



NOAC workshop on local government oversight

Today, Wednesday 5 November, the National Oversight and Audit Commission, Ireland's independent oversight body, hosted a workshop for the chairs of the local authority audit committees in Portlaoise.

The workshop brought together leaders from the local government sector, representatives from the Value for Money (VFM) unit of the Local Government Audit Service and representatives of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

NOAC board member and event Chair, Margaret Lane, explained:

“We created this workshop to meet audit committee chairs in person, to inform them of NOAC’s key priorities including the new Scrutiny Process and the latest NOAC reports.

“I am delighted to see so many local authorities represented here today as it is an important time with the Local Democracy Taskforce work progressing and some interesting learnings from the recent VFM reports. We hope this workshop provides an opportunity for audit committee members to learn and create networking opportunities,” she said.

Presentations on the day included NOAC reviews, plans and processes as well as input from Local Government Audit Service and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

- NOAC Scrutiny Process - Michael McCarthy, Chair of NOAC.
- NOAC Local Authority Performance Indicator Report 2024 - Ciarán Hayes, Chair, Performance Indicator Working Group.
- NOAC Review of Corporate Plans 2025-2029 - Brian Cawley, Chair, Local Government Governance, Efficiency & Reform Working Group.
- Local Democracy Taskforce - Tim Carey, Principal Officer, LG Governance and Elected Members.
- Value for Money reports 2025, Local Government Audit Service - Michelle McLoughlin, Principal Officer, VFM Unit.

There was an opportunity for discussion after each presentation and this engagement was highly informative and of great interest to all attendees.

To conclude the workshop, NOAC's Miriam Mc Donald facilitated a lively interactive session, where topics of interest to attendees were debated and discussed.

For further information regarding the workshop, please contact noac@housing.gov.ie.

Ends.