

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 12 SEPTEMBER 2002**

#### **VOID MANAGEMENT – NEW CUMNOCK**

##### **Report by the Director of Homes and Technical Services**

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

- 1.1 To advise Committee on the Council's future policy in relation to the vacant houses in New Cumnock.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Housing Committee agreed on 31 January 2001, to proceed with a series of demolitions in communities throughout East Ayrshire as part of the Council's plan to deal with low demand housing. The Director of Homes and Technical Services was authorised to proceed to re-house the tenants involved.

#### **3. PROGRESS**

- 3.1 The Homes Department has held a series of meetings with the tenants concerned since and has re-housed tenants when the opportunity has arisen. Some properties have already been demolished and there is plans to carry out further demolitions this year and next which the Area Manager will provide a verbal update at the meeting.
- 3.2 It is clear that further demolitions are required in New Cumnock and a recommendation is being submitted to the Housing Committee on 11 September 2002 for approval to demolish more addresses.
- 3.3 The Council has increased security by constructing harris fencing around the most dangerous properties as well as providing a mobile security patrol. The police have also been consulted and asked to increase patrols of the area.
- 3.4 Vacant property in parts of the Cairnhill Housing Scheme remain difficult to let and the Homes Department has set up a Lettings Helpline Initiative in an effort to deal with low demand housing within various communities of East Ayrshire.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 It is recommended that Committee note the content of the report.

James Lavery  
Director of Homes and Technical Services  
PG/WT  
27 August 2002

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

For further information please contact Paddy Gray, Area Housing Manager on 01563 554445.

**AGENDA**