

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

AGENDA ITEM No. 8

<b>To:</b> HOUSING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	<b>Subject:</b> Update on North Lanarkshire Council's Tenant Participation Strategy	
<b>From:</b> DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICES		
<b>Date:</b> 12 February 2003	<b>Ref:</b> TMcK/CR	

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the development of North Lanarkshire's first Tenant Participation Strategy and to outline the proposed budget for North Lanarkshire share of the Scottish Executive's Capacity for Change funding for 2003/2004.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Committee will recall previous reports were approved in October 2001, May 2002 and October 2002 to develop and implement a Tenant Participation Strategy by March 2003 in order to meet the requirements placed on the Council by the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.
- 2.2 Since the last report to Committee in October 2002 the Department has completed a programme of consultation on its draft tenant participation strategy. The feedback from this consultation has been collated and analysed and will be used to inform the final strategy.
- 2.3 In order to assist landlords with the tenant participation elements of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 the Executive made £4.5m of "Capacity for Change" funding available. North Lanarkshire's share of this is £95,900 for the years 2002/2003 and 2003/2004.

**3. Outline of main proposals**

- 3.1 Following the period of consultation on the draft tenant participation strategy a final strategy is being produced which meets the statutory requirements of Section 53 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001. The strategy will outline our proposals for developing consultation and participation over 2003-2006, identify the key issues for consultation, indicate the resources this will require and include a framework for monitoring and review. It is proposed to submit the strategy to the Scottish Executive by 31 March 2003 as part of an outcome report, subject to Committee approval. The final strategy will be submitted to the next Housing and Technical Services Committee.

- 3.2 In order to progress and expand tenant participation throughout North Lanarkshire the following budget outline is proposed for 2003/2004:

<b>Tenant Participation Budget 2003/2004: Capacity for Change</b>	<b>Total</b>
Staff costs including dedicated tenant participation community worker	49,000
Annual Tenant Conference	2,000
Training & conferences	2,000
Information dissemination including newsletter, advertising and leaflets	9,000
Consultation events	2,000
Local housing tenant participation budgets	9,000
Annual survey	5,000
Additional support for Tenants and Residents Groups	8,000
Coatbridge Federation: Development funding	10,000
	<b>96,000</b>

#### **4. Corporate Considerations**

- 4.1 The preparation and implementation of the tenant participation strategy will help achieve the Councils corporate priorities to promote social inclusion and develop and empower communities.
- 4.2 The preparation of the tenant participation strategy has been undertaken by the Tenant Participation Strategy Steering Group which includes representation from Community Services.

#### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- a) note the updated progress on the preparation of the tenant participation strategy as outlined in section 3.1
  - b) approve the outline budget proposals as detailed in section 3.2

6. **Background Information**

6.1 Available within the Housing and Property Services Department



Thomas McKenzie  
**Director of Housing and Property Services**