

REPORT TO: HOUSING COMMITTEE – 16TH JUNE 2003

REPORT ON: LAUNDRY FACILITIES IN MULTI STOREY SHELTERED HOUSING

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

REPORT NO.: 383-2003

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1. To introduce a scheme to allow residents of Multi Storey Sheltered Housing access to laundry facilities on a similar basis to other sheltered housing tenants.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1. It is recommended that Committee agree to provide free wash and dry facilities to Multi Storey Sheltered Housing tenants.

3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1. Costs will be limited to power and maintenance of the machines and will be dependant on take up of facilities.

4. **LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. Delivering a service which meets the needs of older people.

5. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. Access to laundry facilities for Multi Storey sheltered tenants allows consistency of service across all sheltered housing provision.

6. **BACKGROUND**

6.1. Tenants of all Council sheltered housing, with the exception of Multi Storey sheltered tenants, enjoy free use of laundry facilities available at purpose built Sheltered Housing Complexes.

6.2. In the case of Multi Storey property, the Council is obliged to provide, for a charge, laundry facilities for all tenants. These facilities have been provided since the construction of the buildings.

6.3. Since the introduction of sheltered housing, tenants in complexes outwith Multi Storey property have enjoyed the use of dedicated laundry facilities as part of their sheltered package.

6.4. When sheltered housing was introduced to existing Multi Storey property it was not possible to install dedicated sheltered housing laundry facilities in addition to those facilities available to all tenants. At the time it was considered appropriate that all Multi Storey tenants should share the facilities on the same basis and all tenants continue to pay for this use of the facilities.

6.5. Recent demolition of Multi Storey property across the city has lead to the consolidation of sheltered tenants in fewer Multi Storey blocks and has highlighted the anomaly between Multi Storey sheltered tenants and others as regards laundry facilities.

- 6.6. It is now intended to introduce a scheme whereby Multi Storey Sheltered Housing tenants will have access to laundry facilities on a free of charge basis.
- 6.7. Scheme details are now being finalised and will involve the introduction of special tokens for sheltered tenants. This will allow monitoring and audit of the scheme. It is hoped to introduce the scheme from 4th August 2003 once facilities and systems are in place.
- 6.8. The scheme will be monitored to ensure appropriate use and adequate access to facilities for all Multi Storey tenants.
7. **CONSULTATION**
- 7.1. Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance, Director of Corporate Planning and Director of Social Work have been consulted on the content of this report.

Elaine Zwirlein
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

22nd May 2003