

**REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
27 SEPTEMBER 2004**

**REPORT ON: STOBSWELL STRATEGY – MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

**REPORT NO: 607-2004**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval of a management arrangement involving the local community for the regeneration of the Stobswell Study Area.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the promotion of a “Stobswell Partnership” to oversee and direct the implementation of the Stobswell Regeneration Strategy. The partnership will involve the Dundee Community Planning Partners and representatives of the Stobswell Forum, the local business community, landlords and local elected members.

**3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

3.1 There are no direct financial implications.

**4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Promotion of this arrangement seeks to allow all sections of the community to participate in decision making.

**5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The arrangement seeks to involve a broad spectrum of the community.

**6 BACKGROUND**

6.1 A key objective of the Dundee Partnership Community Planning Building Stronger Communities Group is “to demonstrate the long term viability of inner city communities by achieving a sustainable regeneration of Stobswell”.

6.2 Local concern about the decline of the neighbourhood brought about the formation of the Stobswell Forum which is now recognised as a local representative body. The Stobswell Forum has been a key player in preparing the Local Community Plan.

6.3 To investigate ideas and develop a strategy for regeneration the Dundee Partnership established a working group known as the Stobswell Steering Group. This has been chaired by the Planning and Transportation Department representative. The Group has grown over time and currently includes representatives from the Council’s Planning and Transportation, Housing, Economic Development and Communities Departments, Communities Scotland, NHS Tayside, local housing associations and the Chair of the Stobswell Forum.

- 6.4 Now the position has matured to a situation where the Regeneration Strategy needs to be taken forward and move into consultation and implementation phases. Eventually, thought will need to be given to a longer term “neighbourhood management” phase.
- 6.5 It is proposed that the successful regeneration experience in Ardler should be drawn on. Although the strategy for Ardler was quite different to how Stobswell can be regenerated, the project management and community involvement arrangements are instructive and could form the basis of a suitable mechanism for Stobswell.
- 6.6 It is proposed that a “Stobswell Partnership” is formed with a Board which will generally oversee and direct the implementation of the Stobswell Regeneration Strategy. It will be a principal means of feeding back views and information to and from the community. It will probably meet on a quarterly basis depending on the volume of business. The meetings will probably be in the evening, but that will be for the group to decide. The suggested make up of the Partnership Board would be;
- The Stobswell Forum (2 representatives);
  - The Stobswell Landlords Forum (1 representative);
  - The Stobswell Business Community (1 representative);
  - a local head teacher;
  - the local elected members (Councillors Morrow, Fordyce and W Dawson);
  - Dundee City Council Housing Department (1 representative);
  - Dundee City Council Planning & Transportation Department (1 representative);
  - Dundee City Council Economic Development Department (1 representative);
  - Dundee City Council Finance Department (1 representative);
  - Forum of Housing Associations (1 representative);
  - Communities Scotland (1 representative); and
  - NHS Tayside (1 representative).
- 6.7 Experience from Ardler has shown that officer representation at a high level fosters local confidence, quick decision making and prompt action, therefore each organisation will be asked to nominate a representative who meets this requirement. As in Ardler, it is proposed that the Board be chaired by a senior officer of the Council, in this case the Director of Planning and Transportation will take on this role.
- 6.8 To support the Stobswell Partnership it is proposed that a Stobswell Officer Co-ordinating Group continues to help manage the implementation of the strategy and development framework. This group will meet on a monthly basis and will continue to have representation from the Stobswell Forum. Any special sub-groups

required to take forward a particular project or topic can have appropriate local community representation on it.

- 6.9 The Stobswell Partnership will periodically report to the Building Stronger Communities Group to ensure compatibility with the Community Plan.

## **7 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

## **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

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Mike Galloway  
Director of Planning & Transportation

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Ian Mudie  
Head of Planning

IGSM/LB/KM/Temp/43

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Dundee City Council  
Tayside House  
Dundee