



Department for
Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

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Finance Officer of each District Council
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3 November 2025

Circular LG 20/25

Dear Sir/Madam,

DESIGNATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITOR

This circular brings to your attention a change in the designation of the Local Government Auditor. The detail is set out in the following paragraphs.

Article 4(1) of the amended Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 (the 2005 Order) provides that the Department may, with the consent of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland (the C&AG), designate a member of staff of the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) as the Local Government Auditor.

Under Article 4(2) of the amended 2005 Order, the Local Government Auditor may make arrangements with the C&AG for members of staff of the NIAO to assist in the performance of the Local Government Auditors' functions.

Article 4(3) of the amended 205 Order further provides that the Department may, with the consent of the C&AG, designate a member of staff of the NIAO to be known as the deputy Local Government Auditor.

The Department has consulted with the C&AG and, with effect from 1 January 2026, has designated Brian O'Neill as Local Government Auditor and assigned Brian to audit the accounts of every local government body.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Gerard Murray.

GERARD MURRAY

Director, Local Government & Housing Regulation Division