

Agenda

Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

Monday, 18 December 2023 at 6.00 pm
At Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

3 Minutes

5 - 26

To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 31 August 2023, 12 September 2023, 26 September 2023 and 12 October 2023 as a correct record.

4 Additional Items of Business

To determine whether there are any additional items of business to be considered as a matter of urgency.

5 Sandwell Leisure Trust Fees and Charges - January 2024 implementation

27 - 38

To consider and comment upon the Sandwell Leisure Trust Fees and Charges for implementation from January 2024.



- 6 **Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Action Tracker** 39 - 46
- To consider and note progress on the implementation of actions and recommendations.
- 7 **Cabinet Forward Plan and Board Work Programme** 47 - 66
- To consider and note progress on the implementation of actions and recommendations.
- 8 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**
- That the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting. This is to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, relating to the financial and business affairs of any person, including the authority holding that information.
9. **Sandwell Valley Master Plan and 10-Year Business Plan** 67 -
3 164
- To consider and comment upon the Sandwell Valley Master Plan and 10-year business plan.

Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution
Councillor Fenton (Chair)
Councillors Lewis, Davies, Dhatt, Fisher, Khan, Maycock, Shaeen, J Webb, Younis, Brown and Allcock

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Minutes of Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

31 August 2023 at 5.49pm
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Fenton (Chair);
Councillors Davies, Dhatt, Fisher, Khan, Lewis,
Maycock and Trumpeter

Also present: Councillor Rollins

Officers: Carl Mercer (Principal Planner), Karl Robinson
(Business Manager Housing Solutions), Trisha Newton
(Deputy Democratic Services Manager) and Anthony
Lloyd (Democratic Services Officer)

42/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor
Shaen and Ms Phillippe Brown (Co-opted Member).

43/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

44/23 Additional Items of Business

There were no urgent additional items of business to
consider.

Additional Licensing and Article 4 - Options Appraisal

The Board received an overview on the proposed Additional Licensing consultation prior to submission to Cabinet.

Using discretionary powers, and subject to consultation, the Council could introduce additional licensing.

The implementation of an additional licensing scheme would require all Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) to be subject to proactive licensing requirements and not just those that accommodated over five tenants. A fee would be charged by the Council to the Landlord for the duration of the licence which would contain clearly defined conditions which the landlord would have to satisfy.

The introduction of additional licensing would contribute to higher standards of HMO accommodation and would ensure effective management through extensive control. Additionally, this would protect the health, safety and well-being of tenants as well as improving neighbourhoods by preventing anti-social behaviour. A pilot scheme based in West Bromwich which utilised additional licensing had already been introduced.

Additionally, details regarding the proposed implementation of an Article 4 direction were provided to the Board. An Article 4 implementation was a legal means in which a local authority would require property owners to obtain planning permission when converting single homes into HMOs. It was highlighted that a very specific set of criteria was required before the Council could implement this piece planning legislation.

In 2018, BRE group was commissioned to inform the Council on the potential of expanding Additional Licensing. The results were considered alongside the Council's own range of contemporary datasets. It was found that sufficient data was in place to support the expansion of additional licensing however, further identification in relation to the concentrations of HMOs was needed before Article 4 could be introduced. This was a challenge for the Council as no datasets were currently available to reliably record the concentration of HMOs in Sandwell.

BRE's data identified that, in total, there could be up to 3500 HMOs in Sandwell. This figure was in stark contrast to data collected from the 2021 census which identified that there were 260 HMOs in Sandwell. An accurate figure for the total of HMOs was expected to be obtained following further investigation and as part of the consultation process.

Following questions from members, the following responses were provided:-

- Greater responsibility would be put on landlords to address anti-social behaviour;
- enforcement actions could have been carried out by the Council if licensing conditions were not adhered to;
- additional costs, as a result of the implementation of Article 4 and additional licensing, would be offset by the licensing costs received;
- a grace period of three months was in place to enable landlords to self-identify their HMOs;
- costs to find un-regulated HMOs were not certain however, reserves and mitigations would be in place to not put the Council at financial risk;
- it was noted that landlords may pass the costs of the licence to tenants by increasing rent however, most rent increase appeals were not successful;
- additionally, the Council could cover the fees if accommodation was provided to Council tenants in need of housing;
- a matrix of different approaches was used in order to identify un-regulated HMOs including desktop exercises, advert searches, landlord groups and word of mouth.

Members and officers minded the importance of HMOs in providing affordable housing to those who could not yet afford to rent a larger property, especially for residents who were living alone, on lower income, benefits or people moving to the area from for the first time. The main aim of the introduction of Article 4 and Additional Licensing was to ensure that HMOs in Sandwell provided good, suitable and affordable homes for Sandwell residents.

Following further discussion, members requested that the outcomes of the consultation be brought back to a future meeting of the Board. Additionally, it was recommended to the Cabinet Member that officers should aim to obtain at least 1000 consultees per town in order to receive substantial data.

Requests were also made for the Council to work with external bodies, including West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service and other community agencies to identify un-regulated HMOs. A further spotlight session would be considered to investigate the financial costs of introducing Additional Licensing and Article 4.

Resolved:-

- (1) that Cabinet be requested to consider the viability of ensuring that the planned Additional Licensing consultation aims to obtain at least 1,000 consultees per town in order to receive sufficient data to ensure an informed decision can be made;
- (2) that Cabinet be requested to promote collaboration with external bodies, agencies and individuals, including West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, Councillors, Community Support Officers and other community facing organisations to identify un-regulated Houses in Multiple Occupation;
- (3) that a further report be presented to a future meeting of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board on the outcomes of the Additional Licencing consultation;

Meeting ended at 6.54pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

Minutes of Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

12 September 2023 at 5.50pm
In the Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Lewis (Vice-Chair in the Chair);
Councillors Davies, Dhatt, Maycock, Shaeen,
Trumpeter and Webb.

Also present: Councillor Padda.

Officers: Ben Percival (Assistant Director – Borough Economy),
Manny Sehmbi (Business Manager - Community
Partnerships), Marcia Sandel-Massey (Neighbourhood
Partnerships Coordinator), Nicola Leavy (Senior Lead
Officer), Nigel Collumbell (Assistant Director – Housing
Management), Suky Suthi-Nagra (Democratic Services
Manager), Anthony Lloyd (Democratic Services Officer)

46/23 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
Fenton and Younis and Co-opted Member Ms Phillippe
Brown

47/23 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

48/23 **Additional Items of Business**

There were no urgent additional items of business to
consider.

Neighbourhoods Partnerships Team Update

The Board received an update in relation to the development of the Neighbourhood Partnerships Team.

A pilot for the development of the team had been established in September 2020. Initially, the model only operated within Rowley Regis and Wednesbury, however, it was evident that the pilot was making a significant impact at a neighbourhood level and so the service was expanded across the borough. A full team, consisting of two officers per town, had been in place since November 2022.

The core work of the team revolved around asset-based grassroots community development which had been eagerly welcomed amongst each of the towns and the voluntary sector. Work undertaken was aligned to relevant policies, including Social Housing Legislation. Co-production and co-design was a key element and the approaches used by officers varied depending on what was relevant to each town although it was noted that a general framework was in place.

The team worked closely with communities and voluntary organisations to develop projects that; supported improving mental health, combatting social isolation and improving digital inclusion. Additionally, the team was also responsible for the delivery of “Cost of Living” training across the borough.

Tenant engagement was another key priority for the team and over 1,120 voluntary hours had been contributed; this was equivalent to just over £22k in monetary value. Support had been provided to resident associations and residents had been encouraged to apply to the holiday activities fund.

Further examples of the work carried out were provided to the Board including engagement sessions with residents living in and around Manifoldia Grange to promote cohesion and opportunities for residents to come together regardless of background.

In response to questions from members, the following points were made:-

- recruitment to a Tenant Engagement Officer in Smethwick was underway;
- Whilst officers had been attempting to access as many different communities as possible, it was noted that time was the main factor in reaching more isolated groups;
- the Framework ensured that a consistent approach was taken across the borough although this would vary depending on the needs of each town;
- networking was being explored to help the development of Tenants and Resident Associations (TRAs) and communal spaces were being used to encourage tenants to utilise them;
- capacity was in place to maintain engagement work, but it was highlighted that the long-term plan was for tenants to be the main contributors;
- data was collated and used to encourage collaboration between internal Council teams.

Officers were thanked for their attendance and hard work.

50/23

Haden Hill Leisure Centre Rebuild Options

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism presented the Haden Hill Leisure Centre Rebuild Options to the Board.

Haden Hill Leisure Centre was an aging and inefficient leisure centre that was in desperate need of refurbishment; the site also created disability access issues. In March 2023, the site was closed following the collapse of the suspending ceiling. In January 2023, the Council received notification that the bid to the Levelling-Up Fund to secure £20m of funding for the build of a new facility at Haden Hill had been successful.

Following approval by Cabinet to formally accept the grant, the Council's Urban Design and Building Services team reassessed the projects costs. The revised estimates totalled £30m. Due to the increased costs, the Council worked with architects to take the project to the initial concept design whilst remaining within the available budget.

Three options were under consideration for the project:-

- Part rebuild and part refurbishment – rebuild of wet facilities, refurbishment of the dry area.
- Part rebuild and part refurbishment – rebuild of dry facilities, refurbishment of the wet area.
- Demolish and rebuild to a reduced scope to fit the available funding

In May 2023, Levelling-up Fund (LUF) officers identified that all LUF funds must be used by the end of March 2025. The programme options would not have seen that level of expenditure until 2025/26; reducing the programme to fit the deadline would not have been achievable. As a result, it was agreed that once Council officers had identified a clear revised option for the scheme, a project adjustment request form would require completion before being approved by the constituency MP. James Morris MP had met with Council officers on several occasions and was supportive of the approach the Council had taken.

Although option 1 was the favoured option by officers, the opinion of the Board was sought. The main asset liability, which would be addressed by option 1, was the swimming pool. The swimming pool required replacement to avoid long-term asset liability and it was highlighted that the main impact on customer satisfaction was the swimming pool and associated changing room areas. A high standard was required to be delivered in these specific areas. Under option 1, a new fitness gym and changing rooms would also be provided. The retained sports hall would be refurbished with new floor and ceiling.

The second option considered was a rebuild. The “dry” side of the building whilst retaining the 47 year old swimming pool. Finally, a third option was also available that prioritised a new, but much smaller site. Although this would result in a new facility, the reduced size would have provided less provisions to the community which was not ideal.

Following further questions from members, it was confirmed that:-

- Once completed, there would be no swimming pool within Sandwell that was over 10 years old;

- any issues regarding Asbestos and RAC concrete would only be identified once works began, however the budget was flexible to ensure costs were covered;
- no immediate funding options were present to expand the building;
- the site would be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)
- no operational loss would be occurred within the first three years.

Resolved that option 1, “Part rebuild and part refurbishment – rebuild wet facilities, refurbish dry facilities”, be recommended to Cabinet as the most appropriate course of action to the Haden Hill Leisure Centre Rebuild.

51/23 **Future Provision of Leisure Services**

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism presented the Future Provision of Leisure Services report to the Board. At its meeting on 9 February 2022, Cabinet resolved to not approve the Sandwell Leisure Trust’s (SLT) business plan and instead, on June 2022, gave approval to progress the establishment of a Local Authority Trading Company to operate the Council’s leisure facilities. This trading company was under the sole ownership of the Council and therefore, the Council would have control over the direction of the company. Following consultation with members, the company name “LiveWell Leisure” was agreed.

Due to cost pressures and an improved relationship with SLT, the termination notice with SLT was extended until the end of March 2027. Mark Braithwaite, who had been named as a company director of Local Authority Trading Company, had also been seconded to the SLT to act as their Chief Executive from May 2023 to ensure a smooth transition when the termination period ended in 2027.

It was highlighted that the team at SLT had been supportive and were keen to work in partnership with the Council. Joint strategy days with the SLT Board had reflected positive working arrangements moving forward. The intervening period until 2027 would enable officers to review processes

and determine the Council's long-term position and strategy, especially when considering the ever-changing circumstances due to inflation. Members requested that residents be continuously consulted and informed on any planned projects, especially in relation to the large mural currently located at Langley Baths.

Resolved that a further report on the future provision of leisure services be provided to the Board once a decision on whether or not the Council will continue with its approach to provide leisure services via a Local Authority Trading Company in 2027 has been made.

52/23 Tracking and Monitoring of Scrutiny Recommendations

The Board noted the status of actions and recommendations it had made. Further updates would be reported to future meetings of the Board.

53/23 Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan

The Board noted its Work Programme for 2023 - 24 and received the Cabinet Forward Plan.

Members requested that the Playing Pitch Strategy item be added to the work programme to be considered at a future meeting.

Meeting ended at 7.21pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

Minutes of Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

26 September 2023 at 6.00pm
In the Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Fenton (Chair),
Councillors Davies, Dhatt, Lewis, Maycock, Trumpeter,
and Webb;
Phillippe Brown (Co-opted Member and Chair - Tenant
and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group).

Officers: Sarah Ager (Assistant Director - Asset Management
and Improvement), Louis Bebb (Housing policy &
Strategy Lead Office), Trisha Newton (Deputy
Democratic Services Manager) and Anthony Lloyd
(Democratic Services Officer).

54/23 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
Fisher, Khan, Shaeen and Younis.

55/23 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

56/23 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11
July 2023 are approved as a correct record.

57/23 **Additional Items of Business**

There were no urgent additional items of business to consider.

58/23 **Sandwell Council Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024 – 2029**

The Sandwell Council Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024-2029 was presented to the Board.

The Housing Asset Management Strategy was vital in setting out the Council's priorities in meeting the housing needs of Sandwell's communities. Although not a statutory requirement, the strategy was deemed best practice in maintaining and improving the Council's housing stock. Further work was needed to review the strategy to provide a more detailed financial forecast which could then be used to create a consistent and transparent approach on how funds from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) were used.

The Council's housing stock contained 28,098 properties, consisting of 1567 bungalows, 653 maisonettes, 14,916 houses and 10,962 flats. Additional assets included over 2700 garages, 15 commercial properties, 69 play areas and a vast amount of vacant land.

The previous strategy, which had been published in 2017, was out of date, especially following the investment of over £170m in the Council's stock. The new strategy would be formally adopted by the Council in November 2023 and would cover a period of 5 years. Public consultation regarding the strategy would take place over a five-week period until 13 October 2023.

An action plan would accompany the strategy and would detail the activities required to deliver on its evidence-based strategic outcomes. Limited data was available to the Council on the condition of its stock and assets and therefore, more work was needed to obtain information. A condition survey of around 5000 properties had commenced; the data would be used to provide a revised baseline which could then project future demand and investment needs. Regular reviews of the stock would take place, including the commissioning of a borough-wide condition survey, to ensure that data remained up-to-date and would never be no older than five years old.

The strategy set out how the Council intended to address the key asset management challenges affecting Sandwell communities. It would guide future strategic property decisions to make sure that the Council's portfolio was managed sustainably and efficiently, ensuring that investment was used appropriately so that properties remained fit for both current and future tenants. Sandwell's carbon net-zero initiative would also be addressed via the strategy. Building safety, regulatory standards and the social housing white paper 2020 all had a major impact on the formation of the strategy to make certain that legal obligations were adhered to.

Members raised concerns around the lack of defined standards or key performance indications (KPIs) in the document and asked if the document be more appropriately named as a policy document. Officers confirmed that the strategy document was a high-level document and would include KPIs and other metrics once the required data had been obtained.

Following questions from members, the following points were made:-

- information obtained via home checks were recorded and stored, however, the volume of information was not high enough to conclude a full assessment;
- an officer had been recruited who would review the information that the Council held to help build a picture of the Council's housing stock;
- the strategy would constantly be under-review, and a further report on the strategy would be brought to the board in the 2024-25 municipal year;
- a digestible summary document would be produced to accompany the main strategy document;
- external funding may be required but no details were available at that stage;
- repairs were carried out on an estate-by-estate basis however; the new strategy would take into consideration life cycle components;
- off-the-shelf software was available to use whilst the procurement of a bespoke asset management system commenced, if required.

Resolved:-

- (1) that a further report on the Sandwell Council Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024 – 2029 be brought to the Board in the 2024/25 municipal year;
- (2) that a summary document of the Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024 – 2029 be created to display the information in a more digestible manner;
- (3) that further clarification be provided to the board on the consultation methods being used in relation to the Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024 – 2029 and that the methods include encompassing digitally excluded individuals;
- (4) that a central database be created to store all information, including information obtained from home checks, to help assist in the data collection process;
- (5) that, in relation to the Housing Asset Management Strategy 2024 - 2029, a report on the external funding strategy be presented to the board including how much funding is required, where the funding will be obtained from and any relevant associated timeframes.

59/23

Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Action Tracker

The Board noted the status of actions and recommendations it had made. Further updates would be reported to future meetings of the Board.

60/23

Work Programme 2023 - 24 and Cabinet Forward Plan

The Board noted its Work Programme for 2023 - 24 and received the Cabinet Forward Plan.

The Chair suggested a new item be added to the work programme in relation to confectionary stands in parks.

Resolved that an item detailing the utilisation of confectionary stands based in Sandwell Parks, including associated revenues, is added to the work programme.

Meeting ended at 6.58pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

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Minutes of Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

**Thursday 12 October 2023 at 6.03pm
In the Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Fenton (Chair),
Councillors Davies, Dhatt, Fisher, Lewis, Maycock,
Webb and Younis

Also present: Councillor Padda (Cabinet Member for Leisure and
Tourism)

Officers: Ben Percival (Assistant Director Borough Economy
Contracts, Projects, Strategy & Policy), Matt Huggins
(Assistant Director Green Spaces, Green Services,
Events), Robert Marlow (Senior Lead Officer), Anthony
Lloyd (Democratic Services Officer) and Connor
Robinson (Democratic Services Officer).

61/23 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Khan,
Shaen and Trumpeter.

62/23 **Declarations of Interest**

Minute No.	Subject	Member	Interest
64/23	Green Spaces Annual Report 22/23 and Programme of Works Progress 22/23	Councillor Fisher	Chair of a Park Friends Group

Minute No.	Subject	Member	Interest
65/23	Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan and Prioritisation - Establishment of a Steering Group	Councillor Dhatt	Coach of a Children's Football Club in Sandwell

63/23 Additional Items of Business

There were no urgent additional items of business to consider.

64/23 Green Spaces Annual Report 22/23 and Programme of Works Progress 22/23

The Green Spaces Strategy 2022-2025 set out an approach to approve and publish both an annual report and an annual programme of planned works for green spaces across Sandwell. This would ensure that the goal of improving the quality of green spaces in the borough remained a priority.

Of the planned works for 2022/2023, 90% had been completed within the municipal year. It was highlighted that where works had not been completed, the usual cause was contractor delays or slippage due to specific seasonal requirements, these works would be completed during the 2023/2024 municipal year instead.

In total, 41 play areas had been improved alongside the establishment of an additional play area. It was also highlighted that nine outdoor gym sites had been refurbished, six swing sets had been replaced, seven zip slides had been replaced and 33 allotment plots had been brought back into use. The pilot team, that had been created to refresh open spaces that were littered, fly tipped and overgrown, had improved over 160 sites. It was confirmed that the team was now permanent which had been supported by senior officers across various services to tackle open spaces with multiple issues. Members were also updated on the completion of the West Smethwick Park Pavilion and Café.

The biggest challenge faced by the Council was the lack of resources available to spend on Sandwell's green spaces. Members noted that the annual programme of works allowed the Council to be transparent with the public on what works were to be prioritised and why certain actions had been planned. The strategic approach allowed officers to utilise "quality scores" that helped prioritise green spaces that were the most in need of attention. It was acknowledged that better communications were required between officers and town leads to ensure that members were consulted on what works were important to residents in their respective areas. Community volunteer days were also theorised by officers as ways in which works could be carried out to ensure the maintenance and accessibility of local green spaces.

The Board discussed the information it had received and, as a result, the following points were made:-

- prioritisation of green space works were based on health and safety requirements as well as the funding available;
- funding, that wasn't available to the Council, was accessible to friends groups for their own usage;
- volunteer processes, policies and recruitment had been improved and work had been carried out on corporate social responsibility;
- contracts with friends groups detailed the exact commitments and obligations expected;
- a steering group would be established in November 2023 to help guide the clearance of hotspots that had experienced substantial overgrowth within the borough;
- pitch resurfacing would take place across the borough and the timelines of works would be provided to the Board when available;
- there would be a mix of free and paid bookable slots depending on the nature of the request;
- the open bike track was delivered on-time without additional costs;
- theft of park furniture had been experienced across several sites which were not due to installation failures but were instead due to organised crime;
- before projects were planned, the views of the local community were sought about specific sports to ensure that residents were getting the facilities that they wanted;

- a written briefing on the playzone project would be provided to Board members;
- the introduction of dog washing stations across Sandwell had been delayed however, the scheme was being piloted at West Smethwick Park;
- plans were in place for green space and forest schools activities for children to begin in 2024; visits to Forge Mill Farm would also be on offer.

Lessons had been learned as a result of the establishment of Cafes in Sandwell's parks. It was confirmed that any surplus revenue from the sites would be used to fund other green space works and any relevant discretionary services. A breakdown of green spaces spend by town would also be provided to the Board at a later date.

It was noted that although the Council's green spaces programme had been extremely ambitious, 90% of the works had been completed which was deemed a great success. Some projects had experienced slippage due to an insufficient workforce and therefore, local suppliers and other tenderers would also be considered for future works. Additionally, work would be undertaken to establish a plan to reduce costs and ensure that the Council were getting value for money.

65/23

Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan and Prioritisation - Establishment of a Steering Group

The new Playing Pitch Strategy, which was to seek approval from Cabinet in October 2023, was developed in line with Sport England guidance. The strategy would address borough facility requirements including areas and sites in need of major regeneration as these facilities played an important role in maintaining and improving people's health. As playing pitches were costly to maintain, a reliable strategy was necessary to optimise resources and set out realistic aspirations.

Due to the importance of the strategy, it was highlighted that it would be prudent to form a working group to assist the completion, adoption and implementation of the playing pitch strategy.

Resolved that a Steering Group comprised of Councillors Lewis (Chair), Davies, Fisher, Maycock and Khan be established to assist with the completion, adoption and implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy.

66/23 **Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Action Tracker**

The Board noted the status of actions and recommendations it had made. Further updates would be reported to future meetings of the Board.

67/23 **Work Programme 2023 - 24 and Cabinet Forward Plan**

The Board noted its Work Programme for 2023 - 24 and received the Cabinet Forward Plan.

Meeting ended at 7:26pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

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Report to Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

18 December 2023

Subject:	Sandwell Leisure Trust Fees and Charges - January 2024 implementation
Director:	Director for Borough Economy Alice Davey
Contact Officer:	Assistant Director for Borough Economy - Contracts, Projects, Strategy & Policy Ben Percival ben_percival@sandwell.gov.uk Chief Executive Officer - Sandwell Leisure Trust Mark Braithwaite mark.braithwaite@slt-leisure.co.uk

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Board consider and comment upon Sandwell Leisure Trust (SLT) Fees & Charges for implementation with effect from January 2024.



2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 To drive income whilst still providing an affordable choice and flexibility for all residents and user groups.
- 2.2 To balance the financial imperative for commercial charging with ensuring accessibility and affordability for residents.
- 2.3 To drive increased activity and regular participation by protecting the membership base, increasing retention, loyalty and enhancing the value of membership options.



2.4 Delivering an uplift in swimming lessons and lesson fees taking into account the reduction in pools across Sandwell - Haden Hill, Smethwick & Langley resulting in an increased demand.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	People live well and age well
	A strong and inclusive economy

4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 SLT have charging discretion to set their own fees and charges; however, SLT are keen to set their charges in a transparent manner, in consultation with the Council.

4.2 Charges have historically been uplifted in April, however the peak trading period in the New Year is generally when the industry applies an uplift, with an eager market looking to return to leisure facilities. It is therefore intended to move the 2024 charges review to 1 January – in line with the wider leisure and fitness industry.

4.3 Changes to fees and charges have been based on sound benchmarking and market analysis. Appendix 2 shows the local competitors used for benchmarking.

4.4 In Q1 & Q2 there has been strong growth in fitness and swim income, circa 15% across all sites as a result of pro-active marketing and digital promotions.

4.5 A further report may be presented to SNAC at a later date to discuss the more effective targeting of concessions in 2024.

4.6 Key Considerations

- Free Swimming will be programmed to specific times and not open to general public swimming access. This is to reduce operational incidents and the impact of access for full paying members supporting member retention.



- Junior access 14+ access to gyms will be restricted to specific programmed times to enable supervision and effective support.
- One Card membership will provide one inclusive induction and charge for additional 1-2-1 gym personal programmes.
- Corporate Membership discount rate to employers to increase to £29.50 per month.
- All other fees and charges at facilities will be increased in line with inflation 5-10%.
- SLT to continue to provide 'pay as you go', targeted concessions, free swimming and membership options, family, student corporate, monthly and annual.

Table 1 – SLT proposed fees & charges with effect from 1st Jan 24

Description	Charge Unit	Comparator average	Highest	Lowest	Current fee	Proposed fee	% increase
Swim adult	per head	£5.33	£6.00	£5.00	£4.95	£5.25	6%
Swim adult - concession	per head	£2.65	£2.80	£2.50	£2.50	£2.75	10%
Swim - Junior	per head	£3.10	£3.50	£2.70	£3.00	£3.25	8%
Swim Junior - concession	per head	£1.78	£1.80	£1.75	£1.50	£2.00	33%
Parent and toddler swim	per head	£6.00	£6.50	£5.50	£5.70	£6.50	14%
Full Fitness Membership (non-Family)	per month	£29.95	£65.00	£17.99	£33.00	£33.00	0%
Full Membership (Family)	per month	£64.00	£64.00	£64.00	£65.00	£65.00	0%
Corporate Membership	per month	£26.30	£30.00	£17.99	£28.00	£29.50	5.4%
Gym or Swim Only membership	per month	£24.55	£28.00	£20.00	£21.00	£23.00	9.5%
Gym Session	per visit	£7.59	£19.00	£3.00	£8.00	£8.00	0%
Swimming Lesson (*Reference Only)	per lesson	£8.75	£15.00	£4.75	£6.25	*£6.72	7.5%
Swimming Lesson (month)	per month	£34.30	£45.00	£22.50	£26.04	£28.00	7.5%
Exercise to Music (Aerobics etc)	per class	£5.65	£6.50	£4.00	£6.60	£7.00	6%
Exercise to Music (Aerobics etc) - concession	per class	£3.38	£3.50	£3.25	£3.30	£3.50	6%



5 Implications

Resources:	Maintaining charges at market rates is essential to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the leisure service.
Legal and Governance:	None – SLT have contractual discretion over fees and charges.
Risk:	Careful and timely monitoring of performance will ensure no unintended consequences from any review of fees and charges.
Equality:	Implications for equality (all aspects and characteristics) including how meeting Equality Duty, equality impact assessments.
Health and Wellbeing:	The approach to fees and charges is to encourage residents to participate with greater regularity.
Social Value:	No impact.
Climate Change:	No impact.
Corporate Parenting:	No impact.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Heat Map

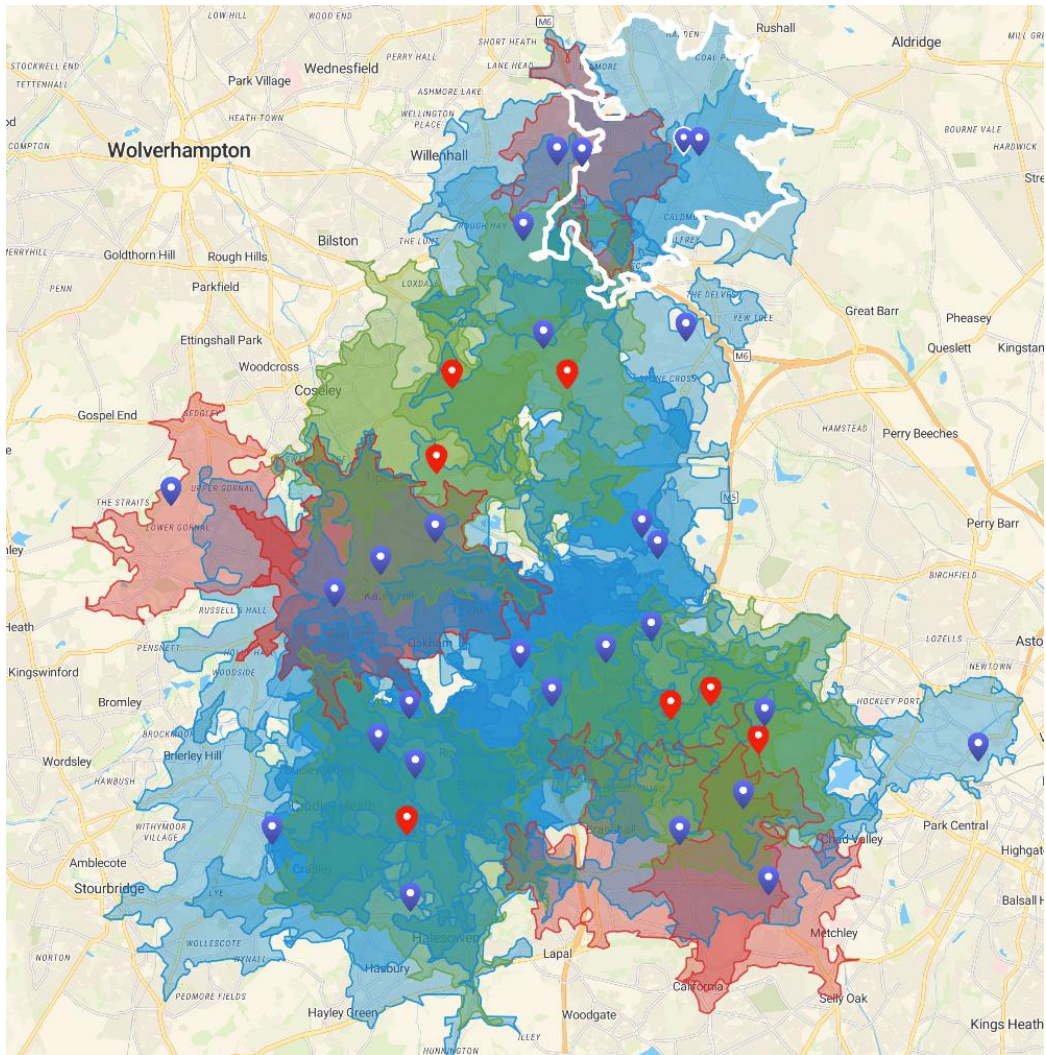
Appendix 2 – Authority Comparators & Local Competitor Benchmarking

7 Background Papers

None



Appendix 1 – Heat Map



- Full fitness membership catchment with 5-min drivetimes of location
- **Red** place markers are SLT Venues
- **Blue** place markers are Competitors
- Colour gradients red being more expensive to blue indicating less expensive than SLT
- SLT catchment marked in green

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Operator	Swim Adult Operator		Swim Adult Conc Operator		Swim Junior Operator		Swim Junior Conc Operator		Parent and Toddler Swim Operator		Swimming Lesson Operator		Swimming Lesson Month			
DB Leisure	£	5.00	DB Leisure	£	2.50	DB Leisure	£	3.50	DB Leisure	£	6.50	Swim! Oldbury	£	45.00		
Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	5.00	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	2.80	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	2.70	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	5.50	Crocs Swimming School Walsall	£	43.71		
Harborne Pool and Fitness Centre	£	6.00		£	2.65		£	3.10		£	6.00	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	40.00		
		£	5.33					£	1.78			£	8.75	Total Swimming Academies Dudley	£	40.00
														Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£	22.50
														Harborne Pool and Fitness Centre	£	26.80
														Ladywood Leisure Centre	£	27.80
															£	34.30

Operator	Gym Session	Operator	Exercise to Music	Operator	Exercise to Music Conc
DB Leisure	£ 7.50	DB Leisure	£ 6.50	DB Leisure	£ 3.25
Ripped Fitness	£ 4.00	Ripped Fitness Wednesbury	£ 4.00	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£ 3.50
Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£ 6.50	Darlaston and Walsall Gala	£ 6.00		£ 3.38
Simply Gym Walsall	£ 7.99	Harborne Pool and Fitness Ce	£ 6.10		
NRG Gym Walsall	£ 7.99		£ 5.65		
Village Gym Walsall	£ 19.00				
Puregym Walsall	£ 6.99				
Puregym West Bromwich	£ 6.99				
Village Gym Dudley	£ 19.00				
PureGym Dudley Tipton	£ 7.99				
Central House Fitness	£ 4.00				
Classic Physiques Gym	£ 5.00				
Muscle & Fitness Cradley Heath	£ 3.00				
PureGym Birmingham West	£ 6.99				
24/7 Fitness Birmingham	£ 5.00				
Legion Fitness	£ 3.50				
	£ 7.59				

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Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

18 December 2023

Subject:	Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Action Tracker
Director:	Law and Governance Surjit Tour Surjir_tour@sandwell.gov.uk
Contact Officer:	Alexander Goddard – Scrutiny Lead Officer Alexander_Goddard@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations







That the Board considers the items within the recommendations tracker and notes the progress on their implementation.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 To facilitate the effective monitoring of progress on responses to and press with implementation of recommendations made by the Board and identify where further action is required.
- 2.2 Effective monitoring of recommendations facilitates the evaluation of the impact of the scrutiny function overall.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	Best start in life for children and young people	The scrutiny function supports all of the objectives of the Corporate Plan by seeking to improve services for the people of Sandwell. It does this by influencing the policies and decisions made by the Council and other organisations involved in delivering public services.
	People live well and age well	
	Strong resilient communities	
	Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods	
	A strong and inclusive economy	Effective monitoring of recommendations made supports this and allows scrutiny to evaluate its impact.
	A connected and accessible Sandwell	

4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 The attached Appendix details the responses to and progress on the implementation of recommendations made by the scrutiny function.

5 Implications

Resources:	The resource implications will be detailed in the responses to recommendations as detailed in the appendix.
Legal and Governance:	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 places a duty on the Executive to respond to Scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them.



Risk:	Any risk implications have been considered with the relevant Officer/Director/Cabinet Member/Risk Owner at the time the recommendations were referred to them by the Board. Any specific risks for the Board’s attention are detailed in the Appendix.
Equality:	Any equality implications have been considered with the relevant Officer/Director/Cabinet Member/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team at the time the recommendations were referred to them by the Board. Any specific equality implications for the Board’s attention are detailed in the Appendix.
Health and Wellbeing:	Any health and wellbeing implications have been considered with the relevant Officer/Director/Cabinet Member/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team at the time the recommendations were referred to them by the Board. Any specific health and wellbeing implications for the Board’s attention are detailed in the Appendix.
Climate Change:	Any climate change implications have been considered with the relevant Officer/Director/Cabinet Member/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team at the time the recommendations were referred to them by the Board. Any specific climate change implications for the Board’s attention are detailed in the Appendix.
Corporate Parenting:	Any corporate parenting implications have been considered with the relevant Officer/Director/Cabinet Member/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team at the time the recommendations were referred to them by the Board. Any specific corporate parenting implications for the Board’s attention are detailed in the Appendix.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Recommendations Tracker.

7 Background Papers

None.



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Tracking and Monitoring of Actions and Recommendations of Scrutiny Boards

Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities 22/23

Date	Item	Recommendation/ Action	Responsible Person	Notes
23 MAR 23	Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy	That the Cabinet Member for Housing consider basing homelessness staff at Community Hubs and provide a presence at Sandwell libraries at suitable points throughout the week	Cllr Rollins/ Gillian Douglas	Housing Officers are part of the community hub offer, these officers are able to triage and signpost as necessary any homeless presentations.
		That an update on Homelessness be brought to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board in 6 months' time.	Gillian Douglas	To be scheduled.
		How long is the average response time after making contact with the Homelessness team and having been triaged?	Nigel Collumbell	Average number of days for triage = 9.62 Average number of days for caseworker assignment = 11.51 These are Q1 outturns
		What percentage of Homelessness service users are accommodated in Council housing?	Nigel Collumbell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The proportion of homeless cases placed in own stock temporary accommodation is currently 48% •The proportion of homelessness cases where we have successfully discharged a duty in to council accommodation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Prevention duty – average of 74% for last 12 months

Tracking and Monitoring of Actions and Recommendations of Scrutiny Boards

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Relief duty – average of 46% for last 12 months o Main duty – average of 91% for last 12 months
	Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy on Adaptations for Disabled Tenants in Council Housing	That the Director of Housing explore the use of assistive smart technology to support disabled tenants.	Gillian Douglas/ Manny Sehmbi	Appearing before the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board in March 2024
		That the Director of Housing investigate the feasibility of transferring applications to other individuals in the property with the same accessibility needs	Gillian Douglas/ Manny Sehmbi	Appearing before the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board in March 2024
23 FEB 23	Tree Strategy and Implementation Plan 2023- 2028	Checkpoint reports throughout the first 18 months of the Tree Strategy and Implementation Plan 2023-2028 are provided to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board	Matt Huggins	Briefing note to be circulated when available.
		Feedback from the survey of trees, to include impact on light to habitable rooms is provided to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board	Matt Huggins	Briefing note to be circulated when available.
10 JAN 23	Housing Revenue Account 30 Year Business Plan	That the Directors of Housing and Regeneration and Growth investigate the feasibility of turning Council owned non- residential properties into residential units.	Gillian Douglas/ Tony McGovern	Two decommissioned extra care schemes have being re-purposed for temporary accommodation.

Tracking and Monitoring of Actions and Recommendations of Scrutiny Boards

31 August 2023	Additional Licensing and Article 4 – Options Appraisal	That the Directors of Housing and Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Housing and Built Environment and Regeneration and WMCA, obtain at least 1,000 responses per town from the planned Additional Licensing consultation.	Gillian Douglas Tony McGovern	Recommendation rejected by Cabinet however, the Council would endeavour to obtain as many responses as possible during the consultation stage.
		That the Directors of Housing and Regeneration and Growth work collaboratively with external partners including West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, Community Support Officers to identify un-registered HMO's.		Recommendation approved by Cabinet on 13 September 2023

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Report to Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

18 December 2023

Subject:	Cabinet Forward Plan and Board Work Programme
Director:	Law and Governance Surjit Tour Surjir_tour@sandwell.gov.uk
Contact Officer:	Suky Suthi-Nagra Democratic Services Manager Suky_suthinagra@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations







- 1.1 That the Board notes the Cabinet Forward Plan, which sets out the matters programmed to be considered by the Cabinet.
- 1.2 That the Board notes its work programme, which sets out matters to be considered by the Board in 2023/24 and considers whether any changes are required to the programme.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 A strong and effective work programme underpins the work and approach of Scrutiny.
- 2.2 It is good practice for work programmes to remain fluid, to allow for scrutiny of new and emerging issues in a timely manner.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	Best start in life for children and young people	The scrutiny function supports all of the objectives of the Corporate Plan by seeking to improve services for the people of Sandwell. It does this by influencing the policies and decisions made by the Council and other organisations involved in delivering public services.
	People live well and age well	
	Strong resilient communities	
	Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods	
	A strong and inclusive economy	
	A connected and accessible Sandwell	

4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Scrutiny is a member led and driven function, driven by members' commitment to improve services and thereby people's lives.
- 4.2 An annual work programming event, involving chief officers, executive members and key partners, was held in June 2023 and all boards approved their work programmes for 2023/24 at their first meeting of the municipal year.
- 4.3 Boards have responsibility for their own work programmes, and it is good practice to keep them under review, to allow for new and emerging issues to be scrutinised in a timely manner.
- 4.4 Scrutiny Procedure Rules allow any member to request that an item is added to a scrutiny board's work programme. Each request should be carefully assessed, using the agreed process, to ensure that resources can be prioritised and that the scrutiny activity will add value.



5 Implications

<p>Resources:</p>	<p>Any resources implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific implications for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>
<p>Legal and Governance:</p>	<p>The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.</p> <p>The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 places a duty on the Executive to respond to Scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them.</p> <p>NHS service commissioners and providers have a duty to respond in writing to a report or recommendation where health scrutiny requests this, within 28 days of the request. This applies to requests from individual health scrutiny committees or sub-committees, from local authorities and from joint health scrutiny committees or sub-committees.</p>
<p>Risk:</p>	<p>Any risk implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific risks for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>
<p>Equality:</p>	<p>Any equality implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific equality implications for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>
<p>Health and Wellbeing:</p>	<p>Any health and wellbeing implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific health and wellbeing implications for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>



Social Value	<p>Any social value implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific health and wellbeing implications for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>
Corporate Parenting	<p>Any corporate parenting implications arising from scrutiny activity are considered as required by the appropriate director or cabinet member/cabinet.</p> <p>Any specific health and wellbeing implications for the Board's attention are detailed in the Appendix.</p>

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Cabinet Forward Plan

Appendix 2 – Board Work Programme

7. Background Papers

None.



The following items set out key decisions to be taken by the Executive:-

Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>1 Procurement of Housing Improvement Programme contracts 2024 – 2028</p> <p>A rationalisation of contracts in Housing and Asset Management, opportunities have been identified to amalgamate spend from several contracts, into a single procurement exercise under a HIP Contract.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Philip Deery</p> <p>Director: Dean Epton</p>	<p>Cabinet - Cabinet Member for Housing and Built Environment (Cllr Rollins)</p>	<p>Public</p>	<p>17 January 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Report</p>



	Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
2	<p>Archives Centre</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet – Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		17 January 2024		
3	<p>Fishing Policy</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		17 January 2024		



Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>4 Village Green Status – Goldicroft Park</p> <p>This is for Cabinet to approve the registering of Goldicroft Park as a Village Green through self application.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins; Assistant Director, Borough Economy</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey, Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>17 January 2024</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Cabinet Report for Decision</p>



Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>5 Heritage Strategy</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet – Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>7 February 2024</p>		
<p>6 Community Hubs</p> <p>Contact Officer: Helen Green</p>	<p>Cabinet - Public Health and Communities (Cllr Khatun)</p>		<p>7 February 2024</p>		



Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>7 Boroughwide Public Spaces Protection Order Renewals / Extensions Alcohol, Dogs & Use of BBQs on public land</p> <p>Contact Officer: Tessa Mitchell</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>		<p>7 February 2024</p>	<p>January 2024</p>	



Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>8 Grounds Maintenance Service Review</p> <p>Outcome of service review to maintain service standards within available resources</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ben Percival</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>7 February 2024</p>		



Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>9 Events Governance and Safety Advisory Group Terms of Reference</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>7 February 2024</p>		
<p>10 Funding for Heritage – Oak House</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet – Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>13 March 2024</p>		



	Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
11	<p>Allotments Review and Strategy</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		13 March 2023		
12	<p>Sandwell Valley Master Plan and 10 Year Business Plan</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		13 March 2024		



	Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
13	<p>Safer Green Spaces Strategy</p> <p>Contact Officer: Matthew Huggins</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>13 March 2024</p>		

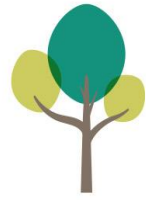


Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
<p>14 Bid to Arts Council England – Libraries Improvement Fund Round 3 (depending on amount)</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		<p>June 2024</p>		



	Title/Subject	Decision Maker	Public or exempt report? If exempt – state reason for exemption	Decision Date	Pre or post decision Scrutiny to be carried out? (Board and date)	List of documents to be considered
15	<p>Sandwell Cultural Compact</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		June 2024		
16	<p>Cultural Development Fund Bid</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dawn Winter</p> <p>Director: Alice Davey – Director of Borough Economy</p>	<p>Cabinet - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr Padda)</p>		June 2024		





Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2023/24



Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities

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Standing Items:-

- Tracking and Monitoring of Recommendations to the Executive
- Work Programme (including Cabinet Forward Plan)

Meeting Date	Item	Presented by
11 July 2023	Borough of Sanctuary	Louis Bebb/ Jennifer Collins
	Approval of 2023/24 Municipal Year Work Programme	Alex Goddard/ John Swann
31 August 2023	HMOs – Additional Licensing and Article 4 Direction	John Baker/ Alison Bishop/ Carl Mercer
12 September 2023	Neighbourhood Partnerships Team Update	Manny Sehmbi/ Marcia Sandel-Massey
	Future Provision of Leisure Services Update	Ben Percival
	Haden Hill Leisure Centre Rebuild	Ben Percival
26 September 2023	Asset Management Strategy	Sarah Ager



12 October 2023	Programme of works 22/23 annual review	Matt Huggins
	Playing Pitch Strategy Actions and Implementation – Establishment of Working Group	Democratic Services/Rob Marlow
27 November 2023 - Cancelled	Sandwell Valley Masterplan Update (Deferred to 18 December 2023)	Matt Huggins
7 December 2023 - Cancelled	Tenant Satisfaction Survey Outcomes (Deferred)	Nigel Collumbell
	Safer Green Spaces Strategy (Deferred)	Matt Huggins
	SLT Fees & Charges for January 2024 implementation (Deferred to 18 December 2023)	Ben Percival
18 December 2023	Sandwell Valley Masterplan	Matt Huggins
	SLT Fees & Charges for January 2024 Implementation	Ben Percival
17 January 2024	Heritage Strategy Journey Update	Dawn Winter
	Boroughwide Public Spaces Protection Order	Tessa Mitchell
	Allotments Review and Strategy	Matt Huggins
Date TBC	Safer Green Spaces Strategy	Matt Huggins
	Tenant Satisfaction Survey Outcomes	Nigel Collumbell



February 2024 (Date TBC)	Green Spaces Strategy 2024/25 and Programme of Works 2024/ 25	Matt Huggins
	Housing Regulation Changes	Phil Deary
14 March 2024	Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy and Adaptations for Disabled Tenants in Council Housing	Nigel Collumbell
	Fees & Charges (inc concessions) for LATC / Sandwell Aquatic Centre Update	Ben Percival
	Safer Sandwell Partnership	Chief Supt. Maria Fox/Tessa Mitchell

To be Scheduled

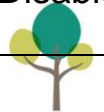
Reports of the Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group on:- (Nigel Collumbell/ Marianne Munro) – (Dependent upon T+LSG Work Programming – timescales TBC)

- Building Safety Review
- Responsive Repairs & Customer Satisfaction Review

Housing Hub Review (Report of the Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group) - Implementation of Recommendations Update. – Nigel Collumbell

Working Group:

- Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy on Adaptations for Disabled Tenants in Council Housing.



Article 4 and Additional Licensing consultation outcomes to be brought before the Board when available

Housing Repairs Update – Sarah Ager

Leisure Service Provision Update – 2026 – Ben Percival

Haden Hill Project Update - TBC – Ben Percival

SLT Fees & Charges for January 2024 implementation (Private spotlight session) – Ben Percival

Utilisation of confectionary stands in Sandwell Parks including associated revenues



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