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Colette Kane
Local Government Auditor

To Chief Executives of Local Councils, Arc21 and
North West Regional Waste Management Group

20 May 2022

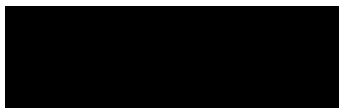
Dear Chief Executive,

NI Audit Office: Waste Management in Northern Ireland

You will be aware that the Local Government Auditor and the Comptroller and Auditor General have indicated that they wish to undertake a review of the Waste Management System. In recent weeks my audit team has been undertaking preliminary work, and has been in contact with officials within some of the councils, as well as the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs. This work has now been completed and we have agreed that a full study review should now be undertaken. An outline of our proposed approach is attached at Annex 1.

It is our intention to publish this report in Spring/Summer 2023. In particular, it would be useful to agree the arrangements to manage our requests for information covering the large number of organisations who deliver the waste management system. I would also be grateful if you could appoint a Senior Responsible Officer e.g. Head of Waste Management within your organisation who could meet with the team and facilitate our audit work.

Yours sincerely



Colette Kane
Local Government Auditor

Audit Approach

The Waste (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2011 transposed the EU revised Waste Framework Directive into legislation. They require waste to be recovered or disposed of without endangering human health or causing harm to the environment. The regulations include permitting, registration and inspection requirements. Meeting the requirements of the regulations depends upon the system operating effectively at the current time and that the system is in a position to meet the Executive's commitments to zero waste by 2050.

Our study will consider the extent to which the current system is fit for purpose and whether it is in a position to meet the Executive's forward commitments. We will consider how the system operates as a whole to understand how interdependencies between central, local government and the private sector impact on how the system operates.

