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Mrs Jacqui Dixon
Chairperson of SOLACE
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Mossley Mill
Newtownabbey
BT36 5QA

30th September 2020

Dear Jacqui

NI Audit Office: Planning in Northern Ireland

The Comptroller and Auditor General and the Local Government Auditor have decided that they will undertake a review of the Planning system in Northern Ireland.

It is our intention to publish this report in Spring/Summer 2021. As part of our process, it is our intention to engage with the Head of Planning in each Council to obtain their views on the system. We would of course be happy to also meet SOLACE and outline our approach to this review if members feel this would be helpful.

During our audit, we will be requesting data from all councils, for example planning service costs and staff numbers. It may be useful to have a single point of contact to facilitate these information requests. I would be grateful if members could consider nominating an officer for this role.

Yours sincerely



Colette Kane
Director