

Scrutiny review proposal

1 What is the review?

Planning and the Environment

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

The review seeks to principally influence Southwark's planning service in order to improve the quality of Southwark's environmental polices in development; performance against current planning policy objectives; and delivery of the planning service .

The overriding aim of the review is to positively impact on Southwark's built environment and address the Climate Emergency, with specific reference to reducing carbon, pollutants, safeguarding scarce resources and improving biodiversity.

3 When should the review be carried out/completed?*i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time?*

Spring 2021

4 What format would suit this review? (eg full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)

Full review over the course of the administrative year.

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

Officers have indicated that the following planning policies are under review in their response to recommendation on Planning contained in the 2019/20 scrutiny review of the emerging Climate Emergency Strategy :

- Energy (specifically the energy policy for the NSP due to go to cabinet December 2020),
- Environmental (specifically the Climate Emergency Policy for the OKRAAP due to go to cabinet December 2020),
- Waste,
- Transport and
- Open space policies.

Review of the Carbon Price and the Carbon Offset Fund.

Increasing the amount of carbon reduced 'on site' by:

- Establishing current performance 'on site' against NSP targets,
- Investigating how this can be improved over time.

Investigate work currently being undertaken by officers with developers and in Planning to reduce the overall negative environmental impact of construction in Southwark (including carbon, pollutants, and use of scarce resources) and further work that could be undertaken to improve the environmental impact of schemes over the whole lifecycle of a building.

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

Cllr Johnson Situ, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Planning & Transport

Planning policy officers

7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic?

Expertise in improving the environmental impact of construction and planning policies will be identified.

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

Planning officers will update the Commission. Other experts and fieldwork will be identified.