

Overview & Scrutiny Scoping Paper – Health Inequality Review

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman met with the Chief Executive and the Head of Housing and Regulatory Services to discuss the overall topic and how the review could be conducted.

Questions for the Committee:

- a. Do you agree with the suggested approach?
- b. Is there anything else you wish to include in the scope?

Proposer Name	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Proposed Topic (What?)	Healthy Inequality (with a focus on housing)
Description and Reason for Review (Why?)	The Committee wished to conduct a review into housing and its impact on health inequality, as this is an area where the Council can have direct influence and involvement using its powers and partnership working.
Link to: Council's Strategic Plan National/Regional priorities Cabinet Priorities	<i>Strategic Plan and Corporate Priorities:</i> Homes and Communities, Health Inequalities are addressed and Reduced <i>National/Regional priorities:</i> Reducing Health Inequality <i>Cabinet Priorities:</i> MBC's Housing Strategy 2023-26, MBC draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029 and draft MBC Preventing Financial Exclusion Strategy 2024-2027 – both the draft strategies are due to be considered by the Cabinet for adoption in March 2024.
Desired Outcome(s) (Outcome)	Increased understanding of health inequalities in Maidstone, increased understanding of the role and impact of housing on health and well-being, relationship to and interdependency with health inequality To identify actions for the Council to take to address this.
Suggested Approach (How, When and Who)	1. Briefing to the Committee (open to all Members) to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture of health inequalities in Maidstone Borough • Full picture of housing interventions, homelessness, the Council's legal powers and partnership working.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported by the provision of policy documents and information demonstrating the link between housing and health (such as NICE guidance, or from Institute of Health Equity). <p>2. After the Briefing, to refine the review topic to be focused on a specific area.</p> <p>3. Conduct the review based on specific topics, inviting key stakeholders.</p>
Review Timescale (When)	<p>Committee Briefing - June 2024 Review Start – July/September 2024</p> <p>Work Programme Impact: Heavy/Medium/Light [tbc]</p>
Link to CfPS effective scrutiny principles	<p><i>Select which CfPS effective scrutiny principles would be met through conducting the review:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Provides a constructive 'critical friend' challenge</i> <i>Amplifies public voices and concerns</i> <i>Is Independently led by Councillors</i> <i>Drives Improvement in Public Services</i>
Officer Support	<p><i>DSO, Head of Housing and Regulatory Services, Chief Executive and others.</i></p>

Previously presented Health Inequality Scope can be found here:

[agendas-and-meetings \(maidstone.gov.uk\)](https://maidstone.gov.uk/agendas-and-meetings)