

Overview & Scrutiny

Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission: Work Programme for June 2025 – March 2026

Each agenda will include an updated version of this work programme

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
Mon 9th June 2025 Papers deadline: Fri 30th May 2025	Homelessness & Temporary Accommodation Supply Transformation Programme	Jennifer Wynter, Assistant Director Benefits & Homeless Prevention Simone van Elk, Corporate Transformation Delivery Manager	To receive an overview of the Homelessness & Temporary Accommodation Supply Transformation Programme and review how the expected outcomes will be delivered, monitored and evaluated.
	LiH Scrutiny Commission Work Programme Planning 2025-26	Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer	To consider the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission work programme shortlist for the new municipal year and make suggestions.
Thurs 12th June 2025 <i>Extraordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Panel</i>	Housing Ombudsman Special Investigation: Hackney Council	Richard Blakeway, Housing Ombudsman Steve Waddington, Strategic Director Housing Services	To consider the Housing Ombudsman's special investigation report into Hackney Council and the Council's response.

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
<p>Weds 9th July 2025</p> <p>Papers deadline: Tues 1st July 2025</p>	<p>Housing Associations Compact Refresh</p>	<p>Suzanne Johnson, Director Regeneration Economy and Housing Delivery</p> <p>James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing</p>	<p>To review the progress made in delivering the Hackney Council - Housing Associations Compact 2023-26, and provide input into what areas should be reviewed in the refreshed Compact.</p>
	<p>New Council Homes Programme</p>	<p>Suzanne Johnson, Director Regeneration Economy and Housing Delivery</p> <p>Rachel Bagenal, Assistant Director Housing Regeneration and Delivery</p>	<p>To review progress against the Council's delivery target of 1,000 new homes for social rent between 2022 to 2026, which includes delivery through a mix of methods.</p>
	<p>LiH Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2025-26</p>	<p>Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer</p>	<p>To agree the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission work programme for the new municipal year.</p>

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
Mon 23rd September 2025 Papers deadline: Fri 15th September 2025	Eliminating Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy 2022-25	Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care Cathal Ryan, Service Manager Domestic Abuse Intervention Service	<p>To review the Community Safety Partnership's progress against delivering the priorities and actions outlined in the Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, what has been learned, and future plans and priorities once the current strategy comes to an end.</p> <p>Eliminating VAWG is identified as a thematic priority in the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-26.</p>
Mon 20th October 2025 Papers deadline: Thurs 9th October 2025	Housing Complaints Annual Report	Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy Tom Harrison, Assistant Director Housing Transformation	<p>To receive the annual Housing Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report, which sets out the volume, categories and outcomes of complaints, complaint handling performance, and wider learning and improvements from complaints.</p>
	Empty Homes Campaign	James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing	<p>To receive an update on the campaign to reduce the 1,000 privately-owned, long-term empty properties in the borough, exploring all options to discourage leaving homes empty through Council Tax increases and more.</p>

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
<p>Mon 8th December 2025</p> <p>Papers deadline: Fri 28th November 2025</p>	<p>Housing Services Improvement Plan</p>	<p>Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy</p> <p>Tom Harrison, Assistant Director Housing Transformation</p>	<p>To receive an update on the delivery of the Housing Services Improvement Plan, review how the expected outcomes are being delivered, monitored and evaluated, and scrutinise the implementation of the recommendations made by the Housing Ombudsman.</p> <p>This will also include the Housing Services Performance Dashboard, which provides performance data, impact assessments and commentary on progress made against strategic priorities and improvement measures.</p>
	<p>Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring</p>	<p>Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy</p> <p>Deidre Worrell, Director Financial Management</p> <p>Julie Curtis, Assistant Director Housing Finance</p>	<p>To evaluate the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and review in-year budgets. This will include reviewing management actions to address any overspends or underspends and progress against the delivery of in-year savings.</p>

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
<p>Weds 21st January 2026</p> <p>Papers deadline: Tues 13th January 2026</p>	<p>Joint Social Tenancies & Domestic Abuse</p>	<p>Helena Stephenson, Acting Director Tenancy & Home Ownership Services</p> <p>Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care</p> <p>Cathal Ryan, Service Manager Domestic Abuse Intervention Service</p> <p>Selected third sector / industry experts / social landlord representatives</p>	<p>To understand the local approach addressing the barriers faced by victims / survivors who wish to remain safely within their social home, yet share a joint tenancy with their perpetrator and are dependent on perpetrators voluntarily removing themselves from the joint tenancy.</p>
<p>Mon 9th February 2026</p> <p>Papers deadline: Fri 30th January 2026</p>	<p>Services for leaseholders, freeholders and shared owners</p>	<p>Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy</p> <p>Dan Hinklin, Head of Homeownership</p>	<p>To review the Council's homeownership service and what support and services homeowners (leaseholders, freeholders and shared owners) can expect.</p> <p>A Homeownership Services Charter is currently in development.</p>

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
	Update on Community Halls Review	Helena Stephenson, Acting Director Tenancy & Home Ownership Services	To receive an update on the outcomes of the Community Halls review, and to follow up on the suggestions made by the Commission following its meeting in July 2024.
Tues 10th February 2026 Papers deadline: Mon 2nd Feb 2026 <i>Joint meeting hosted by Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission</i>	Housing & related supported for families of children with SEND	Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care Lee Georgiou, Assistant Director Benefits & Homelessness Prevention James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing	To review the housing and related support offer for families of children with SEND to help them live happily and independently in their homes.

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
	Update on Housing Support for Care Leavers Review	<p>Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care</p> <p>Lee Georgiou, Assistant Director Benefits & Homelessness Prevention</p> <p>James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing</p>	To review the implementation of the recommendations made by the Living in Hackney and Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission following the review into housing support for care leavers in 2021/22.
<p>Tues 10th March 2026</p> <p>Papers deadline: Mon 2nd March 2026</p>	Temporary Hostel Accommodation Visitor Policy	<p>Alex Clarke, Director Housing Strategy & Homelessness</p> <p>Lee Georgiou, Assistant Director Benefits & Homelessness Prevention</p>	To review the Council's visitor policy for temporary hostel accommodation in light of a recent Shelter report into its impact on families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
	Update on Supported Accommodation Scrutiny Review	<p>Alex Clarke, Director Housing Strategy & Homelessness</p> <p>Lee Georgiou, Assistant Director Benefits & Homelessness Prevention</p> <p>James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance & Private Sector Housing</p> <p>Georgina Diba, Director of Adults Social Work & Operational Services</p> <p>Amy Wilkinson, Director Partnerships, Impact & Delivery</p>	<p>To review the implementation of the recommendations made by the Commission following its review into the provision of supported accommodation for single homeless people with complex needs.</p>

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
	Update on future plans for Hackney Arts	Petra Roberts, Assistant Director Culture, Libraries & Heritage	To receive an update on the work undertaken to develop future plans for Carnival Arts, and to follow up on the suggestions made by the Commission following its meeting in February 2025.

Items to be considered outside of formal meetings

Dates	Proposed Item	Directorate and lead officer contact	Description, Comment and Purpose of item
Annual	Community Safety Partnership Plan Annual Report	Jason Davies, Acting Head of Policy & Strategic Delivery	To receive an annual report on the progress made across the Community Safety Partnership against its strategic priorities over the previous 12 months, with a focus on outcomes and outputs of activity, reviewing performance, and alignment of objectives and delivery.

Each quarter	Business Critical Performance Dashboard	<p>Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy</p> <p>Bruce Devile, Assistant Director Business Intelligence & Member Services</p>	<p>To receive the Business Critical Performance Dashboard, which provides performance data, impact assessments and commentary on progress made against strategic priorities and improvement measures.</p> <p>Specific performance areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness Prevention • Housing Services
Each quarter	Organisational Health Performance Dashboard	<p>Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate, Homes & Economy</p> <p>Bruce Devile, Assistant Director Business Intelligence & Member Services</p>	<p>To receive the Organisational Health Performance Dashboard, which provides performance data, impact assessments and commentary on progress made against strategic priorities and improvement measures.</p> <p>Specific performance areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints • Members casework • Finances • Housing benefit • Household waste • Planning applications • Environmental cleanliness
August 2025	Intermediate Housing Panel Report	James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance & Private Sector Housing	To receive the final report of the Intermediate Housing Panel, which has been commissioned by the Council to look into intermediate housing options such as shared ownership, rent to buy and affordable rent.