

TO: COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 4 MARCH 2003
SUBJECT: EMPTY PROPERTY WORK WITHIN WARWICK DISTRICT
FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The Community Scrutiny Committee asked to be informed about the current position with regard to Empty Property Work carried out by the Council. This Report traces the work of the Empty Property Officer (1996 - 1999), and the actions taken since his departure. It also gives some suggestions on the manner in which the work may be taken forward.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Warwick District Council is required to publish information about the numbers of empty properties brought back into use by direct action of the local authority. (Best Value Performance Indicator 64).

3. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

3.1 The Council's Empty Property Strategy, written in 1996/7, has had little work done on it since the Empty Property Officer's contract ended 1999. Since then, Environmental Health has continued it's Housing Grant work and, latterly, has provided figures for publication as required by BVPI 64. This year, 2002/3, the PI will show a poor performance when compared with other authorities in the locality.

4. OUTCOME(S) REQUIRED

4.1 Members are requested to study the Report and comment on future actions.

Paul Leeman
Divisional Environmental Health Officer

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Warwick District Council Empty Property Strategy
2. Warwick District Council Empty Property Exit Strategy
3. Code of Guidance on the collection of BVPI 64 published by The Empty Homes Agency and The National Association of Empty Property Practitioners.

Areas in District Affected: All.

Executive Portfolio Area and Holder: Cllr Alan Boad - Housing Services

For further information about this report please contact:

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