

Part 3 Schedule 2 – The Constitution and Terms of Reference of Cabinet, Committees, etc.

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Part 3 Schedule 2 – The Constitution and Terms of Reference of Cabinet, Committees, etc

1. The Council

1.1 Role of the Council

See **Part 2 – Article 4**

1.2 Functions of the Council

See **Part 2 – Article 4**

2. The Cabinet – Constitution and Terms of Reference

2.1 Membership

The Leader appointed by the Council and up to 9 other Councillors called “Cabinet Members” appointed by the Leader, one of whom must be appointed as the Deputy Leader (see **Part 2 – Article 7**). Neither the Mayor nor the Deputy Mayor may be appointed to the Cabinet.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31.7
Proportionality: Not applicable

2.2 Appointment and Removal of the Leader and Cabinet Members

See **Part 2 – Article 7**

2.3 Portfolios

Cabinet Members shall have the portfolios set out in **Part 3 Schedule 1(a)** – although these can be amended by the Leader in accordance with **Part 2 – Article 7**, paragraph 7.04(5).

2.4 Quorum

3

2.5 Terms of Reference

See **Part 2 – Article 7**

2.6 Delegation of Executive Functions

(a) The Scheme of Delegation of executive functions to any Committee of the Executive or to an officer (including delegation of some functions to officers to be exercised in consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Members) will be determined by the Council and will be contained in the Constitution. If and to the extent that any executive functions are not included in the delegation scheme then in cases of urgency the Leader may arrange for the discharge of those functions by delegating them to the Chief Executive or the appropriate Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment) to act in consultation with the Leader under Section 15 (3) and (4) of the 2000 Act, subject to review by the Council at the next Annual Council meeting.

(b) Cabinet Committee

There shall be a Cabinet Committee consisting of 3 Cabinet Members appointed by the Leader to carry out the following executive functions in respect of Traffic Regulation Orders and to consider the comments and recommendations made by the Traffic Regulations Working Party on the highways issues referred to it by the Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment)

- To consider the recommendations of the Traffic Regulations Working Party regarding the implementation of Traffic Regulation Orders in circumstances where there are a majority of responses to the Statutory Notice against the proposals and the Council is of the view that the proposals should move forward.
- In such circumstances, the Cabinet Committee will immediately meet to consider the Traffic Regulations Working Party’s recommendation to overrule objections and to decide whether to authorise the Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment) to make the Order (with or without modification) or to decide that the Order be not made. This decision will be published in a Digest and will be available for call-in.

Substitutes

Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31.7

Quorum

The quorum of the Cabinet Committee shall be 2

2.7 Status of Meetings

Open to the public

2.8 Reports To

The Council

3. Cabinet Working Parties

3.1 Adult Social Care and Health Integration Working Party

3.1.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply to the 5 Councillors who are not Cabinet Members.

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.1.2 Quorum

3

3.1.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Adult Social Care and Health Integration portfolio.

3.1.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.1.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.2 Asset Management & Inward Investment Working Party

3.2.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.2.1 Quorum

3

3.2.2 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Asst Management & Inward Investment portfolio.

3.2.4 Status of Meetings

Private (save as in respect of 3.4.3(e))

3.2.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.3 Children & Learning and Inclusion Working Party

3.3.1 Membership

8 Councillors

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

3.3.2 Quorum

3

3.3.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Children & Learning and Inclusion portfolio
- (b) To review the provision of primary and secondary school places across the City taking into account all relevant factors and to make recommendations to Cabinet.

3.3.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.3.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.4 Corporate Matters and Performance Delivery Working Party

3.4.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.4.2 Quorum

3

3.4.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Corporate Matters and Performance Delivery portfolio.
- (b) To monitor and manage performance against agreed action plans and targets within the People Management Strategy.
- (c) To make recommendations on Corporate People Management issues.
- (d) To monitor, review and make recommendations on a Digital Strategy for the Council.
- (e) To make recommendations on an Accommodation Strategy necessary to deliver the Council's services in the future together with proposals for the implementation of such strategy.
- (f) To review usage of existing accommodation and to recommend ways to maximise such use in the interests of economy and the most effective delivery of service.

3.4.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.4.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.5 Economic Recovery, Regeneration and Housing Working Party

3.5.1 Membership

8 Councillors (by convention political proportionality shall apply)

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.5.2 Quorum

3

3.5.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Economic Recovery, Regeneration and Housing portfolio.
- (b) To advise the Cabinet on strategic housing policy issues relating the provision and improvement of affordable and social housing in the City.

- (c) To keep under review progress the management of the Council's housing stock and the performance of South Essex Homes.
- (d) To advise Cabinet on the strategic approach to the prevention, alleviation and eradication of homelessness issues (including rough sleepers) in the City.

3.5.4 Status of Meetings

Private (save as in respect of 3.4.3(e))

3.5.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.6 Environment, Culture and Tourism Working Party

3.6.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

Other non-voting members will be invited to attend as appropriate to the item, and will include representatives from:

- Leigh Society
- Southend Society
- Shoebury Society
- Milton Society
- S.E. Essex Archaeological Society
- Southend & District Building Restoration Trust
- RIBA
- Chamber of Commerce.
- Natural England
- South Essex Natural History Society
- Essex Wildlife Trust – Rochford and Southend Local Group
- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers One representative of Royal Society for the Protection of Birds – Southend Members Group
- Friends of Hadleigh Castle Country Park
- Southend Ornithological Group
- Butterfly Conservation (Cams and Essex Branch)
- Leigh Town Council
- Essex Amphibian and Reptile Group
- Essex Biodiversity Partnership
- The Site Manager – Hadleigh Castle Country Park
- The Southend Environmental Project Manager – Essex Wildlife Trust

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair will be appointed by the Leader.

3.6.2 Quorum

3 Councillors

3.6.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Environment, Culture and Tourism portfolio.
- (b) To identify conservation issues of importance to the City and make recommendations to the Cabinet.
- (c) To consider conservation policy and monitor changes in Conservation Areas and make recommendations to the Cabinet.
- (d) To consider practical conservation projects in the City, including partnerships with other organisations and to make recommendations thereon to the Cabinet.
- (e) To consider major planning applications with conservation implications referred to it by the Development Control Committee and to make comments to the Development Control Committee.
- (f) To make recommendations on the collection, removal and disposal of all excreta, refuse, litter (including abandoned vehicles and trolleys), and for the recycling of waste (including the preparation of waste recycling plans), for the Civic Amenity sites within the City and all matters relating to cleansing of the City including all paved roads, areas of open land and foreshore.
- (g) To make recommendations on matters relating to the review of the Local and Structure Plans and the provision of a comprehensive up to date planning policy framework for the City.
- (h) To make recommendations to Cabinet on local listing on an annual basis and on an ad hoc basis in case of urgency.
- (i) To provide advice to the Southend Strategic Partnership about environmental and biodiversity issues, and to assist in the delivery of the Community Plan.
- (j) To identify environmental and biodiversity issues of importance to the City and the Council.
- (k) To consider environmental and biodiversity projects in the City including partnerships with other organisations and seek funding from non-Council sources and promote collaboration and support with funding agencies.
- (l) To consider and where appropriate participate in local and national environmental and biodiversity campaigns.
- (m) To encourage, assist and promote biodiversity in the City and to increase awareness and publicity of environmental and biodiversity issues.
- (n) To keep under review the development of environmental and biodiversity policies.
- (o) To support sustainable development and improvements in the local environment.
- (p) To carry out study work and formulate proposals and recommendations in respect of cultural projects.
- (q) To review the current programme of events in Southend and the funding thereof, and to consult stakeholders on improvements which could be made.

- (r) To develop and recommend a new events strategy for Southend.
- (s) To formulate proposals and recommendations in respect of the pier and foreshore.
- (t) To develop and recommend a new tourism strategy for Southend.

3.6.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.6.5 Reports to

The Cabinet (save in respect of 3.6.3(e) and (i) above)

3.7 Highways Transport & Parking Working Party

3.7.1 Membership

8 Councillors

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
 Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

Interested Parties (to be invited in a non-voting capacity on an ad-hoc basis as appropriate to the item):

- 1 representative from First Group
- 1 representative from Arriva
- 1 representative from Stephensons
- 1 representative of the rail operators (dependent upon franchise)
- 1 representative of Southend Area Bus Users Group
- 1 representative of the Rail Users Group

Advisory Capacity:

- 1 representative of Essex County Council

3.7.2 Quorum

3 Councillors

3.7.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Highways, Transport and Parking portfolio.
- (b) **Access to the City:** This will include considering improvements to access options for visitors to the City including changes to road layouts and reducing access traffic on roads within the core of the town centre to provide easier, direct and more intuitive access to car parks and key visitor destinations.

- (c) **Parking:** This will include:
 - (i) the development of a parking guidance system and vehicle messaging system covering the main car parks across the City; and
 - (ii) appropriate changes to parking tariffs for periods of high demand for example summer weekends and bank holidays to better balance the demand for parking between the seafront and town centre car parks.
- (d) **Transport:** This will include:
 - (i) how public transport, including bus services, in the City might be improved;
 - (ii) ensuring synergy of public transport services for the City; and
 - (iii) the provision of improved travel information pre-travel and pre-arrival to the City through a range of media and systems and to encourage travel behaviour change by residents of the City and visitors.
- (e) To monitor the on-going operation of the London Southend Airport in the context of the environmental controls recorded in the leases and S.106 Agreements. To respond to concerns regarding air traffic movements.

3.7.4 Status of Meetings

Private (save as in respect of 3.7.3(e) above).

3.7.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.8 Public Protection Working Party

3.8.1 Membership

8 Councillors

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
 Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

3.8.2 Quorum

3 Councillors

3.8.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider policy matters that support delivery of the Council's Ambition and Outcomes as set out in the Southend 2050 Road Map and to make recommendations, when appropriate, to Cabinet in respect of the functions within the remit of the Public Protection portfolio.

3.8.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.8.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.9 Traffic Regulations Working Party

3.9.1 Membership

12 Councillors¹, comprising the 3 Cabinet Members who sit on the Cabinet Committee (one of whom shall be appointed Chair and another Vice-Chair) and 9 Councillors who are not Cabinet Members.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply to the 9 Councillors who are not Cabinet Members.

3.9.2 Quorum

3 (including at least 2 of the Cabinet Members)

3.9.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider written objections and also to hear oral representations by objectors and supporters (if any) to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders and to make a recommendation to the Cabinet Committee on such proposed Orders, but only in circumstances where there are a majority of responses to the Statutory Notice against the proposals and the intention is for the proposals to move forward. (See Section 6D of **Part 4(a)** of the Council's Constitution regarding public speaking on Traffic Regulation Orders.)
- (b) To consider requests for Traffic Regulation Orders referred to the Working Party by the Council, Cabinet or the Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment) and make appropriate recommendations to the Cabinet Committee on those requests.
- (c) To act as the project board in respect of the Parking Review and undertake a strategic role in the overview and direction of the Traffic and Highway Service.

3.9.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public

3.9.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.10 Holocaust Memorial Day Working Party

3.10.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

¹ **Note:** No Councillor shall sit on the Traffic Regulations Working Party (whether for the first time or returning to the Working Party after a period of absence), including as a substitute Councillor, without having first attended a training session on the principles of Traffic Regulation Orders.

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.10.2 Quorum

3

3.10.3 Terms of Reference

To recommend arrangements to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January each year.

3.10.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.10.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.11 The ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party

3.11.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31

Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader, or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint. The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

3.11.2 Quorum

3

3.11.3 Terms of Reference

1. To monitor and have oversight of the on-going work of the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA).
2. To consider and advise on matters relating to local government reform, including issues arising from the anticipated White Paper on Devolution.

3.10.4 Status of Meetings

Private

3.11.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

3.12 Armed Forces Working Party

3.12.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader, or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint.
The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

Interested Parties (to be invited in a non-voting capacity on an ad-hoc basis as appropriate to the items on the Agenda):

1 representative from Southend branch of SSAFA
1 representative from Naval and Military Association/Royal Naval Association/British Legion
1 representative from Essex Army Cadets Force Southend Detachment

Advisory Capacity:

1 representative of Essex County Council
1 representative of Essex Armed Forces Covenant – liaison officer

3.11.2 Quorum

3 Councillors

3.11.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) The Working Party will act as the City lead for the promotion and fulfilment of its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant.
- (b) To further the standard of the Armed Forces Covenant response at Southend-on-Sea City Council to improve to Gold Standard, to integrate throughout the organisation the recognition of the Covenant and the obligations it places on the City Council and to encourage businesses and organisations in Southend to support the Covenant.
- (c) To seek to work with and through voluntary, faith, social enterprise, community and business sector organisations to develop multi-agency, holistic and inclusive interventions and other support to the Armed Forces Community.
- (d) To assist where appropriate, external organisations in connection with Armed Forces Day events and other events as are appropriate

4. Advisory Forums and Panels (Advising and Reporting to the Cabinet)

4.1 Local Consultative Forum

4.1.1 Membership

Chief Executive
Executive Director (Strategy, Change & Governance)
Executive Director (Finance & Resources)
Leader of the Council
Cabinet Member appointed by the Leader
Other Executive Directors or their representatives as may be appropriate
Unison Official
GMB Official

Substitutes: Not permitted
Proportionality: Does not apply

4.1.2 Quorum

2 members from the management side (one being a Councillor)
2 members from the Union side

4.1.3 Terms of Reference

A forum for discussion and consultation between the Council and its employees (represented by 2 local union officials) on agreed topics so that good industrial relations can be fostered and for further action (if required) to be identified and initiated.

4.1.4 Status of Meetings

Private

4.1.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

4.2 Southend Business & Tourism Partnership

4.2.1 Membership

The Leader or their nominee and 7 other Councillors (by convention proportionality shall apply).
Substitutes: permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31.

The Chief Executive and the Director of Regeneration & Growth.

All persons owning, operating or representing businesses or organisations/bodies in Southend-on-Sea with an interest in promoting and developing the economic regeneration of Southend-on-Sea are entitled to attend meetings of the Partnership.

Castle Point Borough and Rochford District Councils:

- Chair of appropriate Committee from each Council
- Chief Executive of each Council

4.2.2 Quorum

Not less than 10 persons

4.2.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To act as a vehicle for improved liaison between the Council and private sector business, town centre and tourism interests.

- (b) To act as a mechanism for the exchange of ideas between the Council, local business and relevant organisations with the aim of enhancing the economic success and viability of the City, including the City Centre and facilities for visitors and residents.
- (c) To make recommendations on future improvements which may be provided within the constraints of the Council's budgetary provision or which may be provided by the private sector.
- (d) To consider reports on principles and key ideas for development of the City's Economic Development Statement.

4.2.4 Status of Meetings

Private

4.2.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

4.3 The Senior Managers' Pay Panel

4.3.1 Membership

- Leader (Chairman)
- Deputy Leader
- 1 other Cabinet Member
- The Leaders of the 2 largest Opposition Groups (or the Leader and one other Councillor from the Opposition Group)

(Advisor – Chief Executive, save that in the case of their own employment it will be an independent consultant - as agreed with the Chief Executive.)

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
 Proportionality: Does not apply

4.3.2 Quorum

3

4.3.3 Terms of Reference

- To consider and moderate objectives set for the following Senior Managers: the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Directors and Directors.
- To consider recommendations from end of year reviews and agree pay awards within the parameters of the Council's Senior Managers' Pay Scheme.

4.3.4 Status of Meeting

Private

4.3.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

4.4 Rochford & Southend-on-Sea Area Action Plan Committee

4.4.1 Membership

4 Councillors (by convention proportionality will apply) and at least one Councillor shall represent a ward adjacent to the airport.
 4 Councillors from Rochford District Council

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31

4.4.2 Quorum

2 Councillors from each Council

4.4.3 Terms of Reference

To make recommendations to Southend-on-Sea and Rochford Councils on the preparation and adoption of a Joint Area Action Plan for land to the west of Rochford incorporating London Southend Airport and the Aviation Way Industrial Estate.

4.4.4 Status of Meeting

Private

4.4.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

4.5 Planning & Development Forum

4.5.1 Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Councillor as the Leader shall appoint.

The Executive Director (Growth & Housing), the Director of Planning and other planning officers as required.

The Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment) (or nominee).

The Executive Director (Adults & Communities) (or nominee).

Developers operating or proposing to operate in the Borough and their architects / agents.

4.5.2 Quorum

3

4.5.3 Terms of Reference

To provide a Forum to discuss:

- (a) Strategic Planning issues
- (b) Planning Policy – notably the Local Development Framework (LDF)
- (c) Government Planning Policy
- (d) Local development issues and pressures
- (e) Other planning issues, such as design, sustainability and the procedures for dealing with applications BUT NOT any proposed or existing planning applications.

4.5.4 Status of Meetings

Private

4.5.5 Reports to

The Cabinet

4.6 Shareholder Board

4.6.1 Membership

8 Councillors including the Leader, Deputy Leader and one other Cabinet Member

No Councillor who sits on the board of a Corporate Vehicle (as defined below) can attend a Shareholder Board meeting considering that particular Corporate Vehicle.

The Chair shall be the Leader or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: By convention proportionality shall apply.

4.6.2 Quorum

3

4.6.3 Terms of Reference

- a) To provide an effective means of governance for Corporate Vehicles and to oversee their activities.
(A “Corporate Vehicle” will include any wholly or partly owned Council company or a limited liability partnership whereby the Council is a partner (equal or otherwise); but this definition shall not include any Trust (charitable or otherwise) whereby the Council is the Trustee.)
- b) To represent the Council’s interests as shareholder or partner and to communicate the Council’s views to the Corporate Vehicles, including the contribution the Corporate Vehicle can make to the achievement of the Council’s strategic objectives.
- c) To safeguard the Council from excessive risk taking or poor performance by the Corporate Vehicles.
- d) To provide assurance that the Council and the Corporate Vehicles are following their legal obligations, the strategic direction and objectives which have been agreed and the Corporate Vehicles are delivering their service and appropriate financial performance, in accordance with their reported results compared to their stated business plan.
- e) To make recommendations to Cabinet as to any action which needs to be taken as shareholder or partner of any Corporate Vehicle.
- f) To consider the implications of management information that will be prepared for each Shareholder Board meeting to include:
 - Year to date Corporate Vehicle’s performance report, financial report and details of significant events compared to the targets previously agreed; and
 - Any significant commercial and legal risks to the Council as shareholder or partner, highlighting the potential impact and likelihood of occurrence.
- g) To consider points (a) to (f) in relation to each Corporate Vehicle, taking into account the degree of control and influence of the Council within the Corporate Vehicle and such guidance and advice provided by Officers in relation to that Corporate Vehicle.

4.6.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public – save in respect of Part 2 Business.

4.6.5 Reports to

Cabinet

5. The 3 Scrutiny Committees (Policy & Resources, People and Place)

Each of these Scrutiny Committees is appointed by the Council under S.102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The party whip system shall not operate in relation to the Scrutiny Committees.

5.1 Membership of Each Scrutiny Committee

- (a) 17 Councillors. Neither the Mayor nor any Cabinet Member¹ may be a member of a Scrutiny Committee. The Chair and Vice-Chair may only come from the members of the opposition groups represented on the Council.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

- (b) The People Scrutiny Committee shall also have the following additional Co-opted Members:

- (i) 2 diocesan representatives pursuant to the Secretary of State for Education and Employment's Direction. These co-optees have voting rights, but on education matters only, and cannot vote on the determination of the LEA's total revenue expenditure on education or the determination of its capital programme in accordance with paragraph 17 of the DFEE Circular 19/99. In addition such co-optees should limit speaking to education topics and topics which have a clear link to education, in accordance with paragraph 14 of DFEE Circular 19/99.
- (ii) 2 elected parent governor representatives pursuant to the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 (SI 478/2001). These co-optees shall have voting rights, but on education matters only, in accordance with Regulation 10. In addition, as with the diocesan representatives, such co-optees should limit speaking to education topics and topics which have a clear link to education.
- (iii) 3 non-voting members: one appointed by SAVS, one appointed by Healthwatch Southend and the other appointed by the Carers Forum. Such co-optees should limit speaking to social services and health topics or topics which have a clear link to social services or health matters.

Note: In addition 2 observers representing Southend Youth Council shall be entitled to attend the People Scrutiny Committee and may speak on the matters under consideration.

5.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

5.3 Terms of Reference

The Scrutiny Committees shall deal with the following general areas, although many issues will cut across boundaries and consequently the Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Committees are not to be construed restrictively:

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

- Corporate Planning & Policy
- Asset Management
- Corporate Services (ICT, Data Protection, Human Resources)
- Corporate Finance Matters e.g. Localisation of benefits; Localisation of business rates
- Customer Services
- Crime and Disorder issues (S.19 Police & Justice Act 2006)
- Corporate Procurement
- Core Client Housing Responsibilities, including Commissioning / Procurement

¹ Standing Order 3.11 and Part 2 Section 7.04(1)

People Scrutiny Committee

- All Child and Adult Education
- Youth Services
- Children's Social Services
- Adult Social Services
- Public Health
- Commissioning / Procurement for Children, Adults and Public Health
- Health Scrutiny Role: (conferred on Councils with Social Services responsibilities):
 - In particular to exercise the powers contained in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 relating to the scrutiny of health services within the Council's area (including the Local Authority (Public Health, Health & Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013). Where a local NHS body consults more than one Scrutiny Committee on a proposal it has under consideration for a substantial development of the health service or a substantial variation in the provision of such a service, the local authorities of these Scrutiny Committees shall appoint a mandatory Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of the consultation.

Membership of any such Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is drawn from the voting members on the People Scrutiny Committee, including the appointment of a named substitute(s). Where the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee covers a number of Local authority areas, each participating authority will nominate one member and one substitute or a different number to be agreed between the authorities concerned. Each Joint Health Scrutiny Committee will operate under Terms of Reference agreed by it.

The People Scrutiny Committee shall be responsible for the appointment of such members and political proportionality will not apply to any such appointment.
 - The Scrutiny Committee may also appoint a discretionary Joint Health Scrutiny Committee to carry out all or specified health scrutiny functions, for example health scrutiny in relation to health issues that cross local authority boundaries.

Place Scrutiny Committee

- Planning, Highways & Transportation and Engineering
- Environmental, Waste Management and Public Protection (Regulatory Services)
- Regeneration and Economic Development
- Tourism and Events
- Leisure, Culture and Sport
- Foreshore
- Flood & Waste Management
- All aspects of the Better Queensway Regeneration Project (including housing)

For details of the full role of the Scrutiny Committees – particularly the Call-in procedures – see **Part 2 – Article 6** of the Constitution and the Scrutiny Procedure Rules in **Part 4(e)**

5.4 Powers of Each Scrutiny Committee

Each Scrutiny Committee shall have powers to:

- Require the attendance of the Cabinet Member(s) whose portfolio covers the matter under consideration.
- Request and receive reports from officers
- Require the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executives, Strategic Directors and Directors to attend meetings to provide information
- To obtain (as a last resort) professional advice from outside the Council
- Consider Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) in accordance with the Local Protocol on CCfA in **Part 5 (g)** of the Constitution and also to request information from partners who have a responsibility to have regard to Scrutiny recommendations.

5.5 Status of Meeting

Open to the Public

5.6 Reports To

The Council

Note

Chairs' Scrutiny Forum

The Chairs' Scrutiny Forum shall comprise the Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the Scrutiny Committees. The Forum shall meet on an ad hoc basis to discuss common issues, problem areas, good practice and the development of the scrutiny function and from time to time, undertake reviews of previous in-depth scrutiny projects.

6. Regulatory and Other Non-Executive Committees of the Council

6.1 Development Control Committee

6.1.1 Membership

17 Councillors¹

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

6.1.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.1.3 Terms of Reference

To exercise the powers and duties of the Council in all matters of Development and Building Control as specified in Part A of Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) including:

- (a) All applications for planning permission, listed building consent, advertisement consent, conservation area consent, and hazardous substances consent (including the Council's own development proposals);
- (b) Tree Preservation Orders;
- (c) Enforcement Notices, Breach of Condition Notices and Stop Notices;
- (d) To undertake as necessary visits to sites prior to the determination of applications.

6.1.4 Status of Meeting

Open to the public.

6.1.5 Reports to

Council

¹ **Notes:**

- (a) No Councillor shall sit on the Development Control Committee (whether for the first time or coming back to the Committee after a period of absence) without having first attended a training session on the principles of determining planning applications. Such Councillors shall also attend at least two further planning training sessions in accordance with (b) below;
- (b) All members of the Development Control Committee and substitutes (if they are to sit on the Committee) must attend at least two planning training sessions in each Municipal Year; and
- (c) The Chief Executive shall keep a register of attendance of Councillors on the training sessions referred to in (a) and (b).

6.2 Licensing Committee

6.2.1 Membership

15 Councillors¹

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

6.2.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.2.3 Terms of Reference

(a) To consider and determine all applications relating to the Licensing, Certification and Registration functions of the Council as set out in Part B of Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended), including:

- the licensing of sex establishments
- the control, care and treatment of animals and birds and the licensing of all premises relating to the same including slaughterhouses, knackers yards, pet shops, zoos, riding establishments and premises for the boarding of animals
- the regulation of Hackney Carriages and Hackney Carriage Drivers and private Hire Cars and Private Hire Car drivers
- the ordering, control, registration, licensing and regulation (including the provision of all necessary facilities and ensuring the safety of persons using the same) of all premises (including clubs) to which members of the public are admitted including safety or sports grounds
- the licensing of street and house to house collections and the control of and licensing of street trading, including permits under the Essex Act 1987
- the issue of Pawnbrokers Certificates and Moneylenders Licences
- the licensing and regulation of persons, premises and the carrying on of any trade or business not within the Terms of Reference of any other Committee
- the licensing of caravan sites
- The Licensing Act 2003
- The Gambling Act 2005

(b) To hear appeals against decisions made by officers carrying out delegated licensing functions.

(c) To determine all aspects of licensing policy/procedure (excluding the determination of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy)

6.2.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public (in part)

6.2.5 Procedure at Meetings

Meetings of the Licensing Committee shall be conducted in accordance with appropriate legislation and procedures, which shall take precedence over Council Standing Orders. Applicants, objectors and their representatives are entitled to attend meetings to give evidence as required.

6.2.6 Reports to

Council

¹ Minimum number permitted under Licensing Act 2003.

6.3 Licensing Sub-Committees A and B

There are two Licensing Sub-Committees, A and B. Each Sub-Committee is authorised to deal with the matters set out below. The Sub-Committees will be convened in turn by rota, subject to the availability of Councillors.

6.3.1 Membership

3 Councillors

- (a) The Chair of the Licensing Committee shall be a member of Sub-Committee A and the Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee shall be a member of Sub-Committee B (unless in either case the Chair or the Vice-Chair respectively is unable to attend a particular meeting when the provisions of the following paragraph shall apply). The Chair of each Sub-Committee shall be the Chair or Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee (as appropriate).
- (b) The remaining Councillors shall be drawn from the membership of the Licensing Committee. Councillors will be selected to attend in turn by rota, subject to availability.
- Substitutes: Not applicable (in view of the manner of appointment and absence of proportionality).
- Proportionality: Does not apply (the Sub-committees are appointed under the Licensing Act 2003 or the Gambling Act 2005).

6.3.2 Quorum

3

6.3.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To consider and determine applications under the Licensing Act 2003 **where representations have been made**, in respect of the following cases.
- (i) Applications for personal Licences;
 - (ii) Applications for Premise Licences/ Club Premises Certificates;
 - (iii) Applications for Provisional Statements;
 - (iv) Applications to Vary Premises Licences/ Club Premises Certificates;
 - (v) Applications to Vary Designated Premises Supervisors;
 - (vi) Applications to transfer Premises Licences;
 - (vii) Applications for interim authorities;
 - (viii) Applications to review premises licences / club premises certificates;
 - (ix) Decision to objection when the Local Authority is a consultee, and not the “relevant authority” considering the application;
 - (x) Determination of representations to temporary event notices.

The following responsibilities are also delegated to the Sub-Committees:

- Applications for personal licences with unspent convictions;
 - Applications under the Gambling Act which are opposed.
- (b) To consider and determine applications under the Gambling Act 2005 (**where representations have been made and not withdrawn**) in respect of the following cases:
- (i) Application for Premises Licences;
 - (ii) Application for Variation to a Licence;

- (iii) Application for a Transfer of a Licence;
- (iv) Application for a Provisional Statement;
- (v) Review of a Premises Licence;
- (vi) Application for Club Gaming / Club Machine Permit;
- (vii) Cancellation of a Club Gaming / Club Machine Permit;
- (viii) Decision to give a Counter Notice to a Temporary Use Notice (Section 224);
- (ix) Matters referred to the Sub-Committee by officers, notwithstanding the delegations in **Part 3 Schedule 3**.

6.3.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public subject to the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.

6.3.5 Procedure at Meetings

- (a) The Chief Executive shall arrange for meetings of the Sub-Committees to be convened as and when required, drawing upon membership as set out above.
- (b) Meetings of the Sub-Committee will be conducted in accordance with appropriate legislation, procedures and the principles of natural justice which shall take precedence over Standing Orders and in particular Standing Order 39 shall not apply.

6.3.6 Reports to

The Licensing Committee

6.4 Licensing Sub-Committee C

6.4.1 Membership

9 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
 Proportionality: Applies

6.4.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.4.3 Terms of Reference

To consider and determine all applications (including sex establishment licences) except matters reserved to the Licensing Committee and / or Sub-Committees A & B pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.

6.4.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public (in part)

6.4.5 Procedure at Meetings

Meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee C shall be conducted in accordance with appropriate legislation and procedures, which shall take precedence over Council Standing Orders. Applicants, objectors and their representatives are entitled to attend meetings to give evidence as required.

6.4.6 Reports to

Council

6.5 The Appointments and Disciplinary Committee

6.5.1 Membership

7 Councillors provided that where the Committee is dealing with the appointment of, or disciplinary action¹ against, the Head of Paid Service, an Executive Director or a Director:

- (a) At least one member of the Committee must be a Cabinet Member as required by paragraph 4(2) of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in **Part 4(h)**;
- (b) The Cabinet Member whose portfolio covers the duties of the Head of Paid Service / Executive Director / Director shall be a member of the Committee – or in the event that such Cabinet Member is already a permanent member of the Committee, the Leader shall be a member thereof; and
- (c) Cabinet Members shall not have a majority on the Committee.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

6.5.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.5.3 Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference are subject to the provisions of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in **Part 4(h)**

- (a) Power to appoint staff and to determine the terms and conditions on which they hold office (including procedures for their dismissal).
- (b) To exercise all powers of the Local Education Authority in respect of the appointment proposal and removal of governors to schools in the City and to Southend Adult Community College, subject to the powers delegated to the Executive Director (Children & Public Health) in paragraph 4.6 of **Part 3 Schedule 3** of the Constitution.
- (c) To appoint Executive Directors and Directors and also to interview and recommend a person for the post of Head of the Paid Service².
- (d) Subject to (e) below, to investigate and take disciplinary action in respect of misconduct of the Head of Paid Service, Executive Directors and Directors. (Appeals will go to the Appeals Committee)³.
- (e) Full Council must decide whether or not to approve the dismissal of the Council's Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer or Monitoring Officer and the procedures set out in the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in Part 4(h) must be followed, including consideration of the recommendations of the Appointments and Disciplinary Committee.
- (f) 'Power to approve Ex Gratia Payments, including retirement and business efficiency, with respect to the Head of Paid Service, Executive Directors and Directors.

6.5.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public (in part).

6.5.5 Reports to

The Council

¹ In the case of such disciplinary action regard must be had to the Code of Conduct in **Part 5a** and a Councillor should not sit if the Officer's right to a fair hearing could then be called into question.

² Appointments below Director level must be dealt with by the Chief Executive or nominee as the Local Authorities (Standing Order) Regulations 2001 require.

³ Disciplinary action against officers below Director level must be dealt with by the Chief Executive or nominee, although the Council's disciplinary capability and related procedures (as adopted from time to time) may allow a right of appeal to Members in respect of dismissal.

6.6 The Two Appeals Committees (A and B)

There are 2 Appeals Committees A and B. Each Committee is authorised to deal with the appeals and applications set out below. Committees will be convened in turn by rota, subject to the availability of Councillors.

6.6.1 Membership of each Committee

7 Councillors

No Cabinet Member shall be a member of either Appeals Committee.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

6.6.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.6.3 Terms of Reference

To determine the following appeals against any decision by or on behalf of the Council, the Executive or any Committee:

(a) Employee Appeals

Appeals in respect of:

- Dismissals
- Disciplinary, grievance, capability or sickness decisions taken by the Chief Executive or a Deputy Chief Executive.

(Note: Job Evaluation appeals and disciplinary, grievance, capability or sickness decisions taken by officers other than the Chief Executive or a Deputy Chief Executive will not be dealt with by either Committee, save that appeals against dismissal will always be dealt with by Committee A or B.)

(b) Education Appeals

- To consider written appeals from parents / carers / students against the refusal of the Council to provide free pupil/student transport.
- To determine appeals from students against decisions by the Executive Director (Children & Public Health) to refuse applications for Discretionary Awards and Standards Fund Awards.

6.6.4 Status of Meetings

Private

6.6.5 Procedure at Meetings

- (a) The Chief Executive shall arrange for an Appeals Committee to be convened as and when required. They will select each Committee A and B in turn provided that sufficient Councillors are available.
- (b) Meetings of the Appeals Committees will be conducted in accordance with appropriate legislation, procedures and the principles of natural justice which shall take precedence over Standing Orders and in particular Standing Order 39 shall not apply.

6.6.6 Reports to

The Council (for information)

6.7 General Purposes Committee

6.7.1 Membership

9 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

6.7.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

6.7.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) All the functions in relation to Health and Safety set out in Part C of Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) (“the Functions Regulations”) namely relating to health and safety under any relevant statutory provision within the meaning of Part 1 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to the extent that those functions are discharged otherwise than in the Council’s capacity as employer.
- (b) All matters relating to Public Rights of Way set out in Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Functions Regulations and non-executive highway functions and functions relating to trees, hedgerows and pavements.
- (c) All functions relating to elections, the name and status of the area and individuals, including the responsibility for recommending to the Council the making or amending of bye laws, approving the Council’s accounts, discharging the Council’s functions under S.151 Local Government Act 1972, payments for maladministration, etc. as set out in Schedule 1 to the Functions Regulations.
- (d) The Enforcement of Byelaws.
- (e) To undertake all functions relating to the registration of common land and Town & Village Greens.
- (f) To judge applications and make recommendations to the Council for the award of Freedom of the City and conferring the title of Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman.
- (g) To consider and determine nominations in respect of other honours and awards introduced from time to time by the Council.
- (h) To deal with any other non-executive functions not assigned to any other Committees or not reserved to Council

6.7.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public

6.7.5 Reports to

The Council

6.8 Health & Wellbeing Board

6.8.1 Membership

6 Councillors to include the Cabinet Member with responsibility for health. (The Mayor and members of People Scrutiny Committee shall not be members of the Board).

The following co-opted members with voting rights:

Chief Executive
Executive Director (Children & Public Health)
Director of Public Health
NHS England – Essex Local Area Team – Local Area Team Director
Healthwatch Southend Representative (x1)
NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG):

- CCG Clinical Chair
- CCG PEC Chair
- Clinical Accountable Officer

The following co-opted members without voting rights:

- Chief Executive, Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT)
- Chief Executive, Southend University Hospital Foundation Trust (SUHFT)
- Chief Executive, Southend Association of Voluntary Services (SAVS)
- Director of Culture, Tourism and Property
- Chief Executive/Chief Officer – Pre-school Learning Alliance
- STP Programme Director
- Independent Chair (Safeguarding Boards – LSCB and SAB)

The Chair of the Council's People Scrutiny Committee with observer status, including the ability to ask questions and make comments.

Should the Council wish to vary the composition of the Health & Wellbeing Board, it shall only do so after having consulted with the Board.

The meetings to be chaired by either the Leader of the Council or the Cabinet Member with responsibility for health.

Substitutes: Councillor substitutes to be appointed in accordance with Standing Order 31

Co-opted Member substitutes to be appointed must be at a sufficiently senior level for the organisation they represent.

Proportionality: Applies to the elected Councillors on the Board by convention.

6.8.2 Quorum

The quorum shall be 4 including as a minimum the following representatives:

- 2 Southend-on-Sea Borough Councillors
- 1 Representative from the CCG

6.8.3 Terms of Reference

- To provide strategic leadership, strengthen the influence of local authorities and elected representatives in shaping healthcare commissioning.
- To oversee the development and refresh of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) so that future commissioning / policy decisions and priorities are evidence based.

- To determine the health improvement priorities in Southend.
- To promote integration, collaboration and partnership working.
- To oversee development of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS), which sets out improvement for health and wellbeing outcomes, including reduction in health inequalities that provides a framework for commissioning plans related to health and wellbeing.
- To promote and encourage integration and partnership working including joint commissioning, pooled budgets and joint delivery across the NHS, social care, public health and other service providers.
- To initiate and support stakeholder and community engagement and consultation work in relation to health and wellbeing issues.
- To appoint task and finish groups / sub-committees for specific pieces of work that support or inform health and wellbeing across Southend.
- To sign-off key commissioning plans, strategy and policy related to health and wellbeing and health inequalities.
- To oversee the development of the pharmaceutical needs assessment.
- To performance manage the achievement of and progress against key outcomes identified within the JHWS.
- To provide leadership on any other emerging health and wellbeing related issues that may have a significant impact on the delivery of the JHWS.
- To oversee the strategic governance for Fulfilling Lives. A Better Start Programme.

6.8.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public

6.8.5 Reports to

The Council

7. Standards Committee

7.1 Membership

9 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
Proportionality: Applies

2 Leigh-on-Sea Town Councillors (substitutes are permitted) as non-voting members
2 Independent Persons (observers)

7.2 Quorum

As set out in Standing Order 38.1 (**Part 4(a)**)

7.3 Terms of Reference

These are set out in Article 9.03 in **Part 2** of the Constitution and the procedures for dealing with Complaints against Members alleging a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct are set out in **Part 4(i)** of the Constitution.

7.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public (in part)

7.5 Reports to

The Council

HEARING SUB-COMMITTEE

(a) Membership

3 members of the Standards Committee

The Sub-Committee and its Chair will be appointed by the Monitoring Officer after consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee, from members of the Standards Committee subject to members availability

1 Leigh-on-Sea Town Councillor as a non-voting Co-opted Member when the Sub-Committee is dealing with allegations against a Town Councillor

Independent Person (observer)

(b) Quorum

3

(c) Terms of Reference

To conduct Hearings and make determinations in respect of complaints against Councillors and Co-opted Members

Note: The Sub-Committee shall carry out these duties in accordance with the Complaints against Members Rules in **Part 4(i)** of the Constitution.

(d) Status of Meetings

The normal principles of access to Council meetings apply

(e) Reports to

Standards Committee

8. Audit Committee

8.1 Membership

9 Councillors (to include not more than one Cabinet Member, who should not be the Leader) and one non-voting Co-opted Member.

At least 1 member should have financial expertise.

The Chair shall not be a Cabinet Member.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31

Proportionality: Applies

8.2 Quorum

As per Standing Order 38.1

8.3 Terms of Reference

8.3.1 The Audit Committee is a key component of the Council's corporate governance arrangements. It provides an independent and high-level focus on audit, assurance and reporting arrangements that underpin good governance and financial standards.

8.3.2 The purpose of the Audit Committee is to:

- provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the internal control environment;
- provide independent review of its governance, risk management and control frameworks;
- oversee the financial reporting and annual governance processes; and
- oversee internal audit and external audit, helping to ensure effective relationships exist and efficient and effective assurance arrangements are in place.

8.3.3 In order to be able to discharge its statutory responsibilities, its remit will cover:

- The Council's assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, so it can satisfy itself that they:
 - properly reflect the risk and internal control environment and any actions required to improve it; and
 - demonstrate how governance supports the achievements of the Council's objectives.
- The Council's internal audit function, with regards to its:
 - independence, objectivity, performance, professionalism and effectiveness;
 - use within the Council's overall assurance framework.
- The Council's risk management arrangements and control environment so it can:
 - consider its effectiveness;
 - review the organisation's risk profile and assurances provided that action is being taken on risk related issues, including those involving partnerships with other organisations.
- The Council's control environment, so it can evaluate its effectiveness, particularly with regard to ensuring:
 - the effective exercise of the Council's functions;
 - value for money is delivered;
 - the exposure to the risks of fraud and corruption are managed.
- reports and recommendations made by external audit and inspection agencies and their implications for governance, risk management or control;
- the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to Councillors and responses by management to issues raised by external audit;

- treasury management, so it can effectively scrutinise and monitor delivery of the strategy and policies in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice; and
- the functions and effectiveness of the Audit Committee, including the production of its annual report.

8.3.4 The Committee will meet four times per year, with dates included in the Council Calendar. Further meetings can be arranged on an ad hoc basis as the Audit Committee deems appropriate.

8.3.5 The Executive Director (Finance & Resources) (S151 Officer), the Head of Internal Audit and the Council's External Auditors will be invited to attend every Audit Committee meeting. As well as reviewing documentation, the Audit Committee exercise the right to invite any other officers, Chairs of other Committees or Cabinet Members to attend before it, as and when required. This would be to provide assurance in relation to the adequacy of the governance arrangements, risk management and control frameworks pertaining to their area of activity / responsibility.

It is the duty of those persons to attend if so required.

Where any Councillor or officer is required to attend the Audit Committee under this provision, maximum notice will be given.

Where in exceptional circumstances, the Councillor or officer is unable to attend on the required date; an alternative date will be agreed with the Chair.

8.4 Status of Meetings

Open to the public

8.5 Reports To

Council

9. Other Forums, Panels and Bodies reporting to the Council or Elsewhere (but not to the Cabinet)

9.1 Adoption Panel

9.1.1 Membership

1 Councillor. The Councillor must have an interest in the work, be trained, CRB vetted and have the time to devote to the subject. Substitutes are not permitted.

Up to 8 other representatives in accordance with the Adoption Agencies Regulations 1983.

9.1.2 Quorum

6

9.1.3 Terms of Reference

To make recommendations to the Adoption Agency on individual cases referred to it pursuant to Regulation 10 of the Adoption Agencies Regulations 1983.

9.1.4 Status of Meetings

Private.

9.1.5 Reports to

The Adoption Agency.

9.2 Fostering Panel

9.2.1 Membership

2 Councillors. The Councillors must have an interest in the work, be trained, CRB vetted and have the time to devote to the subject. Substitutes are not permitted

Up to 10 other representatives comprising a chairperson who is either a senior member of staff or an independent experienced person, 2 social workers and at least 4 other persons who are independent.

9.2.2 Quorum

5

9.2.3 Terms of Reference

To recommend to the duly authorised officer of the Council:

- Approval of foster carers
- Review of foster carers
- Matching foster carers with “children in care”
- Termination of fostering approval

9.2.4 Status of Meetings

Private

9.2.5 Reports to

The Director of Children’s Services or Executive Director (Children & Public Health)

9.3 Dignity in Care Establishments Visiting Panel

9.3.1 Membership

8 Councillors (by convention political proportionality shall apply but substitutes are not permitted).

All members of the Panel shall be CRB checked to enable them to carry out visits to the premises referred to below.

9.3.2 Quorum

N/A

9.3.3 Terms of Reference

- To make announced and unannounced visits to Residential Care Homes operated by the Council;
- To make announced visits to Residential Care Homes which the Council contract with to provide placements.

9.3.4 Status of Meeting

Private

9.3.5 Reports to

The Deputy Chief Executive (People) and (in the case of major issues) to the Council

9.4 Independent Remuneration Panel

9.4.1 Introduction

- (a) Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ("the 2003 Regulations") require councils to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel.
- (b) The purpose of this panel is to make recommendations to the authority about the allowances to be paid to elected Councillors.
- (c) The 2003 Regulations provide for independent remuneration panels to have the following functions:
 - To make recommendations to the authority as to the amount of basic allowance which should be payable to its elected Councillors.
 - To make recommendations to the authority about the roles and responsibilities for which a special responsibility allowance should be payable and as to the amount of each such allowance.
 - To make recommendations as to whether the authority's allowances scheme should include an allowance in respect of the expenses of arranging for the care of children and dependants and if it does make such a recommendation, the amount of this allowance and the means by which it is determined.
 - To make recommendations as to the responsibilities or duties in respect of which a travelling and subsistence allowance should be available and the amount of such an allowance.

9.4.2 Membership

3 independent members. Elected Councillors cannot be members of the panel.

9.4.3 Quorum

3

9.4.4 Terms of Reference

- (a) To make recommendations to the Council on matters relating to Councillors' Allowances
- (b) To make recommendations to Leigh-on-Sea Town Council on its Councillors' Allowances Scheme, if that Council so requires.

9.4.5 Reports of the Panel

The Council must have regard to the recommendations made to it by the Independent Remuneration Panel when making or amending its Councillors' Allowances Scheme.

9.5 Secure Accommodation Review

9.5.1 Membership

Any one of the Councillors sitting on the Establishments Visiting Panel who have been police vetted to enable them to carry out visits to children's homes and children's day centres.

Substitutes: Not permitted
Proportionality: Does not apply

The Executive Director (Children & Public Health) (or nominee) and an independent person as defined in the Children (Secure Accommodation) Regulations 1991.

9.5.2 Quorum

3

9.5.3 Terms of Reference

To undertake secure accommodation reviews in accordance with the Children (Secure Accommodation) Regulations 1991.

9.5.4 Status of Meeting

Private

9.5.5 Reports to

Executive Director (Children & Public Health)

9.6 Disciplinary Advisory Panel

9.6.1 Membership

The 2 Independent Persons who have been appointed under S.28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.

If one or both of these Independent Persons was not able to take part in a Disciplinary Advisory Panel then another Independent Person would need to be appointed or an Independent Person(s) from another authority would be invited to form the Panel as specified in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2015.

Substitutes: n/a
Proportionality: n/a

9.6.2 Quorum

2

9.6.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) To give advice, views or recommendations to full Council when it is considering whether or not to approve the dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Financial Officer or Monitoring Officer.

- (b) In giving advice to full Council, the Panel shall have regard to the views of the Appointments and Disciplinary Committee which will already have been involved in the process and the relevant papers.
- (c) The Panel must be appointed at least 20 days before a meeting of full Council to consider whether or not to dismiss the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer or Monitoring Officer

9.6.4 Status of Meetings

Private

9.6.5 Reports to

Council

9.7 Southend LSCB / SAB Scrutiny Panel

9.7.1 Membership

9 Councillors, from the People Scrutiny Committee
 The Cabinet Member for Children & Learning and the Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Social Care to attend the meetings as 'participant observers'.
 Plus non-executive members of partners' Boards.

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31
 Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

9.7.2 Quorum

3

9.7.3 Terms of Reference

- (a) to scrutinise the work of the LSCB and SAB to ensure it is effective in monitoring and coordinating the safeguarding of children and adults in Southend and it is representative of the needs and views of the Southend community.
- (b) feed back any safeguarding issues identified to the LSCB / SAB and relevant partner agencies.
- (c) Champion the safeguarding of children / adults within partner agency boards.
- (d) Represent the views and interests of the Southend community.
- (e) Receive from the Executive reports on progress to implement actions arising from issues identified by the Panel and agreed by the LSCB / SAB.
- (f) In executing its role Scrutiny Panel will scrutinise the Board agendas, reviewing items suggested by the chair of the Executive, and any other items it requests.
- (g) The Panel may invite officers of partner agencies to attend meetings where it wishes to improve its knowledge of safeguarding processes and procedures.
- (h) For the avoidance of doubt:
 - The focus of the Panel is not to scrutinise the minutia of every item on the Board agendas, but rather to identify matters of concern/interest to panel members and address these matters in depth
 - It is not the role of the Panel to scrutinise the work of partner agencies outside of the Board agendas. Where Panel members identify safeguarding children issues in the community not already covered by the Board agendas these should be raised by the relevant Lead Member with the Boards, who will agree any relevant action

- The Panel may invite officers of partner agencies to attend meetings where it wishes to improve its knowledge of safeguarding children processes and procedures.
- The Panel may not invite officers of partner agencies to attend meetings in order to scrutinise the safeguarding efficacy of those agencies, which is the role of the LSCB / SAB.

9.7.4 Status of Meetings

Private

9.7.5 Reports to

The Panel expresses its views to the relevant Boards, which are not Council bodies.

9.8 PVX Appeals Panel

9.8.1 Membership

The Head of Traffic & Highways (or in their absence the Executive Director (Neighbourhoods and Environment)), a Council engineer independent of the original decision relating to the PVX in question, the relevant Ward Councillors

Substitutes:	Not permitted
Proportionality:	Does not apply

9.8.2 Quorum

Both Council officers referred to above and at least one Ward Councillor

9.8.3 Terms of Reference

To consider written additional evidence from applicants for a Domestic Vehicle Crossing and decide if the Council has correctly applied its policies or if there are sufficient mitigating circumstances to allow a divergence from the Council policy and allow a crossover.

9.8.4 Status of Meeting

Private

9.8.5 Reports to:

Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & the Environment)