STORAGE FOR 'PAVEMENT BUGGIES' (Min 118/2001)

1 SUMMARY

1.1 Members will recall their request that officers investigate the possibility of garage type storage for pavement buggies at the Council's sheltered housing accommodation.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 A survey has been carried out of those tenants who already own buggies to ascertain whether they would use, and pay for, garage facilities. (Appendix 1)
- 2.2 The result of that survey is show at Appendix 2.
- 2.3 Members will see from Appendix 2 that there would be very little interest. Of those who showed interest, some tenants would not be prepared to pay rent, others are not prepared, nor indeed in some case are they fit enough, to walk from the potential sites. Of the 501 tenancies only 18 individuals have pavement buggies. Of the 18 individuals surveyed, there were 7 positive responses to the provision of garage storage but only 6 of those were prepared to pay rent.

3 SPACE AVAILABLE AT SHELTERED SCHEMES

- 3.1 Appendix 3 shows garages currently constructed at sheltered schemes and the availability of space to construct further shelter.
- 3.2 Of the 14 sheltered schemes, 7 sites already have garages constructed on site. (11 in total) All are tenanted.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 All types of storage would be lockable but tenants would of course need to insure the vehicles against theft.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATION

5.1 If the construction of garage storage were to be considered, the available space would be likely to be at the front of the schemes and would be unlikely to be aesthetically pleasing. Indeed in some cases such a building would obstruct the view and block the light from several flats at each scheme. Location may be subject to planning permission.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

| Cost to erect garage buildings only | Cost to erect Secure areas only | Cost to erect garage buildings & spaces where possible. | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 4 x £5000 = £20,000 | 26 = £28,600 | 4 x £5000 = 26 Total | £20,000 £28,600 £48,600 |

- 6.1 Cost of obtaining Planning Permission £95.00 per application x = £380.00. Additional costs for preparation of plans.
- 6.2 Possible loss of revenue on 11 current tenanted garages £5.80 per week from April 2001, and possible non use of new storage due to lack of interest.

Current income 11 garages £3,317.60 per annum
Current interest shown
6 x £2.80 £873.60 per annum

- 6.3 Any loss of income would have to be subsidised by the tenants living in sheltered accommodation. The majority would have to subsidise the minority.
- 6.4 Should members approve action on this issue it will have to be included within the Major Repairs Allowance.

7 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RESOLVES**

That a policy on the storage of pavement buggies be agreed:-

- (1) At schemes where there are currently no buggies, maintain the status quo.
- (2) At schemes where tenants would be prepared to pay for storage, and additional storage is available, provide storage. At schemes where only a garage conversion could take place, await vacancy and convert the garage to storage.

S. J. Clarkson

Head of Revenues & Housing Management

Background Papers:

For further information please contact Ann Dutton on:-

Tel:- 01702 318063

E-Mail:- ann.dutton@rochford.gov.uk