


LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN		WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE: Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2025/26 and Action Tracker		
REPORT OF: Executive Director Investment Place and Opportunity		
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee		DATE: 10 November 2025
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT This paper provides an update on the work programme for the Committee for the year 2025/26 and tracks actions from previous meetings.</p> <p>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION: No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>CONTACT OFFICER: Richard Bradbury Director of Environment and Sustainability 5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG Telephone: 020 7974 3725 Email: richard.bradbury@camden.gov.uk</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDATION: The Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee is asked to: (i) note and identify any issues or areas for consideration within the proposed work programme for 2025/26 and to note the actions taken arising from previous meetings.</p>		
<p>SIGNED: </p> <p>pp Oliver Jones Director of Recreation and Public Safety</p> <p>DATE: 28th October 2025</p>		

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides an outline of the proposed 2025/26 work programme for the Committee at Appendix A. It also presents an update on progress in following up on actions from previous meetings.

2. Terms of reference

- 2.1 The Committee has the following terms of reference:
1. To scrutinise the Council's cultural and environmental policies and the provision, planning, financing, management and performance of services relating to culture, environment, regeneration, community safety, parking strategy and operations, and the voluntary sector provided by the Supporting Communities and Corporate Services Directorates and other service providers.
 2. To be the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee.

3. General information about planning the work programme

- 3.1 The work programme should be informed by the corporate priorities of the Council, the priorities of the relevant portfolio holders, and issues raised by Camden's communities.
- 3.2 The following prioritisation criteria has been considered as a good practice approach to supporting the ruthless prioritisation of individual scrutiny committee agenda items:
- Will improve outcomes for residents and local communities and/or value for money;
 - Is of significant relevance to residents and local communities;
 - Will contribute to the understanding and/or delivery of agreed strategic priorities;
 - Will help develop a shared understanding of a problem, its challenges, opportunities and possible solutions;
 - Will promote wider engagement with local residents, communities and the local voluntary and community sector (VCS);
 - Will increase collaborative working, sharing of information, networking and engaging across stakeholders.
- 3.3 The Committee covers a wide range of services as seen in the terms of reference. The structure chart at Appendix C identifies the key senior officers who hold these services within their divisions.
- 3.4 A provisional work programme is available at Appendix A. Further changes can be made as the Committee considers appropriate. The Committee is asked to review the contents of the work programme and provide their views on what the Committee may wish to discuss during the 2025/26 municipal year. There may also be matters that emerge during the year that warrant amendments to the programme.

3.5 The Committee is also invited to consider what, if any, forthcoming key Cabinet decisions it wishes to look at in advance of those decisions being taken. Forward Plan items under the Committee's remit are set out at Appendix B.

3.6 An action tracker, which updates on progress in following up the Committee's actions, is at Appendix D.

4 Scrutiny Panels

4.1 The Committee can form scrutiny panels to look at more specific areas under its remit. These are task-and-finish panels and should be established with clear terms of reference and target date to report back to the main Committee.

4.2 The Committee is constitutionally limited to one panel at a time, and co-ordination of Panels should be agreed with the other Scrutiny Committees to ensure effective use and co-ordination of resources across all scrutiny committees.

5 Legal comments of the Borough Solicitor

5.1 There are no legal comments arising from this report.

6 Finance Comments of the Director of Finance

6.1 There are no finance comments arising from this report.

7. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

REPORT ENDS

Appendix A: Culture and Environment Work Programme 2025/26

Work Programme 2025/2026

Meeting date and theme	Item
Upcoming meetings	
Monday 10 th November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities • CCTV – Strategy including Estates coverage and recent upgrades Plan report - • Borough Commander – Police Update report State of the Borough • The Cultural Strategy 2026-2031 for Camden • Trees update
Monday 8 th December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden • Camden Transport Strategy Annual Update (TfL to attend, with a specific remit to provide Committee with an update on their work on the TLRN in Camden (TfL-managed Red Routes). TfL have indicated they are unable to attend the meeting. • Climate Action Plan report (Cabinet Report – December 2025) (2023/24 review included as an appendix)
Monday 12 th January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising Boards • Dockless Bike Hire Scheme /Scooters update • Get Active Programme (getting people with low levels of physical activity exercising) • Insight, Learning & Impact Report 2024-25
Monday 23 rd February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for New Homes and Community Investment • Thames Water Update • Cultural Update • Library Strategy
Tuesday 10th March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the Cabinet Adviser on Food Waste Recycling. (Cllr Joseph Ball) •
2026/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC

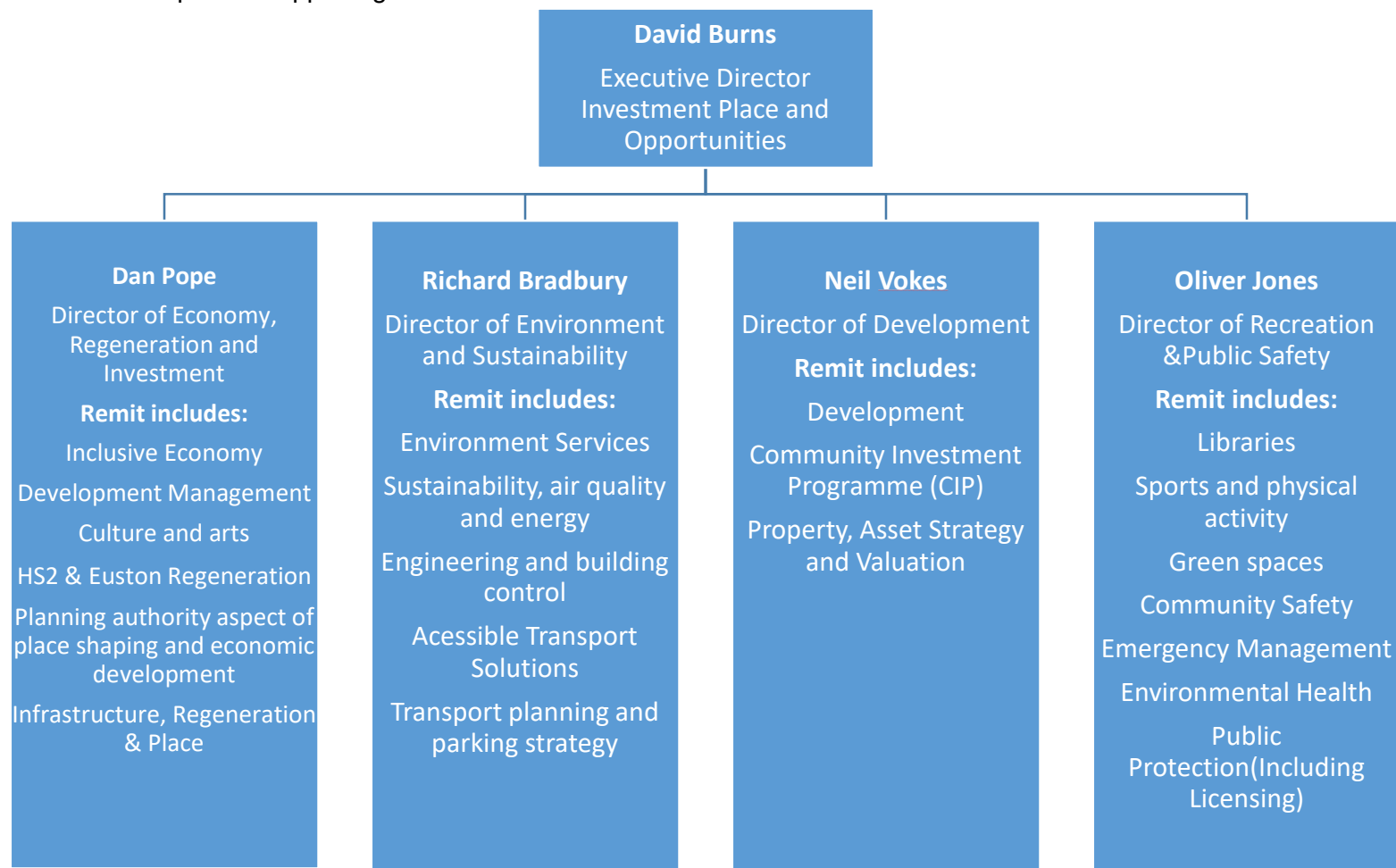
Appendix B: Forward Plan items under the Committee's remit (1 November 2025 – 28 February 2026)

Item	Summary	Decision-making body	Indicative decision date
CA-X Controlled Parking Zone Review (All Wards)	To consider the results of the public consultation and whether to make the current experimental hours of control of the CA-X Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) permanent.	Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden	11 Nov 2025
The Cultural Strategy 2026- 2031 for Camden (All Wards)	To consider approval of the new Cultural Strategy for Camden 2026-31, which sets out the vision for culture in Camden which will lead to increased participation by our residents and communities in cultural programmes across the borough.	Cabinet	12 Nov 2025
Euston Area Plan (EAP) Update (Bloomsbury; Camden Town; Regent's Park; St Pancras and Somers Town)	<p>To consider approval of a six-week public consultation on the draft Euston Area Plan (EAP) update.</p> <p>The EAP is a strategic planning framework to guide the redevelopment of Euston station.</p>	Cabinet	12 Nov 2025
Variation to Civil Parking and Traffic Enforcement Contract (All Wards)	To consider granting a waiver of the Council's Contract Standing Orders in order to facilitate a	Cabinet	12 November 2025

	variation of the Civil Parking and Traffic Enforcement Contract.		
Highway Crossovers (Dropped Kerbs) Policy Update (All Wards)	To consider agreement of the proposed changes to the Council's highway crossovers (dropped kerbs) policy.	Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden	25 November 2025
Climate Action Plan 2026 - 2030 (All Wards)	To consider approval of the post-consultation Climate Action Plan 2026-2030, which outlines the actions that will be taken towards tackling the climate crisis in Camden.	Cabinet	10 Dec 2025
Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030 (All Wards)	To consider the approval of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030, which is a statutory requirement for local authorities.	Cabinet	10 Dec 2025
Street Trading and Markets Strategy 2026-2031 (All Wards)	To consider the approval of the Street Trading and Markets Strategy, which sets out a plan to revitalise Camden's markets and street trading into thriving hubs for local communities, culture, and enterprise.	Cabinet	25 February 2026

Appendix C: Investment Place and Opportunities structure related to Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee*

* NB: This is not the full top level Supporting Communities structure chart



Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee Action Tracker 2025/26

ACTION	OFFICER /ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS SUPPLIED BY SERVICE	COMPLETED
24 th February 2025			
<p><u>Thames Water Update Report</u></p> <p>A report from Thames Water on reasons for reinstatement work on Warren Street being carried out twice</p>	<p>Stakeholder Engagement Manager Thames Water, and Head of Asset Planning Thames Water</p>	<p>Response from Thames Water</p> <p>The work on Warren Street was to replace part of Thames Water's network which had become prone to bursting. The section of pipe had burst 11 times in the years previous to Thames Water's work. While there were no technical issues with the replacing of the pipe, the reinstatement of the road surface was not up to the required standard. Therefore, the contractor returned to re-surface the road. This was not done at a cost to customers. Thames Water hold monthly meetings with its contractors where issues such as the quality of reinstatements are discussed. Thames Water has made it clear that it expects the quality of the work to be much higher and will monitor this closely. Thames Water is sorry for the disruption which was caused by having to return to site.</p>	
<p><u>Thames Water Update Report</u></p> <p>To provide more clarity and</p>	<p>Stakeholder Engagement Manager</p>	<p>Response from Thames Water</p> <p>There are a number of factors Thames Water consider when looking at the standard of a pipe. The most important is the leakage rate on</p>	

evidence about the terms used to describe the condition of the pipes in Thames Water reports. To share the methodology used with Committee members.	Thames Water, and Head of Asset Planning Thames Water	a pipe which is the number of leaks which have occurred on a section over several years. This is then supplemented by other information, such as the age of the pipe, the type of soil and the number of properties served by the pipe. There is not a defined point which dictates whether a pipe should be replaced as other factors, such as whether there is a significant risk of flooding to nearby buildings or disruption on the road network, are also taken into consideration. Due to security guidance given to water companies, precise leakage rate of each pipe is confidential information and therefore is not something Thames Water are able to share. However, to provide some greater clarity on the report submitted to the committee, the over leakage rate for the 42-inch diameter pipe is low and therefore, there is currently no imminent need to replace it. Just as a reminder, the main cause of the 2022 burst was ground conditions, not the pipe. The leakage rate on the 15-inch pipe is higher and, with other factors taken into account, is a pipe we are aiming to replace in 2026. Thames Water are currently planning this work in and will be in contact with the council in due course.	
<u>Thames Water Update Report</u> To provide a list of the roads in Camden that had been dug up more than once by	Stakeholder Engagement Manager Thames Water, and Head of Asset Planning Thames Water	Response from Thames Water Giving a precise list is not possible but it is likely the majority of streets in Camden with either the company's, water pipes or sewers will have seen Thames Water work on them multiple times. There is a wide number of reasons for Thames Water to carry out work in	

Thames Water over the last five years.		a road, including the routine maintenance of its network, the clearing of blockages in the sewers caused by wet wipes, fats and other unflushables but as previously discussed, Thames Water will also be carrying out repairs following bursts. However, as highlighted in the report to the committee, there has been a significant drop in the amount of repair works to the network (2008 – 462, 2023 – 141) because of the amount of mains replacement Thames Water have carried out. The organisation is currently replacing some of the leakiest pipes in the north of the borough and have plans to replace more over the next five-year cycle in Camden which Thames Water will be able to discuss with the council in due course	
<u>Dockless Bike Hire Scheme</u> As part of the ongoing monthly monitoring contract reports received from both operators to request that this includes information on the number of accidents customers had using the bikes.	Head of Transport Strategy and Projects	This has been actioned. The team has now started receiving the data. An item on the monthly meeting agenda with both operators has also been added to enable the team to understand better the context in which the reported incidents are happening.	

<u>Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for New Homes and Community Investment</u> To a provide a written response to Councillor Revah about whether the new builds in Gospel Oak would include workspaces that had been previously promised.	Cabinet Member for New Homes and Community Investment		
ACTION	OFFICER /ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS SUPPLIED BY SERVICE	COMPLETED
14 th July 2025			

ACTION	OFFICER /ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS SUPPLIED BY SERVICE	COMPLETED
15 September 2025			
<u>Camden Green Space Investment Programme 2026-2030</u> Officers to follow up with those Councillors who had not yet responded to the request for new green space project ideas.	Green Space Development Manager	This has been done.	Completed.
<u>Camden Green Space Investment Programme 2026-2030</u> To consider how the new ideas and suggestions about the further uses that could be made of the green space areas put forward by residents in Oriel Place could be acted on.	Head of Leisure	This has been done.	Completed.

ACTION	OFFICER /ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS SUPPLIED BY SERVICE	COMPLETED
10 November 2025			

ENDS