## Local government overview 2016

Self-assessment tool for councillors



This self-assessment brings together a number of potential questions for councillors related to *An overview of local government in Scotland 2016* [PDF] \(\bigcirc\). It is designed to help councillors identify how well informed they are about each area and to highlight areas where they may wish to ask further questions.

How well informed am I?			
Questions for councillors to consider	What do I know?	Do I need to ask any further questions?	
Reserves (paragraphs 18 to 20)			
What level of reserves do we need, both allocated and unallocated?			
How effectively are we using the reserves we hold?			
Borrowing and financing (paragraphs 21 to 24)			
What implications do different borrowing and financing options have for our future revenue budgets?			

and activity?

How well informed am I?		
Questions for councillors to consider	What do I know?	Do I need to ask any further questions?
How does our financial strategy link to our vision for the future?		
Public Performance Reporting (paragraph 50)		
How clearly do we report our plans and performance to the public?		
Service redesign (paragraphs 56 to 65)		
How will our savings plans help us achieve our corporate objectives and commitments made to our Single Outcome Agreement?		
How open are we to considering all possible options to reduce the cost, and improve the quality and effectiveness of the services we provide?		
How fully have we appraised the options for sharing services with similar or neighbouring authorities or other public sector bodies?		
What options do we have for collaborating or sharing services?		
How are we involving and empowering local communities to design and deliver services to suit local needs?		
How do we learn from other changes we have made and the experiences of other organisations when identifying and considering all the options?		