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To: Councillors Kelly (Chair), Young, H Coffey, W Coffey, Reid, Cree, Weir, McIntyre, Macrae, Campbell, Knapp, Raymond, Finlayson, Jackson, Smith, Farrell, Menzies, N McGhee, Ross, Dinwoodie and Stewart.

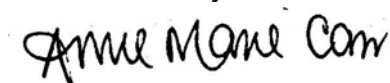
14 March 2007

Dear Councillor/Officer

HOUSING COMMITTEE – 21 MARCH 2007

You are requested to attend the next meeting of the **Housing Committee** to be held on **WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 2007** commencing at **1000 HOURS** in the **MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK** in order to discuss the undernoted business.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support
SN/KS

B U S I N E S S

INTIMATE APOLOGIES

1. BUDGETARY REPORTS

- 1.1 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 4 FEBRUARY 2007 (PERIOD 11) (pages 1-3)** - Submit joint report dated 23 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise on the current budgetary control position of the Housing Revenue Account for the period ended 4 February 2007 (Period 11).



- 1.2 GENERAL FUND HOUSING (INCLUDING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND SUPPORTING PEOPLE ADMINISTRATION) TO 4 FEBRUARY 2007 (PERIOD 11) (pages 4-7)** - Submit joint report dated 20 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance

and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the General Fund Housing for the period ended 4 February 2007 (Period 11).

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- 1.3 BUILDING AND WORKS TO 4 FEBRUARY 2007 (PERIOD 11) (pages 8-9)** - Submit joint report dated 26 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Building and Works for the period ended 4 February 2007 (Period 11).

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- 2. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2006/2007 (pages 10-13)** - Submit joint report dated 21 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services to advise on the current status of projects within the Housing Investment Programme 2006/2007 and to set out the current position in relation to financial monitoring and physical progress.

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- 3. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2007/2008 (pages 14-17)** - Submit report dated 20 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek approval to procure tenders for the Housing Investment Programme 2007/2008.

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- 4. PROPOSED DEMOLITIONS AT SOMERVILLE STREET CATRINE (pages 18-19)** - Submit report dated 27 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise of the poor condition of, and low demand for, Council properties at Nos. 17-25 Somerville Street, Catrine and to recommend the demolition of this block of five properties.

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- 5. THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (pages 20-26)** – Submit joint report dated 21 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to advise of the continuing changes to the Supporting People Programme, the number of service users that benefit from Supporting People funding; and to seek authority to implement revised financial arrangements; and approval to re-designate sheltered housing in line with the recommendations of the Best Value Review of Sheltered Housing.

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6. **HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY UPDATE (pages 27-53)** - Submit report dated 27 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek approval for proposed expenditure of the funding awarded by the Scottish Executive for 2007/2008 to assist in the delivery of Homelessness Task Force Recommendations; and to advise of progress of the East Ayrshire Homelessness Strategy 2006/2009.

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7. **PROPOSED TENANT PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2006/2009 (pages 54-118)** - Submit report dated 26 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services (a) to advise of the results of the consultation exercise on the proposed Tenant Participation Strategy 2006/2009, and to seek approval of the Strategy; (b) to inform of the progress in developing a Tenants and Residents Federation, and to seek approval to establish a constituted Federation for East Ayrshire; and (c) to seek approval to extend the contract with the Tenants Information Service for a further six months to facilitate the development of the Tenants and Residents Federation.

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8. **DEPOSIT GUARANTEE SCHEME (DiGS) (pages 119-122)** - Submit report dated 26 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise of progress on the Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

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9. **TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN EAST AYRSHIRE (pages 123-130)** - Submit report dated 28 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to (a) advise of the progress of the Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities (BSSAC) initiative in tackling anti-social behaviour between 1 April and 31 December 2006; the Scottish Executive's proposals to continue providing funding to tackle anti-social behaviour, linked to the Local Anti-Social Behaviour Outcome Agreement; the continuing review of Community Wardens' hours of duty; and the Scottish Executive's relaxation of the constraints on the deployment of the Community Wardens; and (b) to seek approval to recruit four additional Community Wardens and an additional Anti-Social Behaviour Investigator.

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10. **FORMER TENANT ARREARS (pages 131-132)** - Submit report dated 26 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek approval for writing off those former tenant arrears which are no longer economically viable to pursue.

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11. **IMPROVING HOUSING REPAIRS SERVICE IN EAST AYRSHIRE (pages 133-141)** - Submit report dated 13 March 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services (i) to seek approval to progress arrangements for a Best Value contract with Building and Works for Housing

and Property Maintenance; and the procurement of a kitchen and bathroom replacement programme to be completed by the financial year ending 31 March 2013; and (ii) to inform of progress on implementing the agreed plan to improve the Housing Repairs Service.

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12. **FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (pages 142-145)** – Submit report dated 6 March 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise on the amount of funding provided to external organisations in the current financial year 2006/2007.

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13. **ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: QUARTER 4 (2006) FOR HOUSING AND BUILDING AND WORKS SERVICES (pages 146-148)** - Submit report dated 20 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to advise of absence rates for the Housing and Building Works Services in the Department of Neighbourhood Services for the quarterly period ended 31 December 2006.

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14. **LAND AT MACPHAIL DRIVE, KILMARNOCK (pages 149-152)** - Submit report dated 28 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to request that the Committee declare surplus to requirements an area of land adjacent to 46 MacPhail Drive, Kilmarnock extending to 364 square meters or thereby, and refer same to the Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services for disposal on the open market as a residential development opportunity in accordance with the Council's policy for the treatment of surplus properties.

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15. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC** - Recommend that the Committee pass the following Resolution:- "That under Section 50A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Paragraph of Schedule Act 7A of Act as shown against each item".

16. **CHILD PROTECTION SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT REVIEW (PARA 5) (pages 153-157)** - Submit report dated 28 February 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to advise of a significant Child Protection Incident within East Ayrshire and the subsequent review of the case that took place; and to highlight the main findings from the review and the action required to further strengthen child protection practice in East Ayrshire. **Report not enclosed - Refer to Exclusion of Press and Public paragraph above.**

17. **DISPOSAL OF LAND AT LITTLEMILL ROAD, DRONGAN (PARA 6) (pages 158-161)** - Submit report dated 1 March 2007 (copy enclosed) by the

Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to request that the Committee declare surplus to requirements an area of ground extending to 0.25 hectares, or thereby, and authorise disposal of same to the party identified in the report. **Report not enclosed - Refer to Exclusion of Press and Public paragraph above.**