

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU

3 March 2005

MEETING: SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2005
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL
DUMBARTON ROAD
CLYDEBANK**

Dear Member

Please attend a Meeting of the **Social Justice Committee** to be held in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 9 March 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

The business is as shown on the enclosed agenda.

Yours faithfully

TIM HUNTINGFORD

Chief Executive

Distribution:

Councillor D. Agnew
Councillor J. Bollan
Councillor D. Brogan
Councillor J. Flynn
Councillor D. McAllister
Councillor C. McLaughlin
Councillor L. McColl
Councillor M. McNair
Councillor M. Rooney
Councillor A. White

All other Councillors for information

Chief Executive
Director of Housing and Technical Services
Director of Corporate Services
Director of Development and Environmental Services
Director of Education and Cultural Services
Director of Social Work Services

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2005

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pages 1 - 9)

Submit, for approval as a correct record, Minutes of Meeting of the Social Justice Committee held on 12 January 2005.

3. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE CONSULTATION ON INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

In terms of the Item under the heading "Notices of Motion - (D) Motion by Councillor Craig McLaughlin" in relation to the above subject and the subsequent amendment, considered at the meeting of Council on 23 February 2005, when it was agreed that "Council wishes to note that Council Officers will present a report with recommendations at the next Social Justice Committee meeting for consideration", Members are requested:-

- (a) to note that the Finance Committee of the Scottish Executive has since granted an extension to the original consultation date of 16 March 2005 for responses on the consultation; and
- (b) to note that a report on this matter will now be submitted to the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee on 30 March 2005 for consideration.

4. CONVERSION OF LOFT SPACE IN TENEMENTAL AND FOUR-IN-A-BLOCK PROPERTIES

(Pages 11 - 13)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services seeking further instructions on the Council's policy regarding loft/attic conversions in tenemental or four-in-a-block properties where the Council has or formerly had an ownership interest in the roof space.

5. SOCIAL WORK SERVICES - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

(Pages 15 - 27)

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services providing information on performance based on the Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) for Social Work Services.

6. SOCIAL WORK BUDGETARY POSITION 2004/05 AS AT PERIOD 9 TO 15 JANUARY 2005

(Pages 29 - 77)

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services advising of the performance of the Social Work budget for the period to 15 January 2005.

7. SOCIAL WORK GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

(Pages 79 - 82)

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services making recommendations on the level of grants payable to voluntary organisations.

8. THE MACMILLAN CANCER BENEFITS PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

(Pages 83 - 87)

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services providing information on a new partnership, which has been developed between Macmillan Cancer Relief and West Dunbartonshire Council, the aims of which are to develop and deliver a dedicated benefits service to meet the needs of the local population affected by cancer.

9. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL INDEPENDENT LIVING FUND (ILF) – DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

(Pages 89 - 92)

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services:-

- (a) outlining proposals to maximise the take-up of the Independent Living Fund for people living in West Dunbartonshire; and
- (b) requesting approval for the use of 2 posts funded through the Change Fund for Learning Disabilities to run an ILF Pilot Project.

10. HOUSING & TECHNICAL SERVICES - PERFORMANCE REPORT
(Pages 93 - 110)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing information on the performance of Housing and Technical Services.

11. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/2005 - BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 15 JANUARY 2005 (PERIOD 9)
(Pages 111 - 115)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of the progress of the HRA Capital Programme to 15 January 2005.

12. HOUSING – NON HRA REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT 2004/2005 TO 15 JANUARY 2005 (PERIOD 9)
(Pages 117 - 126)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services informing on how key elements within the Housing – Non HRA Revenue Account are performing against projected outturn for the period ended 15 January 2005 (Period 9).

13. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2004/2005 BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT TO 15 JANUARY 2005 (PERIOD 9)
(Pages 127 - 130)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account for the period ended 15 January 2005 (Period 9).

14. HOUSING MAINTENANCE DLO BUSINESS PLAN 2004 - 2007
(Pages 131 - 165)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval for the Housing Maintenance Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) Business Plan for the years 2004 – 2007.

**15. HOUSING MAINTENANCE TRADING OPERATION 2004/2005 -
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 15 JANUARY 2005 (PERIOD 9)**
(Pages 167 - 169)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services presenting interim cumulative financial information for the period ending 15 January 2005 (Period 9).

16. VOIDS AND LETTINGS
(Pages 171 - 178)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing:-

- (a) details of void houses and their status as at 28 January 2005;
- (b) an analysis of void houses by type and by area as at 28 January 2005;
- (c) details of the number of void houses by Ward and by area as at 28 January 2005; and
- (d) an analysis of houses let on a quarterly basis between January and December 2004 together with comparative figures for 2003.

17. HOUSING & COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT PERFORMANCE
(Pages 179 - 182)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing an update on the Housing and Council Tax Benefit performance to the end of December 2004.

18. WAITING LIST FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL HOUSES
(Pages 183 - 185)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing a breakdown of the number of applicants on the waiting list for West Dunbartonshire Council houses and their present circumstances. In this respect, the information provided is as at 31 December 2004 and figures for the same period in 2003 are also included for comparison.

19. HOUSE SALES

(Pages 187 - 191)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing information on West Dunbartonshire Council houses sold under the Right to Buy scheme between 1 April and 31 December 2004.

20. HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS

(Pages 193 - 198)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing statistical information on homelessness applications in West Dunbartonshire in the third quarter of financial year 2004/2005 (October to December 2004) and giving a comparison with the same quarter in the previous two years.

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