


**APSE**  
Northern Ireland Regional Meeting

27<sup>th</sup> November 2009



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**Review of Public Administration**

5 Education and Library Boards

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Libraries NI  
(April 2009)

Education and Skills Authority



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**Who we are**


- NDPB
- 1000+ staff
- 109 branch libraries + 28 mobile libraries
- 4 million items of stock
- 1200 public access computer terminals
- Recurrent budget: £31 million
- Capital budget: £6 million



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**Vision**

“ A flexible and responsive library service which provides a dynamic focal point in the community and assists people to fulfil their potential ”



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**Delivering Tomorrow's Libraries:  
Policy Objectives**

- Addressing social exclusion and inequality
- Facilitating development of informed, responsible citizenship
- Building communities and fostering good relations
- Promoting creativity



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**Key Themes**

- Supporting learning and learners
- Providing access to information
- Collecting, preserving and widening access to heritage materials
- Offering cultural and creative experiences



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### Key Principles



Regional planning  
Equitable provision  
Sharing best practice  
Strategic partnerships



Local delivery  
Targeted interventions  
Continuous improvement  
Community engagement

← Quality →

### Key Priorities

- Harmonisation of policies and procedures
- Common purpose and sense of identity
- Strategic review of library estate
- Performance and impact measurement
- Marketing strategy




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### A final thought...

“ More than a building that houses books and data, the library represents a window to a larger world, the place where we’ve always come to discover big ideas and profound concepts that help move the human story forward. ”

*(Barack Obama, American Library Association Conference, 2005)*



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