

## Scrutiny Review Plan – Form B

<b>Topic title</b>	Support for children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) in West Northamptonshire.
<b>Scope</b>	The scrutiny review is intended to scrutinise and inform the development of support for children with SEND in West Northamptonshire that will address previous areas for improvement regarding children and families' experience of services and that will be more able to deliver effective outcomes for service users.
<b>Link to the Council's Corporate Priorities (from Form A)</b>	The scrutiny review will contribute to the delivery of the Council's corporate priority to make West Northamptonshire a place where there is opportunity for all – where children are given the best start in life and vulnerable children are supported and protected. A place where all young people grow up qualified and inspired to succeed.
<b>Key objectives and measures of effectiveness (from Form A)</b>	<p>The scrutiny review will aim to provide ideas and constructive challenge intended to contribute to work on the development of effective support for children with SEND in West Northamptonshire underway during the period of the scrutiny review.</p> <p>The scrutiny review will make evidence-based recommendations to the West Northamptonshire Council Cabinet and/or other applicable decision-makers intended to contribute to the provision of effective support for children with SEND in the area.</p>
<b>Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEND needs assessment: does the local area understand the needs of children with SEND and does it have coherent plans to meet this need?</li> <li>• How will the new SEND Accountability Board ensure effective oversight of the development and implementation of future provision? How will good engagement with parents of children with SEND be achieved?</li> <li>• Are plans to co-produce a new SEND strategy and delivery plan for West Northamptonshire appropriate? Will the new strategy and delivery plan meet identified needs? Are the new strategy and delivery plan realistic and achievable, giving specific consideration to the capacity in the Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan team? Does the new SEND strategy meet key legal requirements?</li> <li>• How does the local system embed a learning culture to support improving outcomes?</li> </ul>

<p><b>Outlining stakeholders</b></p>	<p>Internal information-providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education</li> <li>• Executive Director People Services</li> <li>• Assistant Director Education</li> <li>• Service officers involved in delivering SEND support</li> </ul> <p>Internal information-providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents of children with SEND</li> <li>• Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust</li> <li>• Schools / Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outlining evidence</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on the level of demand for SEND support in West Northamptonshire, trends, service organisation and capacity, resources and pressures</li> <li>• Anonymised case studies of the operation of SEND support in West Northamptonshire, including examples of positive and negative experiences for service users</li> <li>• Local Government Association 2022 peer review of SEND provision in Northamptonshire</li> <li>• Outcomes from Department for Education-led improvement work in March 2023</li> <li>• Draft SEND Strategy and Delivery Plan for West Northamptonshire</li> <li>• Information on school attendance</li> <li>• Information on current staffing and analysis of future needs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Risks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of scrutiny work not adding value to, or conflicting with, corporate work relating to SEND.</li> <li>• Risk of scrutiny work adding to pressures on service officers providing support to children with SEND.</li> </ul> <p>These risks will be mitigated by the Assistant Director Education working closely with the task and finish panel to provide expert advice on corporate work underway and to act as a link to the relevant service areas.</p>
<p><b>Membership</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Councillor Harry Barrett (Chair)</li> <li>2. Councillor Sally Beardsworth</li> <li>3. Councillor Muna Cali</li> <li>4. Councillor Maggie Clubley</li> <li>5. Councillor Louisa Fowler</li> <li>6. Councillor Mark Hughes</li> <li>7. Councillor Emma Roberts</li> </ol> <p>8. Co-opted member: a representative of the Northamptonshire Parent Forum Group will be invited to</p>

	join the task and finish panel as a co-opted member for the part of its work focussed on SEND needs assessment.	
<b>Timeframe</b>	Original confirmation of scope by the former People OS Committee	21 February 2023
	Scene-setting task and finish panel meeting	11 May 2023
	Confirmation of updated scope by the Children, Education and Housing OS Committee	19 June 2023
	Evidence-gathering (specific dates for meetings and other activity to be set by the task and finish panel)	June – September 2023
	Approval of draft report by task and finish panel	October 2023
	Agreement of final report by the Children, Education and Housing OS Committee	5 February 2024
	Presentation of final report to the Cabinet	12 March 2024