

REPORT TO: RECESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**REPORT ON: NEW HOUSING PARTNERSHIPS
ARDLER RE-APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT ADVISOR**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

REPORT NO.: 455/2000

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To seek approval to extend the contract of Organisational Development and Support Ltd. (ODS) as Independent Advisor to tenants' and residents' representatives and individual tenants, on stock transfer and wider regeneration issues, in the Ardlar New Housing Partnership.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1. The contract between the Council and ODS, entered into on 25 January 2000, be extended up until the date of the stock transfer ballot, on the basis that additional costs do not exceed £21,600 excluding expenses, provisionally estimated at £2,500.00

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The Director of Finance advises that the cost can be funded from the New Housing Partnership allocation.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The recommendations in the report ensures compliance with the following Agenda 21 themes:

- Local needs are met locally.
- All sections of the community are empowered to participate.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The recommendations in the report will ensure that all sections of the Ardlar community will be in receipt of Independent Advice on stock transfer and regeneration issues.

6. **BACKGROUND**

- 6.1. ODS's tender of £39,600.00 for the Ardler NHP Independent Advice Assignment was accepted by Housing Committee in January 1999. The completion date for the assignment to co-incide with the ballot of tenants.

At the date of appointment it was anticipated that this would be end of March 2000.

Housing Committee reached this decision in light of a decision by a Selection Panel of tenants' representatives to choose ODS from four competing bids.

- 6.2. As the ballot of tenants is now unlikely to be held until the end of the current calendar year, (for reasons outwith the Council's or ODS's control), ODS submitted a fixed price costed proposal for an extension to their contract. This amounted to £21,600.00 excluding expenses provisionally estimated at £2,500.00.
- 6.3. Staff daily rate costs now being sought by ODS match staff daily rate costs of two of the other original tenderers, as at January 1999.
- 6.4. Ardler NHP has now reached a critical stage in its development. To seek to make a new appointment at this time would be highly disruptive and provide no guarantee that a tender lower than ODS's could be obtained.

ELAINE ZWIRLEIN
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____