RURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

All Local Authority Chief Executives
By e-mail
c/o Clerk to the Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
Tel: (0131) 348 5240
e-mail: racce.committee@scottish.parliament.uk

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Dear Chief Executive

Disposal of Local Authority Assets

As you may be aware the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee has been taking evidence on Part 4 of the draft Community Empowerment Bill, which makes a range of changes to the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 in relation to the community right to buy land.

In discussing this with local authorities and development trusts the issue of the disposal of local authority assets arose. I would be grateful if, on behalf of your local authority, you could provide the Committee with the following information:

- Does your authority have arrangements in place to hold some or all local authority assets in a separate land holding?
- When disposing of, or transferring assets how are those assets valued. To what degree is this purely a financial valuation?
- What is the attitude of the authority to the disposal of assets? Does your authority have a policy to encourage the disposal of assets to community groups?
- What is your experience of disposal and what difficulties has the authority encountered?
As the Committee will be concluding its Stage One consideration of the draft Bill and reporting the Local Government and Regeneration Committee in January it would be helpful to have your response by 12 January 2015.

Yours sincerely

Rob Gibson MSP
Convener