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COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ENQUIRIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN 2025/26

Item	Date of Enquiry	Relevant Corporate Plan Theme/Annual Cabinet Priority	Information to be provided in advance	Those to be invited to attend	Articulated value of undertaking the review
TO BE UNDERTAKEN					
To explore joint working with Braintree and Colchester Scrutiny Panels/Committees	Initially, to be the subject of an off-agenda Briefing Note following meetings of the relevant Committee Chairmen from the three Councils. The Chairmen of both Scrutiny Committees are invited to attend a meeting with their counterparts at Colchester City Council and Braintree District Council, along with Scrutiny Officers from all three authorities, on Thursday 23 April 2026. Notes	- Pride in our area and services to residents - Working with Partners to improve quality of life	*Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2025/26 for the three Councils. (*Text added following Committee meeting on 29 July 2025).	* Initially, the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the three Councils, accompanied by appropriate Officers nominated by those Councils. (*Text added following Committee meeting on 29 July 2025).	To develop a joined-up system of scrutiny in preparation for LGR.

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	from this meeting will be presented at the Committee meeting scheduled for 23 June 2026.				
Water Quality Enquiry	Site Visit to Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners (BHC)	Championing our local Environment	BHC are working in collaboration with the University of Essex to examine the application of specialist paint on vessel hulls to prevent barnacle growth without harming water quality and eco-system.	Portfolio Holder for Environment & ICT Corporate Director (Operations & Delivery) Assistant Director (Housing & Environment)	To be decided by the Committee in due course.
TO BE UNDERTAKEN AT THIS MEETING					
In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee, to consider the progress made with the Community Governance Review of the unparished areas of the District and to submit the necessary Recommendations to Full Council	Meetings of the Committee to be held on 17 November 2025 and 30 March 2026.	Pride in our area and services to residents	*The outcome of the relevant phase of Consultation with local government electors and other stakeholders and the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 for the next elements of the review.	Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) Elections & Member Support Manager	*To fulfil the requirements of the terms of reference of the Committee and to demonstrate openness in respect of the consultation findings and next steps.

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			(*Text added following the Committee meeting on 29 July 2025.)		(*Text added following the Committee meeting on 29 July 2025.)
To review progress made with the adopted Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy 2025-28 and the adoption of the Committee's Recommendations	Meeting of the Committee to be held on 30 March 2026 .	Working with Partners to improve quality of life	Levels of recorded violence against Women + Girls (and violence of children against parents etc) for Tendring over a 5-year period. Measures being taken by public authorities to address/reduce/eliminate violence and tackle behaviours by perpetrators. What services are available locally by voluntary sector arrangements for victims of violence. Information on Colchester's and Braintree's respective Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies and Action Plans.	Portfolio Holder, Partnerships Corporate Director Operations and Delivery Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager.	To shine a light on unacceptable behaviours within families and the benefit this created for so many families. It will also look at prevention and support measures to consider strengthening these where possible. Look to align Tendring's Strategy with those of Braintree and Colchester Councils.
To have a review of the Work Programme following the expected Ministerial announcement on the next steps towards Local Government Re-organisation. This will be programmed for the Committee meeting to be held on 30 March 2026 .					

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Carnarvon Terrace Progress / Implementation	At a meeting of the Committee on 10 February 2026 .	• Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life • Raising aspirations and creating opportunities • Financial Sustainability and Openness	Officer report based on previous reports to Cabinet and the latest position. Tenders submitted.	Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Regeneration and Tourism Corporate Director (Place and Wellbeing) Interim Assistant Director (Project Delivery Unit)	To identify any possible areas for improvement and to make recommendations thereon. If Tenders are higher than expected, then examine where the additional funds would be secured from and the effect that this might have on other projects / departments.
To examine joint working with Parish & Town Councils in the District and opportunities and for the mutually beneficial collaboration to enhance that joint working. [Ongoing from 2024/25]	Through a Task and Finish Group 15 January 2026 – The Committee received a submission from the Task and Finish Group which set out a future proposal	• Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life	Details of existing area of joint working between the District Council and Town and Parish Councils in the District. Examples of joint working elsewhere in the nation that may be beneficial to consider. As part of the Public Consultation for	Chief Executive Corporate Director (Planning and Community) The Chair/Secretary of TDALC Representatives from the National	To develop options for the Cabinet/Council to develop collaborative working opportunities that are mutually beneficial.

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	to take the enquiry forward.		preparing the 2025/26 Overview and Scrutiny Committees Work Programmes, Officers received a submission from Frating Parish Council, which calls for <i>enhanced scrutiny of the planning process and its determinations on the grounds of perceived inconsistencies in decision-making. The Parish Council asserts that the Tendring District Council Planning Department frequently bases its decisions on outdated or inaccurate information.</i>	Association of Local Councils Appropriate Officers/Portfolio Holders for areas of further joint work.	
To examine the extent of Youth Provision of School age Children outside of that school/education and the opportunity for that provision to be adjusted/supported with improvements for mental health and reduced prosperity anti-social behaviour.	Through a Task and Finish Group [this working group has met once so far and its work is ongoing] 15 January 2026 – The Committee received the Final report from the Task and Finish Group in	• Championing our local environment • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life	The extent of Youth Provision outside of state education for school age children. The extent of demand for such out of School Activities. The opportunity for groups/individuals. Information from schools including the age groups	Portfolio Holder, Partnerships Essex County Council's Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Early years Executive Projects Manager	To explore further the benefit for young people of out of school organised activities and events and provision around this age group. To consider making a recommendation to the Portfolio

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	respect of the Youth Provision outside of school enquiry. This now means that the enquiry into the Youth Mental Health issues identified in the University of Essex research findings can proceed.	Raising aspirations and creating opportunities	of the children concerned. Informal meeting with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Public Realm.	Essex County Council's Executive Director, Children, Families and Education Representatives of Voluntary Youth Provision in the District.	Holder for Partnerships that they should actively encourage all Councillors to visit a school in their local area to make enquiries into mental health in youth.
To have a review of the Work Programme following 26 September 2025 submission date for proposals for Local Government Reorganisation. This will be programmed for the Committee meeting to be held on 17 November 2025 .					
Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) – To receive updates on the actions set out in the previous recommendations made to Cabinet. (Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee 15 April 2025 (minute 16 – Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task & Finish Group final	Initial review by the Committee at its meeting on 9 September 2025 with a view to deciding whether this work should continue to be done through the existing Task and Finish Group	Working with Partners to improve quality of life	Actions taken by the Cabinet in response to the Recommendations made to it.	Portfolio Holder, Partnerships Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager.	To enable the Committee to be kept informed of matters relating to this important issue. To enable the Committee to make further Recommendations to the Cabinet etc. as deemed to be appropriate.

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report to the Committee))					
Coastal Communities Unit To consider the work of the Coastal Communities Unit (CCU) To look at the mental health research which suggests the position is most pronounced among younger people living in coastal communities. [Ongoing from 2024/25]	9 September 2025 – Doctor Emily Murray to be invited to attend	• Championing our local environment • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life • Raising aspirations and creating opportunities	The published articles and summaries of the research findings produced by the University and its collaboration partners.	Dr Emily Murray, Director of the CCU at the University of Essex	To be able to make recommendations around actions and activities that may have a beneficial impact on health inequalities locally.
To Consider Grant Funding by the Council and Others and its appropriateness given the needs of the District, including where the Grants Policy is at and the progress made with the adoption of the Committee's Recommendations	At a meeting of the Budget Scrutiny meeting of the Committee on 15 January 2026.	• Financial sustainability and openness	Cabinet's initial budget proposals for 2026/27.	Portfolio Holder, Partnerships Corporate Director (Finance & IT) Corporate Director (Place & Wellbeing)	To consider the Councils approach to grants, the relationship between other grant funding organisations. The extent to which gaps in funding have been identified and addressed.