

**Stourbridge Area Committee: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Responses to Questions**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To inform the Committee of the written responses made to questions asked at previous meetings.

**Background**

2. At meetings of this Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2005, it was indicated that written replies would be sent to the questioners concerned. The responses are as indicated.
3. In response to concerns expressed by a member of the public regarding responsibility for rewiring Council properties with regard to recent legislation, the Area Housing Manager, Stourbridge has written, informing the questioner on the statutory responsibilities of the Council as Landlord under the appropriate various pieces of legislation and impact on the Council of the new legislation, in particular Part P of the Building Regulations. The Area Housing Manager undertook to make further enquiries through the questioner's Insurance Company, if furnished with the necessary details, and to inform him of the outcome of such enquiries.
4. In response to enquiries made by a member of the public regarding the four boarded up empty houses in Foster Street East, the Head of Traffic and Road Safety has written to the member of the public, advising that following his investigations, he had been advised that all four properties are affected by a Highway Improvement Line. House No. 18 is owned by Tesco and is a semi detached house, adjoining No. 20. It is understood that the building is sealed against intruders.  
House Nos. 20, 22 and 26 are Council owned properties. It is understood that these three properties have been securely sealed with steel security grids on all external doors and windows. It is intended that house No 22 will be demolished during the Autumn of 2005. Cleanliness and safety around the four properties will be monitored and any necessary action taken until future plans for the area are determined.
5. In response to a member of the public's comments regarding the unkempt state of Withymoor Village and surrounding area, the Greencare Area Manager has met with the member of the public to discuss all the concerns. He has, following further investigations, written to the member of the public advising that the respective landowners have been contacted bringing to their respective attention

the concerns expressed at the meeting of the Committee and requesting that the appropriate action be taken.

### **Finance**

6. There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

### **Law**

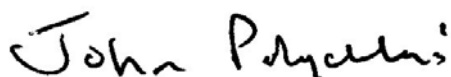
7. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

### **Equality Impact**

8. The report takes into account the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

### **Recommendation**

9. The Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.



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**J POLYCHRONAKIS**  
**AREA LIAISON OFFICER**

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### **List of Background Papers**

Question slips handed in at previous meetings of the Stourbridge Area Committee.

Correspondence sent in response by Council Officers.