

### **Increase in dangerous dog attacks – are children being adequately protected?**

There has been a 66% increase in dog bites over the last ten years, with more than 100 victims being admitted to hospital each week in England, according to the Mail-Online News. The 2008/09 figures show that of a total 5,221 people who were treated – 1,250 were children ‘including many babies and toddlers’.

The article goes on to say that the true figures will be much higher as the data does not include victims seen in A&E. The problem is said to be more acute in urban areas, such as London. I believe this would make a good and timely topic for review by the Ed & CS Scrutiny Sub Committee to assess how Southwark is coping with this growing threat to our children’s welfare and safety.

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