

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **Report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development**

**Council: 26 May 2010**

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**Subject: Report on Housing Inspection Improvement Plan**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval for the Housing Inspection Improvement Plan arising from the Scottish Housing Regulator's inspection of the Council's Housing Management Service prior to submission to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** At the Council meeting of 28 April 2010, Members considered a report advising them of the outcome of the Scottish Housing Regulator's inspection of the Council's Housing Management Service. The Regulator's final report was contained in appendix 1 for reference. The report noted the need for the Council to submit a Housing Inspection Improvement Plan based on the findings of the inspection report and for that plan to be approved by members. Members resolved;

(6) that the Member/Officer Working Group referred to in paragraph 3.8 of the report should be open to all Members to allow fuller consultation; and

(7) that the final improvement plan would be submitted to the Council meeting in May for approval prior to being sent to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

#### **3. Main Issues**

##### Improvement Plan

- 3.1** Within eight weeks of the publication of the Regulator's Inspection Report, the Council is required to submit an inspection improvement plan for their approval, giving a deadline of 1 June 2010. The final draft of the Housing Inspection Improvement Plan is now complete and is contained in appendix 1. It is set out using the template provided by the Regulator and lists all the issues highlighted by the inspection together with their associated actions and timescales. The plan takes into account comments from the Elected member Officer Working Group Meeting held on 20 May 2010.

Once approved, the Housing Inspection Improvement Plan will be incorporated into the service planning process and form part of the Housing Operation Service Plan 2011/14. The Regulator's Inspection Report has been widely publicised and copies were sent to all RTOs. It was discussed at the April 2010 meeting of the Tenant Participation working group and members of the group were invited to comment on the report. A copy of the final draft of the Housing Inspection Improvement Plan was distributed at the May 2010 meeting of the TP working group and comments invited.

#### **4. People Implications**

- 4.1** There are no people implications relevant to this report.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** There are no financial implications relevant to this report.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

- 6.1** Failure to agree and implement an improvement plan in response to the Regulator's report would attract an adverse reaction and may have wider consequences for the Council in the context of Best Value.

#### **7. Equalities Impact**

- 7.1** No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this report.

#### **8. Conclusions and Recommendations**

- 8.1** A Housing Inspection Improvement Plan has been drawn up in response to the Inspection Report published by the Scottish Housing regulator.

- 8.2** It is recommended that the Committee:

- i) approve the Housing Inspection Improvement Plan for submission to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

**Elaine Melrose**  
**Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development**  
**Date: 5 April 2010**

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**Appendices:** Appendix 1: Housing Inspection Improvement Plan

**Background Papers:** None

**Wards Affected:** All