

Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021	21st June 2016
Corporate Policy and Resources Committee	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Innovation and Transformation
Outcome	Council will continuously examine ways to provide services in more accessible ways and embrace new processes where they can bring about better experiences for citizens...
Lead Officer	Director of Performance
Cost: (If applicable)	

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Correspondence has been received from the Chief Executive of NILGA on the draft Programme for Government (PfG) Framework 2016-21 which was launched for consultation on 27th May 2016. Closing date for responses 22nd July 2016. The correspondence from NILGA's Chief Executive is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.2 The PfG consultation document is available to view at tinyurl.com/pfqni or Members may request a hard copy from the Democratic Services Team. Committee's comments are requested.

2.0 NILGA Response

NILGA's Chief Executive has advised that following NILGA's Executive Meeting on 10th June NILGA will provide, by 24th June, a Framework Guidance Response for Councils to consider.

3.0 Deadlines and Council Response

In order to meet the 22nd July deadline for the consultation response the following process is suggested:

24th June 2016

- NILGA's Framework Guidance Response issued to Members.

28th June 2016

- Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Minutes tabled for ratification
- NILGA's Framework Guidance Response tabled at Council's meeting for Council's consideration and approval.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee considers the consultation document and agrees the approach as outlined.



Mr David Jackson
Chief Executive
Causeway Coast and Glens District Council
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart road
COLERAINE
BT52 1EY

9th June 2016

Dear David,

RE: Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021

As you are of course aware, consultation on the Draft PfG Framework runs until 22nd July 2016. The draft Framework contains 14 strategic outcomes. They touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and confident and peaceful communities. In addition to merely fulfilling our statutory obligations, the draft outlines targets for those things that “make real improvements to the quality of life for the citizen”.

The 14 outcomes are supported by 42 indicators which are “statements for change”. Each indicator is accompanied by a measure largely derived from existing statistics. A key feature of the new Programme is TOTAL dependence on collaborative working between organisations and groups, whether in the public, voluntary, or private sectors. It will require a significant change in approach from that used by previous administrations. It is an approach which will place Local Government in the centre of negotiated delivery role, and is one which is of huge significance to the 11 councils going forward.

NILGA believes that this Programme represents the single most important collaborative exercise between central and local government since the Local Government Act (NI) 2015 and its precursor activity, activity which was essentially led by NILGA and in large part facilitated / agreed by the (former) DoE Sub Committee. The Executive will need Councils to deliver this Programme, driving work across boundaries and focusing on the outcomes rather than traditional departmental lines.

The draft Programme for Government Framework reflects some of the messages that emerged from engagement with NILGA and more widely BUT it is of critical importance that Councils / NILGA, in association with SOLACE, develop both regional and local responses

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which illustrate the roles for, solutions of and resources required by local government over the present and next mandate. They must drive and negotiate council delivery gains, and localise, the development of the PfG, which is very much a dynamic framework that is clearly going to evolve and include policies drawn from the political framework within the NI Assembly.

NILGA, following its all council Executive Meeting of 10th June 2016, will provide by 24th June 2016 a Framework Guidance Response. Additionally, by the same date it will provide the council led, NILGA collated Programme for Local Government by way of a Policy driver for the sector. It will be working with councils and SOLACE in developing a composite response, which will not require extensive content but which, rather, sets out principles of engagement and means to deliver, through councils, better public services and representation for local people.

In the meantime, at your discretion, you may wish to include this communication within a June 2016 committee or full council agenda; should any of your senior team or political leaders have any initial comments or queries in regard to this important engagement process please do not hesitate to contact me.

I have copied this in the interest in good governance to your council's listed NILGA Executive Members.

Yours sincerely



Derek McCallan
Chief Executive