

<b>Correspondence Report</b>	<b>21 August 2018</b>
<b>Corporate Policy and Resources Committee</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Leader and Champion
<b>Outcome</b>	Establish key relationships with Government, agencies and potential strategic partners
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Director of Corporate Services
<b>Cost:</b> (If applicable)	£850 per participant

<b>1</b>	<b>Matthew Finlay – NILGA Report – response requested to query (email received 22 June 2018) (for decision)</b>
	Correspondence has been received from Matthew Finlay requesting a comment from Council in relation to the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) report where they stated that all the local Councils in Northern Ireland should be given a greater share of public money in light of the situation in Stormont.
<b>2</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman – Own Initiative Investigations (18 July 2018) (for information)</b>
	<p>Correspondence received 21 December 2017 from the NI Public Services Ombudsman, highlighted that the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (the 2016 Act) provided for significant changes to her jurisdiction as Ombudsman. A full account of the changes over the course of 2016/17 can be found in the Annual Report <a href="http://www.nipso.org.uk">www.nipso.org.uk</a>.</p> <p>The beginning of April 2018 saw the commencement of the power to undertake investigations on her own initiative (as per Section 8 of the 2016 Act) where she has a reasonable suspicion of systemic maladministration or systemic injustice. This new investigation power allows her to proceed with an own initiative investigation where one or more complaints have been made, or where no complaints have been made.</p>