

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

To: Environmental Services Committee

PROTOCOL AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT (SLA) FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS (CERTIFICATES AND INSPECTIONS) REGULATIONS (NI) 2008

FOR DECISION

4 AUGUST 2015

Report to Committee

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| Linkage to Corporate Plan | |
| Strategic Priority | Equality and Community |
| Objective | To ensure Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) Regulations are administered and delivered in a timely, fair and equitable manner across Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Area in the most effective, efficient and professional way possible. |
| Lead Officer | Martin McCook |
| Cost: (If applicable) | |

1.1 Background

The Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) Regulations (NI) 2008 (the EPB Regulations) came into force as a result of an EU Directive requiring a wide variety of buildings, both public and private, to have a certificate rating the energy efficiency of that building. The duty for administering and enforcement of the EPB Regulations sits with district councils.

A dedicated team of officers (the EPB Team) was set up in January, 2009, tasked with coordinating enforcement of the EPB Regulations across Northern Ireland. Funding for this team is provided by the Department of Finance and Personnel. This approach to funding has proven highly effective in achieving consistent application of the legislation and high levels of compliance compared with other UK regions.

A Protocol and Service Level Agreement (SLA) were also put in place outlining the relationship between the EPB Team and district councils to ensure transparent deployment of grant funding. The SLA outlines the responsibilities of both the EPB Team and of district council building control managers with respect to the regulations and protocol.

The DFP have confirmed funding of £150,000 is available for the year 2015/16 with a primary stipulation the centralised Energy Performance of Buildings Team and mechanisms put in place via the Enforcement Protocol are the basis on which funding is secured. This ring fenced approach to funding a dedicated team has proven effective in the past and is beneficial in reducing potential for EU infraction proceedings.

1.2 Recommendation

It is recommended Council support the continuation of Belfast City Council as the employing authority for the EPB Team and agree to and accept the updated Enforcement Protocol and the terms and conditions outlined in the Service Level Agreement. (Copies attached in Appendix VI).