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ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION



To: Councillor Radley, Convener; Councillor Henrickson, Vice Convener; and Councillors Bouse, Cross, Davidson, Graham, McLellan, Mrs Stewart and Tissera.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 28 May 2024

COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

The undernoted items are circulated in connection with the meeting of the **COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE** to be held in Committee Room 2 in the Town House on **THURSDAY, 30 MAY 2024 at 10.00 am.**

The meeting will be webcast and a live stream can be viewed on the Council's website. <https://aberdeen.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

ALAN THOMSON
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – GOVERNANCE

B U S I N E S S

REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION

- 4 Three requests for deputations (Pages 3 - 8)
1. Muhammad Azizul Islam – item 11.2 – Anti-Modern Slavery
 2. Hannah Chowdhry – item 11.5 – RAAC
 3. Paula Fraser – item 11.5 – RAAC

COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING

- 11.4 Council Housing Improvement Activity – May 2024 - F&C/24/176 - appendix (Pages 9 - 10)

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Lynsey McBain, lymcbain@aberdeencity.gov.uk or 01224 067344

Agenda Item 4

Council/Committee:
Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee

Agenda Item: 11.2 – Anti Modern Slavery Report
Sharing my research on Modern Slavery with committee members/participants or the meeting planned on 30th May 2024.

The action I wish the Council/Committee to take:

I am a professor of sustainability accounting and transparency at the University of Aberdeen. Currently, I am leading two research projects on modern slavery within global supply chains. I would like to share my research on Modern slavery with members for the meeting planned on 30th May 2024 for Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee.

Our research would be relevant for the council from the following angles:

- a) Procurements of any kind such as PC, garments for council staff, catering, industrial materials (wood, bricks, tiles, etc.) from overseas suppliers. It is important that the council ensures that there is no forced labor and exploitation during production/supply chains.
- b) The council's policy influence over businesses and partners operating in its jurisdiction. It is important to assure that businesses are free from modern slavery and human rights risks.

Meanwhile, I have submitted 'A Response to The Call for Evidence Launched into The Impact of The Modern Slavery Act 2015' to the House of Lords Committee. They are currently reviewing the impact of the Act so far.

- **Muhammad Azizul Islam**

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Council/Committee:
Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee

Agenda Item:
RAAC Funding Update - May 2024

The action I wish the Council/Committee to take:

1.Acknowledge that Aberdeen City Council (ACC) actively encouraged and guided homeowners to purchase properties in Balnagask under the Right to Buy scheme. Their officers presented this opportunity as a means to create a lasting legacy for descendants and achieve equitable homeownership.

2.Recognize the failure to meet the objectives of the Right to Buy scheme. Acknowledge joint responsibility with the Scottish Government for selling properties that have now become financial and safety liabilities.

3.Commit to implementing a similar process as West Lothian Council, which opened their buy-back system to RAAC homeowners. Additionally, pledge to arrange a meeting with Housing Minister Paul McLennan MSP to seek funding opportunities for affected homeowners. Continue to advocate for Scottish Government funding for homeowners.

4.Introduce rent pressure zones for newly built developments in the Balnagask area. This initiative ensures that prioritized council tenants, who are forced to relocate, can expect rental rates similar to their current payments upon return. Ensure the availability of relocation grants to cover return costs.

5.Increase the grants available to council tenants compelled to move. For instance, Basildon Council currently provides £8,860 in relocation grants, setting a precedent for appropriate financial support in similar circumstances.

Hannah Chowdhry

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Deputation Request – RAAC item 11.5

I am writing to request a deputation at the Communities, Housing and Public Protections Committee meeting at 10.00am on 30.05.24, relating to agenda point 11.5: RAAC Funding Update.

I am a council tenant personally affected by the RAAC in Balnagask and wish to speak on behalf of the Torry Community RAAC Campaign.

I wish to ask the committee to ensure that funds promised to council tenants are delivered to them in a more timely manner. TCRC has been very concerned to hear about tenants waiting several weeks after handing in their old keys for the £1500 home-loss payment.

Paula Fraser – Torry Community RAAC Campaign

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<i>Terms of Reference V1</i>	Housing Board	<i>February 2024</i>
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Our Purpose

The Board will develop and monitor the implementation of strategies, policies and plans designed to ensure a housing supply which matches the needs of the city and that the councils own housing stock is energy efficient and well maintained. In doing so the Board will consider all internal and external factors to the Council to fully understand the current and future housing environment and its potential impact on the Council and the place of Aberdeen.

The Housing Board will monitor the delivery of housing related commissioning intentions and overseeing improved performance against agreed service standards and KPIs.

The Group will also lead on the delivery of the Council’s response emerging issues e.g. managing the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) following the immediate response. The Group will also lead work encompassing both Public Buildings and Council Housing and oversee fire safety arrangements, following the conclusions from the Grenfell Inquiry.

Our Responsibilities

- Provide strategic direction and stewardship for all housing related activity.**
- Oversee and consider the output from the Housing Needs Demand Assessment (HNDA).
 - In collaboration with the Strategy Board, approve the Local Housing Strategy and 30 year HRA Business and Asset Management Plan.
 - Develop/commission a performance dashboard.
 - Oversee a master programme plan and report progress against milestones
- Scrutinise performance against the Scottish Housing Regulator standards, ACC’s service standards and key performance indicators through a Performance Dashboard**
- Improve the utilisation of the council housing stock
 - Improve allocations
 - Monitor delivery of the housing capital programme including new builds.
 - Monitor implementation of the planned maintenance programme, including retrofit.
 - Decrease voids
 - Improve repairs response times
 - H&S and cyclical maintenance performance including fire safety
- Provide strategic direction and stewardship to all work relating to the Council’s response to RAAC in our estate (following the conclusion of our initial response)**
- Manage the budget assigned to support the response to RAAC in the Council’s estate.
 - Procure and appoint the required consultancy, design and implementation work as necessary.

- Ensure engagement with tenants, owners, and all key stakeholders, and manage their influence and expectations.

Help remove blockages and make key decisions on emerging issues and risks.

- Ensure appropriate capacity and capability is in place to deliver, and where necessary, prioritise resources as required to manage risks to the point of deescalation eg RAAC.

The Team

Members of the Group are:

- Eleanor Sheppard, Executive Director (Chair)
- Gale Beattie, Executive Director (Vice Chair)
- Jacqui McKenzie, Chief Officer Housing (reports on the utilisation of housing stock, allocations and strategy development)
- Stephen Booth, Chief Officer Corporate Landlord (reports on the planned maintenance programme, including retrofit, voids, repairs and H&S cyclical maintenance programme)
- John Wilson, Chief Officer Capital (reports on the Capital programme, including new builds)
- Martin Murchie, Chief Officer Data and Insights
- Mel Booth, Senior Housing Strategy Officer
- Rachel Harrison, Locality Inclusion Manager
- Martin Smith, Locality Inclusion Manager
- Ian Perry, Housing Assets Team Leader
- Bill Watson, Principal Architect
- Colin Doig, New Housing Manager
- Helen Sherrit, Finance Partner

The Way We Work

- The Executive Director Families and Communities will chair the meeting, the Executive Director City Regeneration and Environment will act as vice Chair
- The Board will meet once a month for 2 hours and must have 5 members to be quorate.
- A Teams site will hold all Board documentation, including the One Note with linked papers, and should be used for all collaboration.
- Workstream leads will provide an update one week in advance of each meeting through a power point slide deck
- The Board will provide highlight reports to CMT and ECMT