



South Tyneside Council

item 8

Work Programme 2026/27

This document has been classified as: **Official**
Housing Scrutiny Committee
24 June 2026

Report to Housing Scrutiny Committee

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Member: Councillor Steve Smith

Report of Director of Governance and Corporate Affairs

Subject: Work Programme for the Committee 2026/27

Date: 24 June 2026

Wards affected: All

Council ambitions: The report will set out the future items for committee meetings, potentially relating to all five council ambitions.

Does the report and any appendices contain information which has been identified as confidential or exempt?

- No, this report does not contain information identified as confidential or exempt.

Relevant Scrutiny Chair: Councillor Michael Oughton

Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny? No

Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Committee's currently scheduled activities for the 2026/27 Municipal Year in a clear and structured format for the information of Members.
- 1.2 To give Members an opportunity to amend or insert new activities to be considered at future meetings of the Committee.

Background Information

- 2.1 At the start of each Municipal Year, Members are invited to agree an initial work programme for the Committee for the year ahead.
- 2.2 It is important to note that the work programme is not a rigid document but rather it will form the basis of the Committee's work for the next 12 months and can be amended or supplemented by Members at each meeting. This allows flexibility to reflect emerging priorities.
- 2.3 The Chair will also, on occasion, be asked to approve the inclusion of any additional topics that might arise between meetings.
- 2.4 The Terms of Reference of the Housing Scrutiny Committee are as follows:
 - (a) To consider the whole housing system and to give Members the opportunity to assess the performance of all housing providers and compare the Council's performance with that of other housing providers and councils locally and nationally.
 - (b) Help to shape the Council's strategic objectives and priorities around all aspects of housing.
 - (c) Review and challenge of our statutory and regulatory duties and performance on how we are meeting these, to include (but not limited to) housing compliance, decent homes, damp and mould, consumer standards, Tenant Satisfaction Measures, housing needs and homelessness.
 - (d) Through regular information and performance reports comment on the effectiveness of housing services linked to agreed delivery plans with an emphasis on:
 - i. Tenant Satisfaction Measures, inclusive of the Tenant satisfaction Perception survey which will be presented to the Committee on an annual basis.
 - ii. The Housing Regulation Plan and performance against key targets within it.
 - iii. Housing Needs and Homelessness.

iv. Private Rented Sector.

(e) Receive reports from the Tenant Scrutiny Panel on key areas of work that they are involved with and to agree with the Tenant Scrutiny Panel the scope of their future work programme.

(f) Receive the draft Tenants Annual Report and comment on its content prior to its completion and circulation.

(g) To provide a sounding board for broader strategic housing issues and review the supply and mix of good quality housing to meet the needs and aspirations of current and future residents.

3.1 The report seeks suggestions for items for future consideration by the Committee, in line with the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

Main Issues and Options to be Considered

3.1 The report seeks suggestions for items for future consideration by the Committee, in line with the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

Implications

Financial and Resources

4.1 There are no particular financial or resource implications arising from this report at this time.

Legal and Governance

5.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees were established as part of the Local Government Act 2000 to scrutinise decisions made by the executive. The current legislative provisions for Overview and Scrutiny Committees are contained in the Localism Act 2011.

Risk

6.1 As this report is presented for information and not for any direct decision-making, there are no direct risks attached to it.

Equality and Diversity and Community

- 7.1 There are no direct equality and diversity and community risks arising from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

- 8.1 There are no direct environmental or sustainability implications from this report at this time.

Council Ambitions, Policies, Strategies and Plans

- 9.1 The Housing Scrutiny Committee should consider a work programme which supports the Council in fulfilling its Vision and the Council's Strategy and Ambitions for South Tyneside, challenging performance and influencing, particularly with regards to corporate issues and cross cutting themes and the Council's continuous development against the Vision and Strategy, and to review that programme regularly.

Consultation and Engagement

- 10.1 Housing Scrutiny Committee where appropriate will engage with external partners to facilitate scrutiny work.

Recommendations

- 11.1 Members are invited to review the issues identified and make any amendments or additions deemed necessary for the work programme for 2026/27.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 12.1 To ensure the Committee has a focused and relevant work programme for 2026/27.

List of Appendices

1. Work Programme Table

Work Programme 2026/27: Housing Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
24 June 2026	Scrutiny in South Tyneside and Terms of Reference	Presentation	Jonathan Lunness
	Strategic Housing – Who We Are	Presentation	Anna Dixon
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
9 September 2026			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
21 October 2026			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
2 December 2026			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
27 January 2027			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
17 March 2027			

Items to be scheduled for 2026/27:

- Supported Housing Strategy
- Homelessness Review
- Tenant Scrutiny Panel Review into the Housing Management and Tenancy Sustainment Model
- Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report 2025/26
- Amended Complaints Policy
- Housing Ombudsman Service Self-Assessment
- Annual Involvement and Engagement Report 2025/26