



Smarter decisions through data insights

Tuesday 20 October 2026

Theatre at the Mill, Mossley Mill

Carnmoney Rd N, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA



A free event for APSE Northern Ireland members

Programme

9.00: Coffee and Registration

10.00: Opening welcome

Welcome to the Borough from the Deputy Mayor,
Alison Bennington

10.15: Session 1: Performance matters

Developing a Quality Management System

Charlene Stoops, Interim Chief Executive, Armagh,
Banbridge and Craigavon Council

The vision for Antrim and Newtownabbey

Majella McAllister, Deputy Chief Executive, Antrim
and Newtownabbey Council

Driving Excellence: The Future of Local Government Performance in Northern Ireland

Lynn McCracken, Local Government Policy
Division, Department for Communities

The Future of Public Accountability: Local Government Audit Insights

Brian O'Neill, Director, Northern Ireland Audit Office

Audience Q&A

11:45 Tea and coffee break

12.00 Session 2: What's in store for local government?

UK case study – Award winning Leisure and Cultural Services

- Community partnerships and innovative programming
- Latest advances in leisure, libraries and parks

**Iain Varah, Chief Executive, Vision Redbridge
Culture & Leisure**

AI, innovation, and future readiness in Local Government

- AI, culture and ethics
- Leadership beyond the algorithm
- What we choose not to automate

**Dr Lollie Mancey, Head of Innovation at
Instech.ie and former Programme Director at
UCD Innovation Academy**

Developing a performance management culture

- Our journey
- Developing a core PI set
- Benefits and challenges

**Alan Mitchell, Lead Officer – Data Science and
Intelligence, Fermanagh and Omagh District
Council**

What intelligence is your data giving you?

- UK-wide service reviews and benchmarking analysis projects
- How to use the data to drill into operations
- Cost, quality and customer feedback

Dave Henrys, APSE solutions associate

Audience Q&A

13.15 Lunch

14.00 Session 3: Workshops

Workshop 1: Use of digital technology

Workshop 2: Service transformation

14:45 Seminar close

How do I book?

Use this link to book your place online

[Click Here to Book Online](#)

What does it cost to attend

This event is **FREE** to attend for APSE Northern members and includes all refreshments, a delegate pack, post event materials and lunch.

Non-members may attend at a cost of £150 + VAT