

Causeway Coast & Glens Shadow Council

To: Corporate Policy and Resources Committee

For Decision

19/05/2015

Local Government Act (NI) 2014 Performance Improvement

Linkage to Corporate Plan	
Strategic Priority	Transition and Transformation
Objective	Successful implementation of the convergence plan
Lead Officer	Stephen McMaw
Cost: (If applicable)	Cost reduction

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Local Government Act (NI) 2014 (the Act) places a general duty on a Council to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its Duty.
- 1.2 The legislation that relates to this duty, the Draft Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (NI) 2015 has been out to consultation and the DoE Minister is currently considering responses received.
- 1.3 In the absence of this legislation, there still remains a duty within the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 for Councils to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement. Each Council must have at least one improvement objective to be selected from a prescribed list from within the Act. The list is as follows
 - Strategic effectiveness
 - Service quality
 - Service availability
 - Fairness
 - Sustainability
 - Efficiency
 - Innovation

- 1.4 A timetable for year 1 performance improvement activity has been published by the Department of the Environment and is attached as Appendix 1. Each Council is required to identify their year 1 improvement objective by 31st May 2015.
- 1.5 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (the Council) will have a number of performance improvement objectives within the Corporate Plan. Aligned with these objectives will be a transformational change process and business planning regime. A report relating to these issues will be presented at the June Corporate Policy and Resources meeting.

2.0 DoE Year 1 Improvement Objective

- 2.1 An outcome of the current Corporate Planning process will be a number of performance improvement objectives to be approved by Elected Members. Within the 2015/2016 rates setting process, high level year 1 financial efficiency targets were agreed by Elected Members. These targets require in year cost reductions across Council services. A report will be presented at the June Corporate Policy and Resources meeting with detail in relation to the targets and how they will be achieved.
- 2.2 As highlighted above, the DoE require the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to identify a performance improvement objective for 2015/2016. Given in year cost efficiency has been agreed by Council as part of the rates setting process, it is recommended that the “efficiency” improvement objective be submitted to the DoE in line with the requirements of the Act.

Recommendation

It is recommended that for year 1, the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council approve the selection of the “efficiency” performance improvement objective for submission to the Department of the Environment to meet the Councils obligations under the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.