

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL AD HOC HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 1999 AT 0940 HOURS  
IN THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S CONFERENCE ROOM, COUNCIL  
HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jimmy Kelly, John Weir, Drew McIntyre and Tommy Farrell.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Kate McVey, Assistant Chief Executive; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes; Allan Rodger, Senior Accountant; Anna Gallagher, Solicitor/Team Leader; David Morgan, Public Relations Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors David Macrae and Douglas Reid.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jimmy Kelly, Chair.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

1. The Committee resolved 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**EAST AYRSHIRE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP: PROGRESS REPORT**

**2.1 Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Kelly and Farrell, as Directors of the East Ayrshire Housing Partnership, declared a non-pecuniary private interest in this matter, in terms of Clause 12(b) of the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

**2.2 Consideration of Item**

There was submitted a report dated 1 December 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of developments/changes in respect of East Ayrshire Housing Partnership and recommended that the Council consider its position in relation to the Partnership.

In view of the cumulative effect of a number of significant recent changes in financial and policy terms, namely (a) the implications of stated Government Policy to extend the Right to Buy Legislation to tenants of all Registered Social Landlords; (b) the Scottish Executive's refusal to approve Standard Securities in respect of the Council's investment and the implications for the Project Agreement; and (c) the requirement on the Council to Certify Value for Money in respect of the project prior to drawn-down of further NHP funding, it was agreed:-

- (i) not to proceed to conclusion of the Project Agreement and ancillary contracts;
- (ii) that East Ayrshire Housing Partnership be advised of the decision referred to in (i) above and that discussions commence with the Partnership and Scottish Homes for an appropriate exit strategy to allow for the managed withdrawal of

Elected Members as Directors of the Partnership, whilst supporting the continuing viability of the Partnership in respect of their stock transfer proposal; and

- (iii) that the Scottish Executive be informed of the Council's inability to certify the mandatory Value for Money requirements in light of the contents of the Director's report.

The meeting terminated at 0956 hours