

REPORT TO: Housing Committee – 20 November 2000

REPORT ON: Demolition of Properties at 21-23 Linfield Street, Dundee.

REPORT BY: Director of Housing

REPORT NO.: 700 - 2000

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To note the demolition of the properties at 21 and 23 Linfield Street, to agree to the remedial works at 25 Linfield Street and the post demolition/environmental works in the vicinity of the above addresses.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Committee:

1. Note the necessity for the City Engineer to demolish the properties at 21 and 23 Linfield Street.
2. Agree to reinstate the property at 25 Linfield Street to a habitable condition.
3. Agree to carry out post demolition works at these addresses.
4. Agree to carry out any necessary repairs to neighbouring properties.
5. Agree to the removal of 21 and 23 Linfield Street from the Housing Department Letting Stock.
6. Agree to the suspension of the Housing Department Letting Regulations and afford the Director of Housing discretionary powers to respond to the rehousing requirements of the household occupants of 21, 23 and 25 Linfield Street.

3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

In the interests of public safety it has been necessary to proceed, as a matter of urgency, with the demolition and necessary remedial works at 21/25 Linfield Street.

This expenditure can be met from the Insurance Fund. The costs of these works will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

4. **LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

This report has implications for the following Local Agenda 21 themes:

1. Structurally unsafe properties are removed from the Housing stock.
2. "Local needs are met locally". The events of Sunday, 22 October 2000, have had a traumatic effect on the local community and normality requires to be restored to build public confidence and community spirit.

5. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

6. **CONSULTATION**

The nature of the events have not allowed consultation on the contents of this report. Consultation, in line with the Tenant Participation Policy, will be carried out once the recommendations have been approved and carried out on the future of this site.

7. **BACKGROUND**

The explosion at 21 and 23 Linfield Street resulted in tragic consequences to the residents. It also rendered 2 properties structurally unsafe and uneconomical to reinstate.

The resultant Health and Safety Executive Enquiry demanded the houses be demolished to supply vital information. At this time, responsibility for the cause of the explosion is still under investigation.

The devastating effects on those directly affected by the incident has resulted in a need to rehouse them immediately and permanently. The Letting Regulations do not accommodate these particular circumstances. Thus, the Director of Housing requests authority to allocate at her discretion.

The local community confidence has been unsettled by the recent events and the Housing Department require to return the area to a sense of normality at the earliest opportunity.

ELAINE ZWIRLEIN
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Happy Hillock Walk

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APPENDIX 1

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LINFIELD STREET

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