

Item No. 8.	Classification: Open	Date: 21 July 2015	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Southwark's Adoption Service	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the cabinet considers the recommendations by education & children's services scrutiny sub-committee and that the relevant cabinet member brings back a report to cabinet, in order to respond to the overview and scrutiny committee, within eight weeks.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Attached is the final report arising from the scrutiny review of Southwark's Adoption Services.
3. The review set out to look at how Southwark's adoption service is doing, from the perspective of a child in our care, of an adopter, and of a taxpayer.
4. The report particularly consider changes in national adoption policy, which present significant opportunities for Southwark's adoption service to improve outcomes for children in our care, to help more people adopt successfully, and to streamline service delivery. Specifically, recent moves to a) speed up the adoption process, and b) remove race-related restrictions on prospective adopters can, if implemented thoughtfully, improve outcomes for our children and help us create a more efficient service.
5. The overview and scrutiny committee considered the sub-committee's report at its meeting on 20 May 2015. The committee welcomed the report and the valuable work of the sub-committee.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The committee's recommendations for consideration by cabinet are set out within the body of the report attached as Appendix A.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee administrative year 2014/15	Scrutiny Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Julie Timbrell 020 7525 0514
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=380&Year=0		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Southwark's Adoption Service

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Shelley Burke, Head of Overview & Scrutiny	
Report Author	Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny Project Manager	
Version	Final	
Dated	9 July 2015	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	N/a	N/a
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	N/a	N/a
Chief Officers	N/a	N/a
Cabinet Member	N/a	N/a
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	9 July 2015	