

### Scrutiny Review Scoping Template

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	Use of Residential Premises as Children's Homes
<b>Parent Scrutiny Committee</b>	Internal Affairs
<b>Lead Member Review Group</b> (Cllrs Involved)	TBC
<b>Officer Support</b> (Scrutiny Review Officer lead)	TBC
<b>Rationale</b> (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	As planning permission is not always required to change the use of a residential dwelling to a children's care home, concern has been expressed that residential children's homes are being established in an uncontrolled and uncoordinated manner across the borough. The Planning Committee requested that the relevant Scrutiny Committee undertake a review of the controls available to various public bodies involved in the regulation of such premises to ensure adequate controls are in place.
<b>Objectives of the Review</b> (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish how children's care homes are regulated by the various public bodies.</li> <li>• To allow elected members and the wider community to be confident that adequate regulation is in place.</li> <li>• To ensure interested parties are aware of the regulatory processes available.</li> <li>• To understand how the facilities are operated by lead providers in the Borough</li> <li>• To make recommendations to other bodies, agencies, and the government if the review highlights any areas relating to the establishment and operation of children's homes not adequately controlled/regulated by existing regulations or legislation.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators of Success</b> (What factors make up a helpful review)	Children's homes are integrated into the local community without detrimental impact on established communities.

<b>Methodology/Approach</b> (What enquiries will be used to gather evidence and why)	Invitation to key stakeholders to make representation to members of the scrutiny committee for consideration to allow the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee to make recommendations to the Executive Committee and / or partner agencies for consideration.
<b>Specify Witnesses/Experts</b> (Who to see and when) - subject to review as evidence becomes available.	<p>It is suggested that representatives of the following organisations be invited to provide evidence to the scrutiny committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ofsted</li> <li>• LCC Social Services</li> <li>• FBC Planning</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Neighbouring planning authorities</li> <li>• Representative operators of local children's home</li> <li>• Interested members of the local community</li> </ul>
<b>Specify Evidence Sources for documents</b> (Specify which to look at)	<a href="#">Report to Planning Committee: 5 April 2023</a> <a href="#">Government Advice for registering children's homes</a>
<b>Specify Site Visits</b> (Where and when)	Not required
<b>Specify Evidence Sources for views of Stakeholders</b> (consultation/workshops/focus groups/public meetings)	To be established by the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee
<b>Publicity Requirements</b>	TBC
<b>Resource Requirements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person-days</li> <li>• Expenditure</li> </ul>	10 days Within existing budgets

<b>Barriers/dangers/risks</b> (Identify any potential pitfalls)		Elements of control may be outside the authority/control/influence of the council. Raising of false expectations amongst the local community.	
<b>Start Date</b>	June 2023	<b>Draft Report d/line</b>	October 2023
<b>Mtg Frequency</b>	Suggested monthly	<b>Projected completion date</b>	November 2023
<b>Impact/ response: evaluation date</b>		June 2024	