

PE1459/F

COSLA Letter of 14 March 2013

Dear Andrew

COSLA Development, Economy & Sustainability Executive Group considered this petition at its meeting this morning and acknowledged the extension granted to enable COSLA members to consider and respond. Members agreed the following response:

1 COSLA Members noted that the petition was considered at the Petitions Committee on 22 January. At the time of that meeting we noted that no additional signatures were collected in support of the petition. We also note that it follows a previous petition. The debate on the petition appeared in part to be concerned with an issue in relation to a particular area although the petition itself does propose a broader review of Coastal Erosion protocols and responsibilities. COSLA's view is that the current legislative framework is clear in terms of local government's responsibilities in this area.

2 COSLA does not issue guidance in relation to coastal erosion matters and would refer councils to existing Government guidance and/or legislation as appropriate. This is a matter for individual councils to consider in the context of local priorities. Local Government funding is not ring-fenced for coastal erosion and any such funding decisions are properly to be made at the local council level given the finite resources available. Flooding legislation requires councils to develop a risk-based approach to the management of flooding.

Regards

Laura Hoskins
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COSLA