

SCRUTINY REVIEW INITIATION DOCUMENT (SID)	
Review:	Alternative Provision
Scrutiny Review Committee:	Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
Director leading the review:	Mark Taylor
Lead Officers:	Gabby Grodentz and Jeff Cole
Overall aims of the review:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify how we can reduce the numbers of children on alternative provision. 2. To identify how we can ensure that provision is of the highest quality. 3. To make recommendations to further improve the outcomes and accountability for those in alternative provision. 4. To identify how schools and academies are ensuring the best possible outcomes for the most vulnerable children and make recommendations about how best practice can be in place in all schools and Academies. 5. To evaluate the quality, standards and value for money of alternative provision providers. 6. To identify how early intervention and 'Think Family' approaches can be mainstreamed once the pump priming funding is no longer available.
How is the review to be carried out:	<p>Scope of the Review</p> <p>The review will focus on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The national and local context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role and responsibilities of Schools and Academies, and the Local Authority 2. The reasons why children are in alternative provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The profile of AP students including attainment, attendance and other outcomes • Trends in family histories • The child's journey into and through the AP system 3. The local AP arrangements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of schools • The local method for delivering alternative provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current AP providers - Current performance - Quality of providers • Funding and value for money

4. Opportunities to make local arrangements more effective

- The use of early intervention
(i.e. the new wraparound service, IFIT, approaches used by schools)
- Strategies to ensure schools take full ownership of children on AP
- Outcomes in individual schools with contextual data such as exclusions

Types of evidence:

1. Documentary evidence including

- Contextual report/presentation
- Anonymised audit of young people in alternative provision
- Case studies
- Government guidance and officer briefing notes
- Service plans, performance indicators and update on impact

2. Witness evidence including

- Officer presentations (e.g. IFIT, project lead for new wraparound service)
- Secondary schools and Academies, and New River College
- Effective providers of alternative provision
- Other 'good practice' local authorities e.g. Lincoln
- Young people in alternative provision and their parents

3. Visits

- A 'good practice' local authority

Additional Information:

Programme	
Key output:	To be submitted to Committee on:
1. Scrutiny Initiation Document	15 September 2015
2. Draft Recommendations	12 April 2016
3. Final Report	9 May 2016