



Today the 20th of May NOAC launched its first 14 reports in a series of reports on the Scrutiny Process.

Since becoming Chair of NOAC in September 2018, Michael McCarthy has continued the good work that had been started by the first Chair, Pat McLoughlin, who in accordance with NOAC's statutory functions, began to review the performance of individual local authorities. The process has evolved over time and continues to evolve.

The National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) is the statutory body overseeing the local government sector. NOAC was established in July 2014 under the Local Government Reform Act 2014, to provide independent oversight of the local government sector. NOAC's functions are wide ranging, involving the scrutiny of performance generally and financial performance specifically, supporting best practice, overseeing implementation of national local government policy and monitoring and evaluating implementation of corporate plans, adherence to service level agreements and public service reform by local government bodies.

The profile report is the basis for the meetings and identifies the performance of local authorities in relevant NOAC reports and provides for further examination of the results of these reports. The Scrutiny Process requires time and resources from NOAC and the local authorities and NOAC considers that the investment of time and resources has been both worthwhile and necessary.

The process has provided an opportunity to learn, to listen to how the particular local authority operates, the challenges they face, the plans and ideas that have been developed and gives an opportunity to reflect on what is working well and areas that need to be addressed. It has identified areas of good practice and many of these ideas have been showcased at the NOAC Good Practice Seminars over the years.

The Chair acknowledges the impact of COVID-19 on local authorities and the impact it has on the process. The Stage 1 meetings have all been held in person thus far and as such only 3 of the 6 Stage 1 meetings were able to be held in 2020. It was decided that the Stage 2 meetings would continue and were held remotely. He advised that he looks forward to continuing to work closely and collaboratively with all the local authorities and wants to use this opportunity to thank all the Chief Executives and their teams for the time, courtesy and welcome extended to NOAC in this process.

Report Nos and Titles as follows:

No 28	Scrutiny Process Report
No 29	Louth County Council Scrutiny Report
No 30	Cork City Council Scrutiny Report
No 31	Offaly County Council Scrutiny Report
No 32	Kerry County Council Scrutiny Report
No 33	Westmeath County Council Scrutiny Report

No 34	Roscommon County Council Scrutiny Report
No 35	Tipperary County Council Scrutiny Report
No 36	Donegal County Council Scrutiny Report
No 37	Laois County Council Scrutiny Report
No 38	Waterford City and County Council Scrutiny Report
No 39	Clare County Council Scrutiny Report
No 40	Carlow County Council Scrutiny Report
No 41	Monaghan County Council Scrutiny Report