 2021/22 and 2022/23, however, this is unlikely to reflect a genuine decline due to perceived barriers to reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents
Community Safety Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2023 community safety survey showed that 70% of people witnessing or experiencing ASB are not reporting this, with common reasons for not reporting including reporting it makes no difference, not serious enough to report and it happens too often 67% of respondents to the 2023 survey felt that anti-social behaviour was an issue in their local area Confidence in The Partnership remains low, with just 14% of survey respondents feeling that The Partnership are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area 	



Agencies represented

Community Rehabilitation Company
Go! Southampton
Hampshire Constabulary
Hampshire Fire and Rescue
Southampton City Council
Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group
National Probation Service
Office of Police Crime Commissioner (Hampshire)
Public Health
Youth Offending Service

Annex 2 - Rolling 12 month comparison for key crime types in Southampton



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Document is Confidential

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DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE		
DATE OF DECISION:	12 SEPTEMBER 2024		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Enabling Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
N/A			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee considers the responses from the Executive to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC). It also contains a summary of action taken by the Executive in response to the recommendations.		
4.	The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the OSMC confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the OSMC.		

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
5.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
6.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	None
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 12 September 2024
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Holding the Executive to Account

Scrutiny Monitoring – 12 September 2024

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
22/08/24	Leader	Budget Matters – Transformation Partner	1) That, the Chairs of the Governance, Audit and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meet to discuss details once published.	Through the Monitoring Officer a meeting will be scheduled with the Chairs of the identified committees.	Ongoing
22/08/24	Green City & Net Zero	Protecting, Preserving and Promoting the River Itchen in Southampton Inquiry - Progress Update	1) That, to enable the Committee to hold the Executive to account for the implementation of the approved recommendations within the scrutiny inquiry report, the Chair and Scrutiny Manager arrange for the item to return to the Committee in 2024/25 with a further update on progress across the full range of issues raised by the inquiry.	An update will provisionally be scheduled for 20 th March 2025 meeting of the Committee.	Ongoing
			2) That, in recognition of the importance of the scheme, the Committee requested that an update report on The River Itchen Flood Alleviation Scheme (RIFAS) is considered by the Committee at a future date.	RIFAS agenda item to be scheduled following consultation with key officers.	Ongoing

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