

H L HEALTH BOARD CIC

Investigation of the Public Health Act 1848 for health, safety, and psychological improvements for children, adults, and the elderly of the Windrush generation across the Commonwealth realm.

Full Scrutiny Plan 2026–2028

Prepared for: Parliament and Local Authorities (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland where applicable)

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Contents

- 1. Foreword**
- 2. Executive Summary**
- 3. Terms of Reference**
- 4. Governance and Assurance**
- 5. Methodology and Evidence Standards**
- 6. Workplan (2026-2028)**
- 7. Stakeholder Engagement Plan**
- 8. Deliverables**
- 9. Budget and Value for Money**
- 10. Risk Register (with Mitigations)**
- 11. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)**

Annexes

Annex A: Authority and Status

Annex B: Purpose of the Call

Annex C: Who Is Invited to Submit Evidence

Annex D: Types of Evidence Requested

Annex E: Key Questions (Optional Guidance)

Annex F: Trauma-Informed Safeguards

Annex G: Data Protection and Confidentiality

Annex H: Use of Evidence

Annex I: Submission Process

Annex J: Publication and Feedback

1. Foreword

The Public Health Act 1848 laid the foundation for modern public health in Britain and across the Commonwealth. Yet, its long-term psychological, social, and safety implications—particularly for marginalised populations—have never been fully scrutinised through a contemporary, trauma-informed lens.

This programme commits to a rigorous, independent, and ethical examination of how historic public health legislation has shaped present-day health, safety, and psychological outcomes for:

- Children
- Working-age adults
- Older people
- The Windrush generation and their descendants

This scrutiny will support Parliament and local authorities to develop evidence-based, psychologically safe, and culturally competent policy reforms.

Lancelot Webb



Programme Leader
H L Health Board CIC

2. Executive Summary

This Full Scrutiny Plan establishes a three-year national and Commonwealth-wide investigation into the legacy and modern applicability of the Public Health Act 1848.

Objectives:

- Examine legislative impact on health, safety, and psychological wellbeing
- Identify structural inequalities affecting the Windrush generation
- Support lawful, ethical, and trauma-informed policy development
- Produce actionable recommendations for Parliament and local authorities

Scope:

- England, with comparative Commonwealth evidence
- Public health, occupational safety, housing, environmental health
- Psychological and intergenerational harm

Grant Budget:

£3,750,000 (2026–2028)

3. Terms of Reference

The scrutiny will:

- Review historical intent vs. lived outcomes of the Public Health Act 1848
- Assess downstream impacts on modern public health systems
- Evaluate psychological safety and institutional trust
- Examine disproportionate effects on racialised communities
- Recommend legislative, regulatory, and operational reforms

4. Governance and Assurance

Oversight Structure:

- Programme Board (Independent Chair)
- Ethics & Safeguarding Panel
- Community Advisory Council (Windrush-led representation)
- Legal & Parliamentary Liaison Group

Assurance Mechanisms:

- Quarterly independent audits
- Ministerial briefings (non-interference basis)
- Compliance with UK GDPR, Equality Act 2010, and Human Rights Act 1998

5. Methodology and Evidence Standards

Methodological Approach:

- Mixed-methods research
- Historical legislative analysis
- Lived-experience testimony
- Psychological harm and resilience assessment
- Comparative Commonwealth policy review

Evidence Standards:

- Peer-reviewed or verifiable sources
- Survivor-centred testimony protocols
- Corroboration where possible (without retraumatisation)
- Transparency and reproducibility

6. Workplan (2026–2028)

Phase 1 – Foundation (Q1–Q2 2026)

- Governance set-up
- Ethics approval
- Call for evidence issued

Phase 2 – Evidence Gathering (Q3 2026–Q4 2027)

- Public hearings
- Community-led sessions
- Archival and legal analysis

Phase 3 – Analysis & Synthesis (Q1–Q2 2028)

- Thematic analysis
- Impact modelling
- Draft recommendations

Phase 4 – Reporting & Dissemination (Q3–Q4 2028)

- Final report to Parliament
- Local authority toolkits
- Public summaries

7. Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Core Stakeholders:

- Windrush communities
- Children's and elder advocacy groups
- Local authorities
- NHS and public health bodies
- Commonwealth civil society organisations

Engagement Methods:

- Trauma-informed listening sessions
- Written and oral submissions
- Youth and elder-specific forums
- Culturally competent facilitators

8. Deliverables

- Interim findings report (2027)
- Final Parliamentary report (2028)
- Policy reform recommendations
- Local authority implementation framework
- Educational and safeguarding guidance

9. Budget and Value for Money

Grant Allocation: £3,750,000

Category	Cost (£)
Programme staff & researchers	1,200,000
Community engagement & hearings	750,000
Legal, ethics & safeguarding	400,000
Data management & analysis	350,000
Publications & dissemination	250,000
Independent audit & evaluation	200,000
Contingency (10%)	400,000

Value for Money Measures:

- Open procurement
- Shared public datasets
- Community co-production reducing duplication
- Clear policy impact metrics

10. Risk Register (with Mitigations)

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
Re-traumatisation of witnesses	Medium	High	Trauma-informed protocols
Political interference	Low	High	Independent governance
Low trust participation	Medium	High	Community-led facilitation
Data misuse	Low	High	GDPR-compliant controls

11. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

- Quarterly progress reviews
- Independent evaluator
- Lived-experience feedback loops
- Adaptive learning framework

Annexes

Annex A: Authority and Status

Commissioned to provide independent evidence to Parliament and local authorities.

Annex B: Purpose of the Call

To gather evidence on historic and ongoing impacts of public health legislation.

Annex C: Who Is Invited to Submit Evidence

- Individuals
- Community organisations
- Academics
- Public bodies
- Commonwealth representatives

Annex D: Types of Evidence Requested

- Written submissions
- Oral testimony
- Archival documents
- Research studies

Annex E: Key Questions (Optional Guidance)

- How has the Act shaped trust in public health?
- What psychological harms persist today?
- Where do children and elders face systemic risk?

Annex F: Trauma-Informed Safeguards

- Opt-out rights
- Emotional support access
- Survivor-controlled narratives

Annex G: Data Protection and Confidentiality

Full compliance with UK GDPR and ethical anonymisation.

Annex H: Use of Evidence

Evidence used solely for public interest, policy reform, and education.

Annex I – Submission Process

Secure digital portal and assisted submission routes.

Annex J: Publication and Feedback

- Public release of findings
- Community validation sessions
- Formal Parliamentary response requested