Southwark Council

Scrutiny review proposal

1 What is the review?

Population and Migration – looking at how Southwark's population is counted; why our calculations differ so much from the government's figures; to examine the effect on our finances and policies of differing population estimates

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

To influence the government to re-examine its calculations of population

- 3 When should the review be carried out/completed? i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time? December 2008/January 2009
- 4 What format would suit this review? (eg full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)

To examine the last Census and try to obtain information from government departments on how their population figures are reached; to examine Southwark's own methods of population calculations (eg electoral registers council tax lists, etc) by interview with council officers and civil servants if possible.

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

The service implications of different estimates and the effects of population movement. Whether it is possible to have more frequent and accurate updates of data, to take account of issues such as our major regeneration schemes

- 6 Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review? See 4 above
- 7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic? The last national Census; the Council's various data; national and regional research and data
- 8 What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings? e.g. verbal or written submissions, site visits, mystery-shopping, service observation, meeting with stakeholders, survey, consultation event Verbal and written submissions