



**Pamela McCreedy**  
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27<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Chief Executive,

### **AUDIT OF PROPER ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECURING ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE USE OF RESOURCES 2017-18**

I am writing to outline our approach for this year's annual audit of the, 'proper arrangements' in place in your organisation. Article 6(1)(d) of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005, requires the auditor of a local government body to be satisfied that proper arrangements have been made for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

The Code of Audit Practice, in line with similar Codes in Great Britain, also takes account of this requirement, stating that the scope of a local government auditor's work should, "*cover not only the audit of financial statements, but also the audited body's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.*"

In 2015-16 we devised a questionnaire to document the arrangements in place. Last year, 2016-17, we requested your assistance in updating this information. This year we would like the Council to update the data once again by revisiting the 2016-17 return it made to us. We expect there to be improvements to the arrangements in place each year as the organisation evolves, innovates and develops its services.

Therefore I would appreciate if you could arrange to have the questionnaire refreshed, including the supporting documents embedded or attached to it, and submit them to us **by 18 May 2018**.

In Section 3 of the Audit Strategy we outlined areas where we consider there to be audit risk and have noted how this will be addressed during the audit. Therefore we will seek further supporting information, particularly for these areas. Once we receive all the information requested we will assess it, together with other information we gather as part of the annual financial audit, and form an overall view on arrangements. Any audit points arising from the work on Proper Arrangements will be communicated in the normal way via the Report to those Charged with Governance and the Annual Audit Letter. Audit matters arising may also be included in my next annual report.

The Director and/or Audit Manager assigned to your organisation's financial audit, who are named in the annual Audit Strategy, will be able to pick up any queries the Council may have.

The information gathered as part of the Proper Arrangements work will be shared with our staff involved in Performance Improvement audit arrangements to avoid duplication of effort as far as possible.

I appreciate your co-operation on this matter and thank you in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. McCreedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

**PAMELA McCREEDY**  
**Local Government Auditor**