Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

Planning Department
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
COLERAINE
BT52 1EY

[redacted]

Date: 3rd November 2026

Dear Ms Watts,

Re: A Review of Shared Environmental Services.

Thank you for your correspondence dated 6th October 2026 regarding the above. Following presentation of same at the Council's 28th October 2026 Planning Committee I wish to respond on behalf of the Council.

In response to your request under item 4 of the 27th July Notice of Mention I can advise that the Council fully supports a collective review of the role, remit, funding and operation of Shared Environmental Services (SES). However, the Council highlights its disappointment that, given the impact this service is having on all councils right now, no lead person, or timeframe for securing one, has yet been identified.

In the short term the Council requests details of the backlog affecting this Borough and an interim strategy with practical improvements to address it.

Regarding the formal review of SES, the Council wishes to see the following:

- An agreed baseline.
- Details of the current staffing and funding gap.
- A longer-term strategy for the operation of SES.
- Performance indicators and monitoring arrangements.
- Defined shared oversight arrangements for all councils.
- Details of the role of central government departments in:
  - the review;
  - the operation of SES; and
  - monitoring.
- The final report circulated to all council planning committees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding this.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]

Ms Sharon Mulhern
Principal Planning Officer