

TERMS OF AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE

THIS AGREEMENT made the 1st day of July 2009 between **LISBURN CITY COUNCIL** of ISLAND CIVIC CENTRE, THE ISLAND, LISBURN, BT27 4RL and **CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL** of 1 BRADFORD COURT, UPPER GALWALLY, BELFAST, BT8 6RB and **BELFAST CITY COUNCIL** of CITY HALL, BELFAST, BT1 5GS.

WHEREAS the parties hereto **HAVE AGREED** to the creation of a Joint Council Committee **AND WHEREAS** the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development have defined the functions of the Joint Council Committee in the Local Government (Constituting a Joint Committee) Order (NI) 2009 and have established the said Committee. All the parties **AGREE** as follows:

1. Each of the parties shall be represented on the Joint Council Committee by **SEVEN** Members of Lisburn City Council, **THREE** Members of Castlereagh Borough Council and **ONE** Member of Belfast City Council.
2. The Committee shall enter into a Service Level Agreement that it will be serviced and advised by the Service Provider nominated under the terms of the Service Level Agreement to provide the services specified therein. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Service Level Agreement the Joint Council Committee may enter into any other Agreement for the provision of services or materials from any of the parties provided always that the costs of such are approved by the Chief Financial Officer of the Service Provider.
3. The Committee shall adopt the present Standing Orders of the Service Provider nominated by the Service Level Agreement.
4. The parties agree that the Joint Council Committee shall enter into a Contract for the delivery of Axes 3 and 4 under Sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 1 of Title IV of Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 of 20th September 2005 which are provided for in the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013.
5. The parties agree that the Joint Council Committee shall enter into an Agreement with an incorporated body which is a Local Action Group appointed by the Joint Council Committee to implement the Local Development Strategy in accordance with Axis 3 and 4 of the Northern

Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 and in accordance with the Operating Rules determined from time to time by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for the delivery of the said Programme.

6. In the event that there is any shortfall in the funding of the Joint Council Committee it shall be met in proportion by each of the parties hereto according to Council representation on the Joint Council Committee. Lisburn City Council will meet 7/11 of any shortfall, Castlereagh Borough Council will meet 3/11 of any shortfall and Belfast City Council will meet 1/11 of any shortfall.
7. In the event that any Council wishes to withdraw from the Joint Council Committee, the relevant Council will provide three months notice in writing stating reason for withdrawal. Upon withdrawal, the existing contract for Axes 3 and 4 of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2013 will be deemed null and void. Renegotiation of the contract will involve a reduced offer of funding that will exclude the Council that has withdrawn. After the date of withdrawal, the relevant Council will agree to continue to assist the Service Provider to honour any commitment of funding to successful project promoters in the Council area prior to withdrawal and in the delivery of related project monitoring and post project evaluations.
8. The Accounting Officer of the Joint Council Committee shall be the designated Chief Financial Officer of the Service Provider under the terms of the Service Level Agreement and the said Officer shall have a right to attend all meetings of the Joint Council Committee.
9. Each of the parties may nominate two Officers to attend meetings of the Joint Council Committee.

SIGNED on behalf of **LISBURN CITY COUNCIL** in the presence of:

SIGNED on behalf of **CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL** in the presence of:

SIGNED on behalf of **BELFAST CITY COUNCIL** in the presence of: