

Commission Proposal and Scoping Template

Scrutiny Principles agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair and Vice-Chairs

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Commissions it sponsors should as far as possible:

- Be independent from the administration and stakeholders;
- Be as accessible and inclusive of everyone in the borough;
- Enable decisions to be challenged constructively;
- Strive for better services that produce the best outcomes;
- Base its decisions and recommendations on the best evidence available;
- Follow up its recommendations.

Commission members:

Councillors Ed Davie (co-chair), Max Deckers-Dowber (co-chair), Danial Adilypour, Tim Briggs and Vailla McClure

Councillor(s) submitting proposal	Chair & Vice Chairs OSC
Working title	Education Commission: Reviewing issues affecting children's education
Reason for inquiry	The commission will consider key education planning and performance information. The commission responds to both member and officer interest that these matters be scrutinised to support the council ambition to raise education performance and educational achievements in Lambeth schools. This follows a similar session held in 2015.
Time constraints	<i>If the commission needs to be considered within a specific time frame please state here and why.</i> The commission is proposed as a one-off meeting to take place in May 2016.
Proposed completion date	Tuesday 24 May.
Core Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the standards of pupils' educational attainment, including vulnerable groups, and progress over time • To examine the extent of and reasons for any underachievement in schools • To consider how the borough is planning to meet demand for primary school places in all areas of the borough so that every Lambeth child has a school place • To consider how the council is responding to the changing landscape in education policy nationally, including "academisation"
Desired outcome	<i>What is the purpose of the review in one sentence?</i> To ensure that aspirations for rising standards and outcomes in Lambeth schools are being delivered, and that appropriate planning is in place to cope with future developments.
Terms of reference	To consider the following reports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising Educational Achievement in Lambeth schools 2014-15 2. Lambeth school Inspection outcomes 2014-15 3. Pupil place planning and capital projects (including peer review carried out following discussions at 2015 meeting) 4. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities update 5. Update on central government reforms to education 6. Exclusions update

What will not be included	<i>This will assist in setting the boundaries for the commission's work and prevent 'scope-creep'. FOR OFFICERS: what do you think should not be included and why?</i>
Risks (mitigation)	<i>What risks are there to the commission completing its work? Other pieces of work the commission may be dependent upon should be included.</i> May be an ambitious programme to consider in a single meeting.
Equality & Diversity considerations	<i>Advice from Equalities Team</i>
Possible co-options	<i>Would the commission's work benefit from having a co-optee throughout its work or would such involvement be better facilitated through 'expert witness' sessions?</i> The two OSC education co-optees will be invited to attend as observers and contributions invited at the discretion of the chair
Key stakeholders/ consultees	<i>Include opportunities to involve the public (Service users/general public/voluntary sector/other authorities/non-governmental organisations/lobby groups/academics/private sector/target group representatives etc.)</i> The meeting will be held in public and papers will be published on the Lambeth website. Requests to speak from members of the public will be accommodated where possible, within the allotted time.
Portfolio holder(s)	Cabinet Member for Children and Schools – Councillor Jane Edbrooke
Potential witnesses	<i>Who will the commission need to take written or oral evidence from in order to meet its terms of reference?</i> Cabinet Members for Children & Schools and Families & Young People; Appropriate officers including: - Cathy Twist; Feyisa Demie; Maggie Harriott; Gareth Ball; Colm Doyle; Peter Compton
Research/Evidence required	<i>Consider what information the commission will need to gather to meet its terms of reference. How will the commission gather its evidence? Will specialist work need to be commissioned?</i> Via commissioned officer reports
Potential site visits	<i>Would the commission's work benefit from any site visits?</i> Not planned at this stage
Timescales	<i>What are members' general requirements, suggestions or other constraints? Update into a an outline plan:</i> To be held in May [well before end of summer term]
Publicity	<i>Generally press releases are issued at the start and end of commissions, however additional publicity (e.g. for public meetings) may be appropriate</i>
Links to Community Outcomes/ Resident Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All young people have opportunities to achieve their ambitions