

ANGUS COUNCIL

Housing Committee – 26 August 2004  
Strategic Policy Committee – 14 September 2004

REGULATION AND INSPECTION:  
PATHFINDER INSPECTION OF LANDLORD AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES–  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

**ABSTRACT**

This report introduces the Improvement Plan which has been devised in response to the Inspection Report published by Communities Scotland in May 2004.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that members note the contents of this report and approve the implementation of the Improvement Plan attached as [Appendix 1](#)..

**2. BACKGROUND**

Report no. 642/04 – Regulation and Inspection: Pathfinder Inspection Report gave notice that the Council was required to submit an Improvement Plan to Communities Scotland within eight weeks of the publication of their Inspection Report. The Draft Improvement Plan was drawn up having regard to Communities Scotland's planning guidance. This Plan was submitted to Communities Scotland on 19 July 2004 and was developed in consultation with Council staff, elected members and a focus group of tenants.

Comments on the draft Improvement Plan were received from Communities Scotland and following consideration of these comments and examination of the draft Improvement Plan by a sounding board of 3 Elected Members, the Plan has now been finalised and is attached as Appendix 1.

**3. FUTURE ACTION**

If the Improvement Plan is approved, the actions will be merged with existing Service Plan commitments. Officers and groups identified in the Plan as responsible for the different areas will develop a series of detailed operational plans to drive actions forward. The Director of Housing and the Quality Assurance and Compliance

Officers will oversee the Plan and will report on progress annually over the three financial years beginning in 2004-2005.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The costs of formulating the Improvement Plan itself have been contained in existing budgets. However, the actions that are required as a consequence of it will have significant resource implications which are not quantifiable in monetary terms at present, although they have been broadly outlined in the Improvement Plan.

Matters involving additional significant resource implications will be the subject of service development bids in the forthcoming budget formation exercise for 2005/2006, or will be the subject of further Committee reports if opportunities to address matters otherwise arise.

#### **5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

It is considered that in following the recommendation in this report, the Council would not be acting in any way which is incompatible with Human Rights.

#### **6. CONSULTATION**

In preparing this report there has been consultation with the Chief Executive, Directors of Finance, Property Services, Information Technology and Law and Administration.

Ron Ashton  
Director of Housing

Note:- The following background papers, as defined by Section 5DD of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied upon in preparing this report.

- Housing Committee/Strategic Policy Committee Report no. 642/04 – Regulation and Inspection: Pathfinder Inspection Report