

By: Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership
To: Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 21 July 2009
Subject: Options for Overview and Scrutiny
Classification: Unrestricted

FOR DECISION:

1. At the County Council meeting on 25 June the Leader of the Council referred to the Overview and Scrutiny function at KCC and explained that he had spoken to the two opposition leaders about the ways in which scrutiny of the administration and of the executive was conducted.

It had been agreed with Mrs Dean and Mr Christie that the scrutiny arrangements would continue to run in their current form until the next County Council meeting in October, but that Members got together to look at the opportunities available to ensure that Members really did scrutinise, performance manage and hold to account the administration and the executive of the authority.

The Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership had been asked to look around the country, at other methods of scrutiny so that the authority could learn from others and decide collectively on what is the best way ahead, particularly with the backdrop of such a substantial majority that the conservative administration has.

2. The Cabinet Scrutiny Committee has a protocol for Public Involvement in the Scrutiny process and this is attached at Appendix A for information.
3. The Cabinet has informally discussed possible future models for Overview and Scrutiny on the basis of work undertaken by Democratic Services and Corporate Policy. The Deputy Leader, the Overview, Scrutiny and Localism Manager and the Policy Manager will be attending our meeting to discuss the options for Overview and Scrutiny (paper attached) with Members of the Committee.

Recommendation

The Cabinet Scrutiny Committee is asked to discuss the options for Overview and Scrutiny and put forward their views.