

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## HOUSING COMMITTEE – 18 APRIL 2000

### SCOTTISH HOMES STOCK TRANSFER

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

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform members of the result of a ballot of Scottish Homes Tenants in Kilmarnock, Stewarton and Crosshouse on transferring ownership of their homes from Scottish Homes to East Ayrshire Housing Partnership.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As part of Scottish Homes stock transfer policy East Ayrshire Housing Partnership was approached in 1998 to determine whether they were interested in becoming landlord to Scottish Homes tenants in Kilmarnock, Stewarton and Crosshouse. This proposal was supported by the Council (Housing Committee 26<sup>th</sup> August 1998).
- 2.2 After consultation with tenants through meetings and a steering group, which received independent advice and support from the Tenants' Information Service, a month long postal ballot on behalf of Scottish Homes was conducted by the Electoral Reform Society.
- 2.3 The ballot question the tenants were asked to respond to was "Are you in favour of the transfer of your home to East Ayrshire Housing Partnership?"

#### 3. RESPONSE

- 3.1 In ballot area "Kilmarnock and Stewarton", of the 874 tenants who were eligible to vote 62.2% returned their ballot paper. 543 were valid papers and one was a spoilt paper.
- 3.2 In ballot area "Crosshouse", of the 22 tenants who were eligible to vote 86.4% returned their ballot papers. All 19 papers were valid.

#### 4. RESULTS

The following table details the response, for each ballot area

BALLOT AREA	YES	NO
Kilmarnock and Stewarton	477 ( 87.8%)	66 (12.2%)
Crosshouse	17 (89.5%)	2 (10.5%)

- 4.2 Scottish Homes has considered these results and, giving the overwhelming level of support for the proposals, has decided that the transfer to East Ayrshire Housing Partnership should proceed.

The transfer is likely to take place during summer 2000.

## **5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial or legal implications

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 It is recommend that the committee notes the contents of this report.

James Lavery  
Director of Homes and Technical Services  
4 April 2000

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Housing Committee Report 25 February 1998 "Scottish Office Guidance on Local Authority Involvement in the Assessment of Scottish Homes' Stock Transfer Proposals"
2. Member/Officer Working Group Report 28 April 1998 "Scottish Homes Stock Transfer – East Ayrshire (North)"
3. Member/Officer Working Group Report 25 June 1998 "Scottish Homes Stock Transfer – East Ayrshire (North)"
4. Housing Committee Report – 26 August 1998 "Scottish Homes Stock Transfer – East Ayrshire (North)"
5. Letter from Scottish Homes dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 2000

For further information please contact Joseph Cassidy, Policy Manager 01563 576617

**AGENDA**