



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Local Government and Regeneration Committee**

**Kevin Stewart MSP  
Convener**

Angela Leitch  
Chair of SOLACE Scotland

and

Colin Mair  
Chief Executive  
Improvement Service

Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP

Direct Tel: (0131) 348 5217/348 5223  
(RNID Typetalk calls welcome)  
Fax: (0131) 348 5600  
(Central) Textphone: (0131) 348 5415  
[lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk)

***By email only***

22 April 2015

Dear Angela and Colin

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING EVIDENCE SESSION WITH SOLACE SCOTLAND (SOLACE) AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICE (IS)**

Thank you for the evidence you gave to the Committee on 25 March 2015 on progress on the Local Government Benchmarking Framework. I felt it would be helpful to follow up in writing on some of the issues which emerged from that meeting.

During the oral evidence session SOLACE and IS undertook to provide the Committee with the following information—


- How local authorities caveat the metrics and indicators used in the Framework to allow for the data to be more easily understood by members of the general public;
- Any work ongoing in adapting the Framework to take account of the role of Health Boards and the integration of health and social care services in terms of benchmarking.

Following the conclusion of the oral evidence session, the Committee considered various issues which arose, and agreed to seek information from you on the following—

- The Committee requests that SOLACE and IS produce a report setting out ways in which local authorities are using the Framework data to improve the delivery of services to the public;
- The Committee would welcome information on examples of how local authorities and COSLA are taking forward service improvements based on the Framework data;
- The Committee would welcome confirmation from IS and SOLACE that all local authorities have reached a position where all of their data collection processes comply with the requirements of the Framework? (Separately, this is a question we will raise with the Accounts Commission for Scotland).

I appreciate some of this information may take some time to respond to. However, the Committee plans to review its work programme in early June. Therefore, it would be helpful to have your initial response by the end of May 2015.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kearney', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Convener  
Local Government and Regeneration Committee

CC: Douglas Sinclair, Chair of the Accounts Commission for Scotland;  
Alex Neil MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights  
Lesley Stevenson, Secretary, SOLACE Scotland