

**CONSULTATION SCHEDULE – 28 AUGUST 2018**

1	RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	SUBMISSION BY
	NILGA	<b>Devolution within Northern Ireland – Consultation for Member Councils 31 July 2018 – 30 September 2018</b>	<b>28 September 2018</b>
	<p>NILGA, the Northern Ireland Local Government Association, has commissioned and published the “Devolution within Northern Ireland”, report attached, as completed by the New Policy Institute.</p> <p>This evidence-based report, drawing on direct communication with all strands of government and wider society, together with policy &amp; data benchmarking across all neighbouring jurisdictions, is provided to Council for corporate comment.</p> <p>It follows on from NILGA’s Programme for <b>Local</b> Government, developed in 2016, widely supported with the commitment that before 2020, NILGA would, in conjunction with Councils, develop an evidence base with costs to build cases to transfer a suite of powers and functions from Central Government, as determined by the current Local Government Act (NI).</p> <p>The purpose of this consultation is twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to inform existing and future legislative and resource actions to <i>enhance the role of Councils in Northern Ireland</i></li> <li>• to take actions with partners in Government and more widely to strengthen the <i>sustainability and value of local government in Northern Ireland</i>.</li> </ul> <p>NILGA considers the corporate views of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to be essential in the delivery of an ambitious yet practical step forward for local government in Northern Ireland. Councils work – their portfolio,</p>		

performance and sphere of influence – have never been so necessary for and under scrutiny by residents, businesses, visitors and partners.

NILGA asks that Council responds corporately on the consultation which was been designed to enable follow up, individually and collectively, with both existing Councils and those that will emerge after 2 May 2019. At this stage NILGA would greatly appreciate:

- (a) Your comments on the NPI Report overall
- (b) Your comments regarding the **potential for Local Government in NI**, as per report pages 6 & 7
- (c) Your comments regarding **devolving neighbourhood services to Councils in NI**, as per report pages 13 & 14
- (d) Your comments regarding **the 6 recommendations**, as per Conclusion and Practical Next Steps, report pages 17 & 18
- (e) Your response to the illustrative Timeline, also provided

NILGA is seeking Council’s corporate response to this consultation by Friday 28 September 2018.

The consultation document has been placed on the New Policy Institute website and can be accessed at this link:  
<https://www.npi.org.uk/publications/local-government/859/>

2	RECEIVED FROM	TITLE	SUBMISSION BY
	Northern Ireland Audit Office	<b>The Code of Data Matching Practice of the Comptroller and Audit General for Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1 October 2018</b>

In the course of Audit work, the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) and the Northern Ireland Office (NIAO) may look at data that is held by different public bodies and compare these data sets to see if there are any trends or patterns that may indicate fraud and which need to be investigated, This is called data matching. Handling and managing data about individuals must be done securely and sensitively.

The draft Code of Data Matching Practice has been prepared in accordance with Article 4G of the Audit and Accountability (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, to help ensure that the C&AG the NIAO and its staff, auditors and all

people and bodies involved in data matching exercises comply with the law, especially data protection, legislation. The previous version of the Code, published in July 2008, has been updated for revisions to data protection legislation and for developments in data matching arrangements.

The C&AG is consulting all relevant audited bodies and other stakeholders, including the Information Commissioner, about this updated Code of Data Matching Practice. The draft Code is available on the NIAO website:

<https://www.niauditoffice.gov.uk/national-fraud-initiative>

The National Fraud Initiative is the main data matching exercise undertaken by the C&AG. The NIAO welcome comments from all bodies and stakeholders and recognise that the Code will be more relevant to those bodies that currently participate in NFI data matching exercises.

Comments on the draft Code should be submitted, preferably electronically to [nficoordinator@niauditoffice.gov.uk](mailto:nficoordinator@niauditoffice.gov.uk) by 1 October 2018. In due course the final version of the Code will be published on the NIAO website.

<b>3</b>	<b>RECEIVED FROM</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SUBMISSION BY</b>
	<b>Department for Justice</b>	<b>Proposals to Extend the Unduly Lenient Sentence Scheme</b>	<b>2 October 2018</b>

The Department of Justice has published a consultation paper on proposals to extend the Unduly Lenient Sentence scheme.

These proposals have been developed in response to a recommendation in the Fresh Start Panel Report on the Disbandment of Paramilitary Groups in Northern Ireland.

The proposals have identified over 80 offences, linked to terrorism, organised crime and Paramilitarism, to be added to the scheme. Anyone found guilty of these types of crime in the Crown Court could then see their sentence increased if it is found to be unduly lenient.

	<p>The Department is seeking views on the proposals, in particular whether the offences listed in the paper properly reflect the type of criminality inflicted on communities by organised crime and paramilitary linked groups.</p> <p>The consultation document and online response form can be found at;  <a href="https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-unduly-lenient-sentences">https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-unduly-lenient-sentences</a></p> <p>Responses can be emailed to – <a href="mailto:CPB@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk">CPB@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk</a> .</p>		
4	<b>RECEIVED FROM</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SUBMISSION BY</b>
	<b>Northern Ireland Housing Executive</b>	<b>Draft Community Involvement Strategy Report 2018-2023</b>	<b>18 October 2018</b>
	<p>The NIHE are commencing a 12 week consultation process for the draft <b>Community Involvement Strategy 2018-2023</b>.</p> <p>Throughout the life of the strategy the aim is to <i>Promote Community Involvement across all our communities and Enable our communities to challenge, influence and shape our housing service.</i></p> <p>Opinions, views and comments are valued and will help shape the direction of travel for Community Involvement Strategy over the next 5 years.</p> <p>The strategy report can be accessed via the following link:  <a href="https://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/consultation.htm">https://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/corporate/consultation.htm</a></p>		

**Current Open Consultations**

- Dept. for Communities Classification of Registered Housing Associations in Northern Ireland: Consultation Two – The Future of the House Sales Schemes (closing date for comments 24 September 2018)