



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Update on the Waiving of Building Regulation Inspection Fees for Applications including Insulation</b>
<b>Date:</b>	17th February, 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sometime in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of the report is to update The Committee on:  i. the implementation for the waiving of Building Regulation inspection fees for those applications involving loft insulation which are not part of funded schemes or maintenance contracts; and  ii. the timeline of the exercise.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to:  • note the implementation process which has been discussed and agreed with Legal Services and Audit and Risk Services; and  • note the timeline commencing from 1st December 2022 and to be reviewed after a period of 6 months.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Committee agreed, at its meeting on 8th November, to waive Building Regulation inspection fees for those applications involving installation of insulation which were not part of funded schemes or maintenance contracts.
3.2	The waiving of fees will be implemented from the date of Council ratification on 1st December, 2022 until 31st May, 2023 subject to review.
3.3	The Building Control Service will identify qualifying applications from 1st December, 2022 and will engage with applicants if their application is considered eligible. The applicant will be required to complete and return a declaration confirming they are personally paying for the insulation work and their application is not part of a funded scheme which includes the payment of the fee.
3.4	On receipt of the signed declaration, the refund will be processed, following the normal process.
3.5	This process has been discussed with Audit Governance and Risk Services and Legal Service, both of which are satisfied with the approach being taken.
3.6	An update report will be presented to the Committee in June.
	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b>
3.7	Based upon the analysis carried out for the four-year period that was presented to the Committee on 8th November, it is estimated that, on average, £81,000 of fees have been paid per year in relation to insulation. If fees were to be waived for a determined period, the loss in fee income could be assumed to be a pro rata value of this annual estimate.
	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b>
3.8	There are no direct Equality, Good Relations or Rural Needs implications.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None