Scrutiny Project Brief

Topic:	Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy
Body:	Health & Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Timescale:	initial consideration of approach – 30 th July Scoping and First Evidence Session – 24 th September Site visits between 24/9 – 22/10 Second Evidentiary Session – 22 nd October Agreement of Final Report – 12 th November

Why is the committee doing this?

- Topic links with a current NHS research project [include name];
- performance issue (i.e. Southwark's very high conception rates for under 18s compared to the national average)
- this area is already included in the Sub-Committee's work programme;

The nature of this issue provides opportunities for:

- Community engagement: site visits to a school and Brook Advisory Centre
- Joint working within scrutiny: requested by OSC 7/7/03. It is proposed that this Sub-Committee lead the review, involving Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee in the scoping, inviting to all meetings considering issue;
- cross-boundary working (local authority and heath).

Who/what does the committee seek to influence with this work?

Through review of this area scrutiny may;

- provide policy input into future revisions of the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Strategy (and activities within the local authority and the PCT more generally);
- the Sub-Committee may highlight performance issues to the Executive; and
- possibly influence national policy by highlighting areas of good practice.

What will the committee's output be?

Subject to fuller discussion amongst Members at the first meeting, it is anticipated that a full report will result, together with feedback to any organisations/projects involved/visited, alongside the potential for dissemination of outputs on the national stage.

Who does the committee need to receive advice/evidence from?

Representatives from

voluntary organisations that provide relevant services;

- public sector organisations/providers;
- service users (e.g. secondary school pupils);
- external expert advisors;
- Council officers;
- Members of Education, Youth & Leisure scrutiny sub-committee.

There exists a recently, locally produced video addressing sexual health issues, by the Choose Your Life project, which is it suggested is shown to Members early in the review process.

What approach should the committee use to invite input?

- site visits;
- inviting witnesses to give evidence at meetings;

How should the review be publicised?

- Southwark Council website
- Southwark Life magazine [check publication dates, however]
- Youth publications [get details for Members]
- Through existing service providers [projects, youth clubs, schools, G.P. surgeries, outreach projects etc]