

**BREAKING NEWS:** Argyll and Bute YES vote sets a UK and Scottish record.

## Tenants say YES to transfer



An overwhelming majority of tenants have given their backing to housing transfer in the recently completed ballot meaning that, subject to final Scottish Executive approval, transfer will now take place next year. ACHA's plans received a record 90 per cent of the 4000 votes cast when the ballot result was announced last week at a full Council meeting.

### ACHA delighted by record YES vote, says Chairman

We are delighted that you have given our transfer proposals the thumbs-up, with such a large number of you making the effort to vote YES.

This fantastic result means that, subject to consent by the Scottish Executive, the way has now been paved for the transfer of the Council's entire housing stock to ACHA, in the summer of 2006.

I would like to thank you all for turning out and supporting the transfer proposals, which will inject badly needed new investment and deliver improved housing and housing services as well as a significant programme of new house building.

**Norman Beaton, ACHA Chairman**

**90% of tenants voted YES  
10% of tenants voted NO  
63% turnout  
6388 tenants eligible to vote**

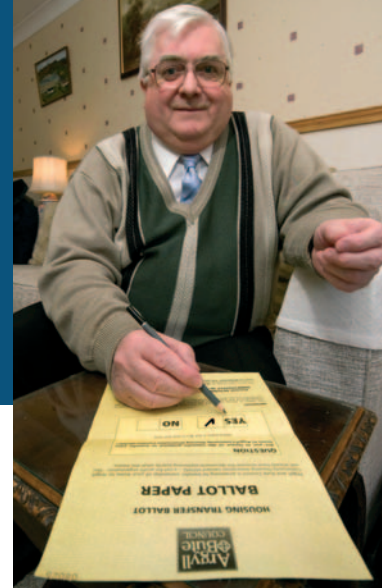
### YES vote presents 'a great opportunity'

I would like to say how delighted I am that you have given ACHA your overwhelming support. This result is the culmination of two years hard work by everyone on the ACHA team, but it is only the start. Now we would like to work together with all tenants, whether they voted yes, no, or not at all - to build a better standard of housing in Argyll and Bute.

**Alastair MacGregor, ACHA Chief Executive**



# ACHA would like to wish every tenant a very Merry Christmas



## What happens next?

**Subject to consent by the Scottish Executive, transfer of your homes to ACHA will take place in Summer 2006.**

### Terms

Between now and the official handover, we will be working closely with Argyll and Bute Council to negotiate the exact terms of the transfer before signing a legally binding contract of sale. We will also be working with Communities Scotland to ensure that everything is in place to achieve a smooth handover.

### Getting to work

Now that we have your overwhelming support, ACHA will soon be able to get to work carrying out badly needed improvements to your homes.

ACHA's **home improvement programme** was identified as the most positive aspect of transfer, with modern kitchens and bathrooms being the two most important improvements to tenants homes. ACHA plans to replace all kitchens and bathrooms in all properties that need them, within the next six years.

Addressing the housing shortage in Argyll and Bute, ACHA plans to build 150 **new homes** a year within two years of transfer

### Tenant involvement

ACHA sees tenant involvement as a key part of delivering a high quality service. Over the next few months we will be looking for volunteers interested in joining the four **new Area Committees** which will serve Helensburgh and Lomond, Mid Argyll and Kintyre, Bute and Cowal, and Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

Membership will be open to all residents of Argyll and Bute over the age of 18, except for tenants of ACHA who can become members on reaching the age of 16.

If you think that you can make a valuable contribution and would like to apply to become a member contact us on 01436 65 8927, or look out for our advert which will be appearing in the local press shortly.

### Communication

We hope that, throughout the transfer process, we have kept you all well informed of developments through our newsletters, leaflets and doorknocking. Following the successful ballot we will continue to inform you of our plans and progress in similar ways.

**GET IN TOUCH...** 

**01436 65 8927**

visit our **website:** [www.acha.co.uk](http://www.acha.co.uk) or  
send an email to [christine.johnston@acha.co.uk](mailto:christine.johnston@acha.co.uk)

If you have any comments or queries on this newsletter please contact:

Dan Hughes, TNC, tel 01698 420420, fax 01698 424000 or email [team@tnc.uk.com](mailto:team@tnc.uk.com)

**Argyll Community Housing Association**  
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### SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS NEEDS

If you, a relative or neighbour needs assistance with understanding this bulletin because of visual impairment, learning difficulty or language reasons please contact us and we will be glad to help.