

Title of Report:	CORRESPONDENCE REPORT
Committee Report Submitted To:	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	10th March 2020
For Decision or For Information	FOR DECISION

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	Establish key relationships with Government, agencies and potential strategic partners
Lead Officer	Director of Environmental Services

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	N/A
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No N/A	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present correspondence for Members consideration.

2.0 The following correspondence has been received:

DAERA (dated 28 February 2020 and received 3 March 2020)

Re. Letter of invitation to nominate Senior Officials to an Afforestation Forum (Date to be confirmed).

The scale of the climate change challenge we face is reflected in the 'New Decade New Approach' and an issue which affects not only all of our society but future generations.

Land owned by Local Councils could have significant potential for woodland planting. Therefore the Minister is seeking Council's support and commitment to make suitable land in council ownership available for tree planting and to provide an initial assessment of the scale and extent of lands that may be available.

Furthermore there is an invitation to nominate a senior official to participate in a cross-Governmental and Local Government Afforestation Forum to work with the Minister's officials on the delivery of this enhanced afforestation programme. The purpose of the forum is to coordinate the assessment of available public and council land and the development of plans for its afforestation.

Nomination is to be forwarded by 18th March 2020.

Copy correspondence is available.

3.0 Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee consider the correspondence and agree that the Head of Estates is nominated to participate in the forum.