

Democratic renewal:
Overview and Scrutiny

**Leicestershire County
Council**

ACTION PLAN



DISTRICT AUDIT

Reference:	DAreportoverviewscrutinyactionplan0 - Draft
Date:	22 October 2003 SW/SJ

Page	Recommendation	Priority 1 = Low 2 = Med 3 = High	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date
5	R1 Scrutiny Committees to consider the range of approaches open to them as part of planning work on policy issues.					
5	R2 Council to consider whether there is scope for a more active role in policy development for the overview and scrutiny function, in line with the constitution.					
5	R3 Council to regularly review the arrangements for call in to ensure that limiting call in powers to key decisions is not restricting the ability of overview and scrutiny to hold the executive to account.					
5	R4 Council to define the role of overview and scrutiny of external bodies as part of its work in developing its community leadership role.					
5	R5 Overview and Scrutiny function to consider the possibility of involving external representatives in pieces of work as part of work planning.					
7	R6 Scrutiny Commission to engage members in a discussion about the nature and levels of officer support needed to carry out work programmes.					
8	R7 Scrutiny Reference Group and Commission to consult with members and with the Executive on the potential to reduce the emphasis on overview and scrutiny being requested to comment on plans and strategies.					
8	R8 Scrutiny Reference Group and Commission to reiterate the availability of the checklists for considering and challenging reports.					

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8	R9 Include sessions on questioning skills in any future training in overview and scrutiny.					
8	R10 Committee chairs to experiment with assigning responsibility for reading reports, researching topic areas and developing questions to individuals or groups of members.					
8	R11 Scrutiny Commission and Reference Group to ensure that the range of possibilities for facilitating public/stakeholder involvement in reviews is undertaken as part of the work planning process.					
9	R12 Overview and scrutiny Committees to continue to experiment with non traditional methods of reporting.					
9	R13 Overview and scrutiny committees and 5 member panels to ensure that where appropriate their work results in clearly defined recommendations and suggestions for how progress will be monitored.					
9	R14 Council to ensure that overview and scrutiny's role within the performance management system is clearly defined.					
11	R15 Council and its partners to consider the audience for health scrutiny reports, arrangements for public involvement and progress checking as part of work planning.					