

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU

2 February 2006

MEETING: SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2006
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, 8 February 2006 at 10.00 a.m.

The business is as shown on the enclosed agenda.

Yours faithfully

TIM HUNTINGFORD

Chief Executive

Distribution:

Councillor D. Agnew (Convener)
Councillor J. Bolla
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 Corporate Services
Director of Development and Environmental Services
Director of Education and Cultural Services
Director of Housing and Technical Services
Acting Director of Social Work Services

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2006

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pages 1 - 10)

Submit, for approval as a correct record, Minutes of Meeting of the Social Justice Committee held on 14 December 2005.

**3. REVIEWED RACE EQUALITY SCHEME AND PROGRESS REPORT
2004 - 2005**

(Pages 11 - 132)

Submit report by the Chief Executive seeking approval of the reviewed and updated Race Equality Scheme, Race Equality Action Plan and Progress Report on the Race Equality Action Plan 2004-2005.

4. PERFORMANCE REPORT

(Pages 133 - 158)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing information on the Statutory Performance Indicators for the Department of Housing and Technical Services and the Department's programme of Best Value Reviews.

5. RENT ARREARS

(Pages 159 - 160)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing an update on the current tenant rent arrears position at the beginning of January 2006.

6. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL – PETS POLICY

(Pages 161 - 165)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval for the introduction of the Pets Policy in respect of houses owned and managed by West Dunbartonshire Council following tenant consultation.

7. PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

(Pages 167 - 170)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing information on the actions being taken to improve the performance in Housing Benefit Recoverable Overpayments, Void Management, Rent Arrears and Homelessness.

8. GYPSY/TRAVELLERS SITE, DENNYSTOUN FORGE, DUMBARTON

(Pages 171 - 184)

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

- (a) advising of the formal offer of grant assistance received from the Scottish Executive to upgrade the facilities on the Gypsy/Travellers Site at Dennyistoun Forge, Dumbarton; and
- (b) requesting a contribution from the Council to meet the total cost of the proposed work.

9. FOLLOW UP REVIEW OF HOUSING RENT SYSTEM

(Pages 185 - 187)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of progress made in addressing the issues raised by Audit Scotland in their audit of the Housing Rents System.

10. HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY, HOUSING REFERENCE POLICY AND SHELTERED HOUSING POLICY FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

(Pages 189 - 242)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval for policies on Housing Allocation, Housing References and Sheltered Housing for West Dunbartonshire Council.

11. GAS FIRE UPGRADES

(Pages 243 - 244)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval of a recommendation relating to the treatment of existing gas fires in houses where new or replacement central heating systems are being installed.

12. HOUSING MAINTENANCE TRADING OPERATION 2005/2006 - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 15 JANUARY 2006 (PERIOD 9)

(Pages 245 - 247)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services presenting interim cumulative financial information for the period ending 15 January 2006 (Period 9).

13. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2005/2006 – BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT TO 15 JANUARY 2006 (PERIOD 9)

(Pages 249 - 252)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of the progress of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme 2005/2006.

14. HOUSING – NON HRA REVENUE ACCOUNT 2005/2006 – BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT TO 15 JANUARY 2006 (PERIOD 9)

(Pages 253 - 262)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising on the financial performance of the Housing – Non HRA Revenue Account for the period ended 15 January 2006.

15. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/2006 – BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 15 JANUARY 2006 (PERIOD 9)

(Pages 263 – 267)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising on the progress of the HRA Capital Programme 2005/2006.

16. STATISTICAL INFORMATION: WAITING LIST, VOIDS, LETS AND HOMELESS
(Pages 269 - 279)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing statistical information in relation to the waiting list for West Dunbartonshire Council houses, the reasons for termination of tenancies and the void and lets position as at 31 December 2005.

17. HOUSE SALES
(Pages 281 - 283)

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 2005.

18. SOCIAL WORK SERVICES - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
(Pages 285 - 330)

Submit report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services providing information on the performance of the Department of Social Work across all Community Care Services.

19. SOCIAL WORK BUDGETARY POSITION 2005/06 AS AT PERIOD 9 TO 15 JANUARY 2006
(Pages 331- 380)

Submit report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services advising of the performance of the Social Work budget for the period to 15 January 2006.

20. CONSULTATION POLICY GUIDANCE
(Pages 381 - 412)

Submit report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services providing information on the Departmental Consultation Policy Guidance and the department's current plan of consultation activity to 31 March 2008.

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21. CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORTS (Pages 413 - 460)

Submit report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services summarising three inspection reports received from the Care Commission on day care services for older people and adults with a learning disability managed by West Dunbartonshire Council for the period between September 2005 and December 2005.

22. SOCIAL WORK GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

(Pages 461 - 465)

Submit report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services advising of grant applications received by Social Work Services from voluntary organisations seeking funding and making recommendations on the level of funding to be provided.

For information on the above agenda please contact Nuala Borthwick, Administrative Assistant, Legal and Administrative Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU. Tel: (01389) 737594. e-mail: nuala.borthwick@west-dunbarton.gov.uk