

SCRUTINY REVIEW PROPOSAL

1. What is the review ?

Review of the work and effectiveness of the Southwark Safer Schools Partnership and the potential for the expansion of its role, particularly in regard to tackling gun- and knife-related crime and the fear of such crime amongst young people.

2. What outcomes could realistically be achieved ? What agency does the review seek to influence ?

The review should seek to identify areas where partnership working between stakeholders in the Safer Schools Partnership (schools, Council and MPS) could be built upon to improve the targeting of the resources available to the Partnership.

It should further seek to clarify to what extent the partnership's work in schools has been effective in combating the fear of gang, knife and gun-related crime and to make recommendations as to how such work could be stepped up and made more effective in the light of recent events.

3. When should the review be carried out/completed?

Given the pressing nature of tackling youth crime and the fear of crime and the levels of public concern, reviewing the effectiveness of a key partnership in this area should be considered as a matter of urgency.

4. What format would suit this review ?

A short investigation including taking evidence from young people, teachers, members of the Safer Neighbourhood Team and the agencies involved.

5. What are some of the key issues that you would like the review to look at.

- To gain an understanding of the nature of the work that the SSP undertakes.
- To what extent have incidents within schools and on the way to and from school reduced since the introduction of the SSP and how has the SSP contributed to this?
- What has been the experience of young people in the borough of the SSP?
- How effectively has the Team worked in partnership with other stakeholders, particularly with headteachers and other school staff?
- To what extent has the mainstreaming of the SSP occurred and has this proved effective?
- What work has been undertaken by the SSP to tackle gun, knife and gang related crime and the fear of such crime; what further

work could be undertaken and is there a need for further resources or work outside the partnership?

6. Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review?

Members of the Safer Schools Teams; headteachers or other senior teachers from schools where the SSP has been active; young people from Southwark schools; representatives of other stakeholders, including relevant managers from Southwark Council.

7. Any suggestions for background information?

Data or reports on SST activities since its inception.

8. What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings?

A site visit to a school where the SST is active could provide useful first-hand experience of the Team's activities and would facilitate the collecting of evidence from young people and teachers. Written submissions should be sought from as wide a range of schools within the borough as possible in order to achieve as wide a picture as possible of the impact of the partnership.