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Deposited Papers Clerk
House of Commons Library

Deposited Papers Clerks
House of Lords Library

28 October 2019

Dear Deposited Papers Clerks,

I would be grateful if this letter and the attached Report could be deposited in the Houses of both Libraries.

There is a requirement at paragraph 18 to the Guidance on decision-making for Northern Ireland Departments during the period for Northern Ireland Executive formation¹ for the Comptroller and Auditor General to share all Northern Ireland Audit Office reports and recommendations with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Where applicable, the Northern Ireland Departments will also lay any departmental responses to these recommendations with the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Secretary of State is required to deposit copies with the Library and to promptly share them with the Northern Ireland political parties.

In October, the Department of Finance, published their departmental response to recommendations in the Northern Ireland Audit Office's report "Management of the NI Direct Strategic Partner Project - Helping to deliver digital transformation.

RT HON JULIAN SMITH MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS
IN THE NORTHERN IRELAND AUDIT OFFICE'S REPORT "MANAGEMENT OF THE NI
DIRECT STRATEGIC PARTNER PROJECT - HELPING TO DELIVER DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION"**