

Title of Report: Information Sharing Protocol With Department for Communities Landlord Registrar	Officer Presenting: Director of Health & Community Author: Head of Health & Community Wellbeing
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 To seek members' approval to sign a revised information sharing protocol with the Department for Communities (DfC) Landlord Registrar. (Appendix 1)

2 Background

- 2.1 The DfC Landlord Registrar has provided a revised version of the information sharing protocol and has requested that Council adopt the requirements of the document. Council previously agreed to sign the previous version of the protocol (HC12/15).
- 2.2 The protocol has been developed to assist the sharing of information required by Regulation 9 of The Landlord Registration Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014. It is the intention that all aspects of information sharing and disclosure of information shall comply with the Data Protection Act 1998. The information obtained from the landlord registrar can only be used in relation to the enforcement of the Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006 and Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 The sharing of information held by the landlord registrar is a key aspect of assisting council officers in enforcing legislation in relation to the private rented sector. The protocol provided ensures that named council officers have access to the information held by the Landlord Registrar and can therefore more effectively enforce the Private Tenancies (NI) Order and the Rent (NI) Order 1978. As a result the tenants living in such accommodation can be more assured that their landlords are compliant with the legislation relating to privately rented properties.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant implications associated with signing the information sharing protocol but there are improvement opportunities for council in facilitating enforcement of the legislation in relation to the private rented sector.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Council agrees to sign the revised Information Sharing Protocol provided by the Landlord Registrar.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: Revised Information Sharing Protocol signed by the Landlord Registrar on 3rd July 2017.