

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

To: Environmental Services Committee

1st December 2015

ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

For Decision

1.0 Reporting to Committee

Linkage to Corporate Plan	
Strategic Priority	Resilient Healthy and Engaged Communities
Objective	To consider replication of electric blanket testing initiative October 2015
Lead Officer	Bryan Edgar
Cost: (If applicable)	£1,000

1.1 Background

Further to committee report item ES 151103.5.4, consideration was to be given to offering a further electric blanket testing roadshow. It is estimated that the cost of replicating this initiative would be circa £4,000, with the earliest implementation date of January 2016.

As an alternative a pilot replacement/exchange scheme may be delivered by Home Safety Officers whilst carrying out home safety assessments. Such a scheme would target the most vulnerable and needy with many referrals being generated through the MARA (Maximising Access to Services, Grants and Benefits in Rural Areas) project in addition to those through the normal work of the Home Safety Officers. Blankets over 10 years old or visually faulty would be exchanged for an equivalent unit. This pilot would operate from December 2015 to March 2016. £1000 has been identified from within the current section budget. An evaluation of the pilot will be provided to committee in April 2016.

1.2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the alternative replacement/exchange pilot scheme to reduce the risks associated with the use of faulty electric blankets.