

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 5 DECEMBER 2001**

### **RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS - A BILL FOR SCOTLAND'S PARLIAMENT: CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

#### **Report by Director of Community Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Forum members of, and seek their views in relation to, a consultation document in respect of a Scottish Parliamentary Member's Bill Proposal for the introduction of residential sprinklers.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A consultation document has been received from Michael Matheson, MSP, in relation to a Member's Bill Proposal for the introduction of residential sprinklers in those properties where occupants are at greatest risk. High risk groups include those with disabilities, elderly people and residents of Houses in Multiple Occupation.
- 2.2 At the Forum meeting in December 2000 members heard, and were favourably impressed by, a presentation on this matter by Senior Divisional Officer Keith Small, Strathclyde Fire Brigade. Members may wish to note that the proposed Residential Fire Sprinklers (Scotland) Bill is endorsed by the Chief and Assistant Chief Fire Officers Association in Scotland.

#### **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 Comments are sought on the "proposal for a Bill to require the phased installation of residential fire sprinkler systems in residential properties; with particular priority being given to those residences occupied by categories of person at greatest risk from domestic fires." Information is provided in relation to fire casualties, associated costs, how the systems work, and how and where the systems could be introduced.
- 3.2 The consultation document, which seeks comments on specific questions, has been circulated to the Council's Planning and Building Control Section, Housing Department, Education and Social Services Department and the Risk Manager. Comments received from these consultees will be amalgamated and forwarded, together with any agreed by Forum members, to Mr Matheson, MSP, by the closing date of 12 December.

#### **4. FINANCIAL/ LEGAL/ POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Nil.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS**

5.1 A copy of the consultation document is attached to this report and comments are sought from members. Members' comments may be included in the response to be prepared by the Principal Officer – Licensing and Community Safety or forwarded independently to Mr Matheson's Parliamentary Office.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 It is recommended that the Forum agree:

- (i) to consider the consultation document and any comments thereon;
- (ii) that all comments be forwarded by the Principal Officer – Licensing and Community Safety to Michael Matheson, MSP, by 12 December 2001.

W Stafford  
**Director of Community Services**

21 November 2001  
cs3/Forum.12.01/Res.sprinklers.consult.doc.

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil.

**AGENDA**