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Sent: 10 March 2015 09:50

To: +Comm ETI Public Email

Subject: Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Response - Corporation tax Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam

Please see attached response to the above consultation from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Regards

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Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment
Inquiry – “Growing the Economy and Creating Jobs with Lower Corporation Tax”

Question 1: What are the key economic drivers (other than low Corporation Tax) that the Executive can influence in order to maximise the potential of Northern Ireland to attract inward investment, grow the economy and create jobs?

Response:

The key economic drivers tend to be:

- Labour costs
- Skills base
- Transportation infrastructure
- Quality of life
- Proximity to markets
- Energy costs
- Central and local government support / prevailing political and economic climate
- Absence of bureaucracy and institutional barriers to trade
- Broadband and communications networks

Question 2: Which of these key economic drivers are considered priorities for the manufacturing sector?

Response:

All of the drivers listed are likely to be considered priorities for the manufacturing sector; it may be that some may be particularly significant for this sector e.g. energy costs will be extremely important for manufacturing processes that are energy intensive.

Question 3: Which of these key economic drivers are considered priorities for the services sector?

Response:

As above, all the drivers are likely to be considered priorities for the services sector, but similarly to manufacturing some drivers will be more important than others e.g. the availability of skills, broadband and quality of life / environment drivers may be more important to an office based service orientated SME than energy costs.

Question 4: How well is each of the priority economic drivers currently developed in Northern Ireland to support inward investment, economic growth and job creation?

Response:

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council cannot comment on the rest of Northern Ireland, but in Lisburn and Castlereagh the economic drivers listed are well developed e.g. Lisburn and Castlereagh has the highest skills base in Northern Ireland.

Question 5: What actions need to be taken, and by whom, to address any gaps in the priority economic drivers?

Response:

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council is keen to see further improvements in its road traffic network and in particular, has been lobbying government in general and Transport NI in particular regarding the public provisions of the Knockmore Sprucefield Link Road which would assist in making the City even more attractive to inward investment.

Paul McCormick

Assistant Director of Environmental Services (Economic Development)