

All Chief Executives

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Dear Chief Executive

17 August 2020

### **Performance Improvement in Local Government 2020/21**

Subsequent to my letter dated 11 June 2020 a decision has been made to set aside the requirement to produce and publish a performance improvement plan for the 2020/21 year.

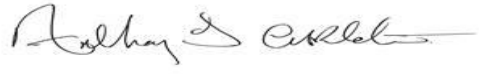
Councils will still be required to publish their performance improvement assessment report covering 2019/20, with a publication date of 30 September 2020.

We have been considering the arrangements that should be put in place for councils regarding performance improvement for the next few years. Our initial thinking, subject to taking the views of councils, is that, rather than being required to produce and publish performance improvement plans in the current difficult climate, it may be more beneficial for councils to produce plans setting out their proposals for service delivery and performance recovery.

In addition to seeking input from councils, we will also need to take the views of the Local Government Auditor before submitting proposals for the Minister's consideration.

Further work on council performance requirements is ongoing and the Department will be engaging with local government representatives to review the way forward for 2021/22 onwards.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Carleton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

**Anthony Carleton**