

Mrs Helen McClenaghan OBE  
Chief Executive  
Southern Education and Library Board  
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1 August 2007

Dear Helen

Your Chair or Board representative will no doubt give you a read-out on yesterday's meeting at the Island Civic Centre to discuss the next phase of the RPA in Education. I attach a copy of Caitríona Ruane's speech, which we will send to your Board's representative, but which I thought you would also wish to have. It will be available on the DE and ESAIT websites as well as soon as possible.

There was also a good range of questions during the meeting, and we will see how we might use some of these as the basis of FAQs for the websites.

Caitríona Ruane has asked that we now work up the details of the work programme which is set out in her speech, and this will form an important part of her next meeting with the Chairs in September. We are meeting on 10 September and will plan to have papers with you before then.

The issue of Vacancy Control and the impact on organisations was raised at the meeting, and I know that this is a matter of concern with the longer time-table. Clearly it is an issue which we need to consider with DFP/ OFMDFM and the mechanisms which they have established, including the PSC and Central Joint Forum. I am keen however to get views on how the system is working, and have asked Gavin to explore this further.

Yours sincerely



**WILL HAIRE**

