

NORTH DUDLEY AREA COMMITTEE

DATE: 16th SEPTEMBER 2004

DISPOSAL OF LAND

**LOCATION: FORMER SONS OF REST, ADJOINING SILVER JUBILEE PARK,
COSELEY**

(As shown on the plan attached)

BACKGROUND

An application to dispose of the above site was presented to the North Dudley Area Committee on the 14th March 2002 and it was resolved to advise the Director of Social Services to refuse the application. The building had been used by the Silver Jubilee Nursery. Since the site was vacated, the former Sons Of Rest building has been subjected to repeated acts of vandalism. A report on the condition of the building by the Dudley Property Consultancy, Directorate of Law & Property, has strongly recommended the urgent demolition of the building.

The land is under the control of the Directorate of the Urban Environment.

COMMENTS

The relevant Council Directorates have been consulted regarding the proposed demolition and no objections have been received.

The Director of Law and Property has advised that the building is now in very poor condition and is a target for repeated vandalism and arson. The damage has affected the structure and now compromises public safety. No alternative uses have been suggested for the building from other Directorates and to restore it to use would be prohibitively expensive. In view of the risk to public safety and the remote likelihood that the building has a future use, it is recommended that it be demolished without delay.

PROPOSAL

That the Area Committee advise the Lead Member for Directorate of the Urban Environment to approve the demolition of the former Sons of Rest. The site is then to be incorporated into the Silver Jubilee Park.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. E-mails and memos from the Council Directorates.

Contact Officer: Alan Nugent, Property Manager, Ext. 5351