

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU

3 January 2008

**MEETING: HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2008
MEETING ROOM 3
COUNCIL OFFICES
GARSHAKE ROAD
DUMBARTON**

Dear Member

Please attend a Meeting of the **Housing, Environment and Economic Development Committee** to be held in Meeting Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 9 January 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

The business is as shown on the enclosed agenda.

Yours faithfully

DAVID MCMILLAN

Chief Executive

Distribution:

Councillor J Bollan
Councillor J Brown
Councillor G Casey
Councillor J Finn
Councillor W Hendrie (Chair)
Councillor D McBride
Councillor J McColl
Councillor C McLaughlin
Councillor W McLaughlin
Councillor M McNair

All other Councillors for information

Chief Executive
Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development
(Land & Environment)
Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development
(Housing & Regeneration Services)
Executive Director of Educational Services
Executive Director of Social Work & Health

**HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2008

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Submit, for approval as a correct record, Minutes of Meeting of the Housing, Environment and Economic Development Committee held on 7 November 2007.

**3. HOUSING, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT - PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Submit report by the Acting Executive Directors of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development providing information on the performance of the Housing, Environmental and Economic Development Department. The report contains information on:-

- (a) Second quarter figures of 2007/08 for those Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which are monitored on a quarterly basis (Appendix 1);
- (b) Second quarter figures of 2007/2008 for those Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) which are monitored on a quarterly basis;
- (c) Statutory Performance Indicators which the Corporate Management Team identified in early 2007 as requiring improvement actions and regular monitoring (Appendix 2);
- (d) The programme of Best Value Reviews (Appendix 3); and
- (e) The current status of Departmental Actions to meet Departmental Objectives for 2007/2008, i.e. the Service Plan Report (Appendix 4).

4. FINANCIAL REPORT 2007/2008 TO 15 NOVEMBER 2007 (PERIOD 7)

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing, Environmental and Economic Development Department to 15 November 2007 (Period 7).

5. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2007/2008 BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT TO 15 NOVEMBER 2007 (PERIOD 7)

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to the period ended 15 November 2007. Budgetary control statements for the HRA are also presented to Council to allow Members to monitor performance.

6. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2007/2008 BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 15 NOVEMBER 2007 (PERIOD 7)

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) advising on the progress of the HRA Capital Programme 2007/2008. Budgetary control statements for the HRA Capital Programme are also presented to Council to allow Members to monitor performance.

7. PROVISION OF FREE SWIMMING FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE SCHOOLCHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIODS 2007

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) providing an update on the success of the Council's free swimming initiative for schoolchildren during the three main school holiday periods in 2007.

8. EXPANSION OF EMPLOYEE COSMOPOLITAN FITNESS DISCOUNT MEMBERSHIP SCHEME TO FAMILY MEMBERS

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) outlining an option to extend the West Dunbartonshire Council employee Cosmopolitan Fitness scheme to family members on a pilot basis.

9. INSTALLATION OF PRODUCTION KITCHEN – GAVINBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLD KILPATRICK

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) advising of the opening of the refurbished kitchen in Gavinburn Primary School.

10. LIVE AT LOCH LOMOND 2008

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) informing on the outcome of discussions with the Live at Loch Lomond event promoter, the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land & Environment) and the Service Spokesperson, Councillor William Hendrie, in respect of the Live at Loch Lomond 2008 event.

11. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2007-2010

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Land and Environment) seeking approval for the West Dunbartonshire Local Transport Strategy 2007-2010.

12. DUMBARTON TOWN CENTRE – CAR PARKING

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economical Development (Land and Environment) advising of the key findings of an extensive study into car parking in Dumbarton Town Centre and recommending a series of proposed changes to the current parking regime.

13. DUMBARTON TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services):-

- (a) advising on progress relating to the preparation of the Dumbarton Town Centre Masterplan; and
- (b) recommending that the draft masterplan undergoes public consultation prior to the Committee considering its adoption as supplementary planning guidance, as a plan for the regeneration of the town centre.

14. ALEXANDRIA TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services):-

- (a) providing an update on progress with the masterplan (including the interim report produced by the consultants) and seeking agreement to a programme to progress the masterplan to completion;
- (b) reporting on the outcome of the recent consultation exercise undertaken with the residents of Mitchell Way, Alexandria and seeking approval in principle to secure the demolition of flats and commercial properties at Mitchell Way; and
- (c) advising of a project of canopy improvements being project managed by the Estates Section for which part funding is proposed to be contributed from the Alexandria, Heart of the Vale budget.

15. IMPROVEMENTS TO DUMBARTON QUAYSIDE

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) advising of plans to improve the quayside area in Dumbarton town centre.

16. FIRM FOUNDATIONS: THE FUTURE OF HOUSING IN SCOTLAND – WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) informing on the recently published Discussion Document "Firm Foundations: The Future of Housing in Scotland" and seeking approval to submit a response, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report, to the Scottish Government.

Note: Copies of the Discussion Document have been placed in the Members' rooms.

17. COMMUNITIES SCOTLAND STUDY “OPEN AND ACCESSIBLE”

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) advising of a thematic study prepared by Communities Scotland which aims to provide a national picture of landlords’ openness and accessibility to their tenants and other people who have an interest in their services. The study focused on information about governance, performance and complaints.

Note: Copies of the report have been placed in the Members’ rooms.

18. HOUSE SALES

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) providing information on West Dunbartonshire Council houses sold under the Right to Buy scheme between 1 April 2007 and 31 October 2007. The Appendix to the report gives details of houses sold by type and by area, together with information for the financial year 2006/07 for comparison purposes.

19. EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF EMPTY HOMES

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) presenting the results of the recent external evaluation of the Council’s performance in the management of empty homes and proposing an action plan to address the findings of the report.

20. HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY WORKING GROUP

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) providing information relating to the progress of the Housing Allocation Policy Working Group and advising of the recommendations of the Group.

21. STATISTICAL INFORMATION: WAITING LIST, VOIDS, LETS AND HOMELESS

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) providing statistical information in relation to the waiting list for West Dunbartonshire Council (WDC) houses, the reasons for termination of tenancies and the void and lettings position as at 30 November 2007.

22. KITCHEN INSTALLATION STATISTICAL REPORT

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) providing information on the progress with the kitchen programme 2007/2008 including installations completed on a Ward by Ward basis.

23. ENERGY EFFICIENCY REVIEW UPDATE

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) advising on progress with general energy efficiency issues relating to Council buildings and on the projects and initiatives under development by the Corporate Energy Team (CET) and Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Officer.

24. SALE OF LAND AT BANK STREET, ALEXANDRIA

Submit report by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) seeking approval to dispose of land extending to 138 sq. metres or thereby to the rear of 70-78 Bank Street, Alexandria to the adjoining proprietor, Cooperative Group Limited.

For information on the above agenda please contact Craig Stewart, Committee Officer, Legal, Administrative & Regulatory Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU. Tel: (01389) 737251 e-mail: craig.stewart@west-dunbarton.gov.uk