

Work Programme of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board 2025/ 26

3 July 2025				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Work Programme	Supports all scrutiny objectives.	Approval of Board Work Programme 2025/ 26	Supports all objectives of the Council Plan	John Swann
Housing Improvement and Transformation Plan	Holding to account/ watching brief	Reports by exception and key workstreams/ performance indicators	Living in Sandwell	Alan Lunt/ Nigel Collumbell/ Sarah Ager
Council House New Builds Programme Update	Pre- decision/ Assurance	Indicative medium term programme and resource allocation.	Living in Sandwell	Alan Martin/ Tammy Stokes/ Alan Lunt

4 September 2025				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Scrutiny Tracking and Monitoring	Supports all scrutiny objectives	Response to previous recommendations made by the Board	Supports all objectives of the Council Plan	Councillor Vicki Smith/ Councillor Suzanne Hartwell/ John Swann
Antisocial behaviour and low- level crime	Holding to account	Focus upon drug dealing and resource deployment.	Thriving in Sandwell	Ch. Supt. Kim Maddil/ Nicola Plant
Violence against Women and Girls Strategy	Policy development	Draft Strategy. Joint item with Children Services and Education Scrutiny Board	Thriving in Sandwell	Alan Lunt/ Nicola Plant/ Wendy Simms/ Jo Sailsman/ Councillor Nicky Hinchliff/ Third Sector

4 December 2025				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Play Area Strategy	Policy development	Resource allocation and cost of maintenance vs. investment in new play spaces	Thriving in Sandwell	Ben Percival
Council and Voluntary/ Community Sector Relationship	Assurance	Value for money implications and Voluntary Sector Strategy	One Council, One Team	James McLaughlin/ Kate Ashley

8 January 2026				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Housing Allocations Policy	Policy Development	To review the housing need categorisation and the housing needs waiting list.	Living in Sandwell	Alan Lunt/ Nigel Collumbell
Housing Improvement and Transformation Plan	Holding to account/ watching brief	Reports by exception and key workstreams/ performance indicators	Living in Sandwell	Alan Lunt/ Nigel Collumbell/ Sarah Ager

5 February 2026				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Visitor Services Review	Assurance	Heritage Assets, Sandwell Valley Masterplan (Commercial Performance) and Retail and Confectionary Stands (including associated revenues).	Thriving in Sandwell	Ben Percival
Marketing and Promotion Strategy for Events	Policy Development	Improving Financial viability of Council ran events.	Thriving in Sandwell	Ben Percival/ Matt More

12 March 2026				
Agenda Item	Scrutiny Objective	Purpose of Report and data Required	Alignment to Council Plan	Lead Officer/invitees
Report of the Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group	Supports all scrutiny objectives	Annual Report and other provided information	Thriving in Sandwell	Phillippe Brown/ Christine Davis
Scrutiny Tracking and Monitoring	Supports all scrutiny objectives	Response to previous recommendations made by the Board	Supports all objectives of the Council Plan	Councillor Vicki Smith/ Councillor Suzanne Hartwell/ John Swann
New Neighbourhood Working Model – One year on	Holding to account/ assurance	Data and feedback from stakeholders and concerned parties.	One Council, One Team	James McLaughlin

Briefing Notes
Housing Cooperative - Nigel Collumbell
Trading Standards and associated challenges (to incorporate illicit vapes, tobacco/ alcohol and underage sales) – Alan Lunt/ Nicola Plant/ Liz Nembhard
New Neighbourhood Working Model – James McLaughlin – NOV 25
Emergency Planning Strategy – Alan Lunt

Briefing Sessions
Crime Trends - Ch. Supt. Kim Maddil/ Nicola Plant/ Wendy Simms – 20 OCT 25
CCTV Deployment Strategy – Alan Lunt/ Nicola Plant