

Causeway Coast & Glens Shadow Council

For Decision

DoE Circular LG22/2014 – Expenditure Controls for Councils in shadow form.

DoE circular LG22/2014 issued on 28 May 2014 sets out direction on controls in place for the eleven new councils operating in shadow form effective from 26 May 2014. These controls have a direct impact on four key areas for each legacy council which are;

- 1 Capital projects with a value in excess of £250k
- 2 Disposals of land with a value in excess of £100k
- 3 Non-capital contracts with a lifetime value in excess of £100k
- 4 Borrowing where the value of the loan exceeds £250k

These controls have a direct impact upon the operation of our four legacy councils within the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council cluster and as a result the four councils now require approval for matters which prior to the effective date of this direction (26 May 2014) they would have otherwise had the power to do having received all the necessary approvals for such matters from their own members and if required from the former Statutory Transition Committee (STC). There are a number of scenarios which falling under the categories above now require urgent approval by Shadow Council in order to allow the particular Council to provide service or in the case of borrowing manage cash flow. These schemes are detailed in the appendices attached and are divided into three categories;

- 1 Capital schemes in excess of £250k
- 2 Loans in excess of £250k
- 3 Non – capital contracts in excess of £100k

The list of schemes, loans and contracts presented before Council is not an exhaustive one but merely those ones which require immediate approval in order to allow each of the four Councils to continue to provide an appropriate level of service or in the case of the loans to manage its cash flow. A few of the capital projects are included in the schedules due to the constraints of pending or on-going funding applications which if Shadow Council approval was not granted these funding applications could fail or indeed not proceed. It is intended that the remaining capital schemes, loans and contracts would be tabled before Council at subsequent meetings as and when appropriate.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council approve the capital schemes, loans and non-capital contracts as scheduled.