

Stevenage Borough Council Cabinet Positions 2026/27

The Leader allocates broad areas of responsibility, including oversight over specific functions, to individual Portfolio Holders who serve on the Executive.

Portfolios and Key Responsibilities	Portfolio Holder Name / Key Linked Lead Strategic Director Sponsors and Directors / Heads of Service
<p>Leader of the Council, Transforming Stevenage & Local Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre Regeneration • Communications & Marketing • Corporate Strategy and Policy • Democratic Services • Strategic Partnerships at local, county, regional and national levels • Devolution 	<p>Leader - Richard Henry</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Strategic Directors</p> <p>Strategic Director – Julie Baird</p> <p>Director - Regeneration</p> <p>Head of Communications & Marketing</p> <p>Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>Borough Solicitor</p>
<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Strategy and Policy • Housing and Investment in Homes, including Property Repairs, Maintenance and Voids, and Housing Investment Programmes • Building Safety, Compliance and Regulation • Housing Management (including Income Collection, Residents and Estates, Tenancy, and Specialist Services) • Housing Options and Supply, Housing First and Homelessness, Lettings and Temporary Accommodation • Housing Development • Member Responsible for Complaints 	<p>Loraine Rossati</p> <p>Strategic Director / Deputy Chief Executive – Richard Protheroe</p> <p>Director - Building Safety & Property Services</p> <p>Director - Housing & Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Director - Housing Development</p>
<p>Culture, Leisure and Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture and Arts • Sport and Leisure • Health & Wellbeing 	<p>Myla Arceno</p> <p>Strategic Director – Julie Baird</p> <p>Director – Environment & Leisure</p> <p>Director - Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events • Older People 	
<p>Resources & Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Setting and Budget Monitoring (General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Capital and Revenue) • Finance Services including Accountancy, Insurance, and Procurement • Commercial and Insourcing • Digital & Transformation, including Customer Services and Complaints, Digital, Business Improvement, and Transformation Programme • Information Technology, including Security and Cyber, Information Governance and Management, Infrastructure and Systems • Estates including Commercial Assets, Asset Strategy, Community and Locality Buildings, Facilities Management and Compliance • Human Resources and Organisational Development / Modern Member Programme, including Health and Safety, Employee Resourcing, Business Partnering, Policy and Payroll • Legal • Corporate Performance Management 	<p>Tom Plater</p> <p>Strategic Director / Chief Finance & Section 151 Officer – Clare Fletcher</p> <p>Director - Finance</p> <p>Director - Strategic IT Partnership</p> <p>Director - Digital & Transformation</p> <p>Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development</p> <p>Head of Corporate Policy and Performance</p> <p>Borough Solicitor</p>
<p>Environment, Transport and Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change • Planning Policy • Development Control 	<p>Rob Broom</p> <p>Strategic Director – Julie Baird</p> <p>Director - Planning & Regulatory Services</p> <p>Director – Environment and Leisure</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Health and Licensing, including Residential and Commercial Services • Environmental Services including Waste, Recycling and Fleet Management, Environmental Policy and Performance, Parks, Street scene and Amenities and Garage Management and Maintenance • Engineering and Parking Services • Transport and Sustainable Travel • Highways 	
<p>Economy, Skills and Young People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development including Business Technology Centre (BTC) • Skills Development • Business relationships including Town Centre Management and Old Town Partnership • Young People • Tenancy Involvement 	<p>Coleen De Freitas</p> <p>Strategic Director – Julie Baird</p> <p>Director - Planning & Regulatory Services</p> <p>Director - Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>
<p>Stronger Communities and Equalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety and Enforcement • Community Cohesion • CCTV • Equalities and Diversity 	<p>Nazmin Chowdhury</p> <p>Strategic Director / Deputy Chief Executive – Richard Protheroe</p> <p>Director - Housing & Neighbourhoods</p>

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Cabinet - Portfolio Holders

As delegated by the Leader, the role of Cabinet Members with Portfolios is to take the lead in the development and implementation of policy for their specific Portfolio area of responsibility. Additionally, Cabinet Members:

- Advise the Council or Cabinet on matters concerning the implementation, monitoring and performance of services, groups of services, initiatives and projects, particularly in relation to her/his portfolio area.
- As a member of the Cabinet, contribute to the collective decision making and corporate governance of the Council
- To monitor the performance of Portfolio functions and activities to ensure objectives and targets are achieved to deliver the Council's corporate business strategy and political objectives
- To advise and consult with senior managers on matters of significance for Council policy and its implementation particularly in relation to their Portfolio area.
- To ensure that value for money is achieved for all citizens of the Borough
- To represent the Council's views to other agencies, community interests and the local, regional and national media as appropriate.
- To regularly liaise with the Leader of the Council, other Cabinet Members and senior managers on strategic matters to ensure proper coordination, consistency and delivery of services within Council policy, particularly in relation to their Portfolio area
- To lead the development of effective partnership working with other agencies and take responsibility for ensuring that the Council's objectives within specific partnerships are met
- To communicate, consult and maintain a dialogue with the communities within the Borough to ensure that the needs and desires are understood so as to maximise the quality of life for all citizens
- To chair as appropriate meetings of Members and officers and with Council partners
- To assist in the setting of agendas and the presentation and reporting of issues to the Council, its committees and Members' seminars
- To ensure that all of the Council's policies and practices acknowledge and reflect the diversity of the community and ensure that delivery of Council services recognise that diversity
- In relation to Portfolio areas, serve as the initial point of consultation for the Borough Senior Leadership team on any issues relating thereto.
- Ensure that the council's strategic business plan objectives are met
- Where necessary, consult with the leaders of other political groups to expedite the efficient and effective delivery of Council business
- Take decisions in the case of urgency, as set out in the Council's Constitution
- Take a leading role in the development and implementation of policy for their specific Portfolio area of responsibility ensuring that other members are engaged and involved in that development.
- Take non-key decisions where required in relation to their specific Portfolio areas of responsibility
- Where requested, attend meetings of Scrutiny bodies to make presentations and/or answer questions

- Work with the Leader on setting and monitoring performance objectives for the portfolio
- Develop and maintain a knowledge of the values and principles of Co-operative working, undertaking training where necessary.

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Any decisions taken by the Leader must comply with the principles of decision making and procedural rules as set out in the Constitution.