

West Dunbartonshire Council**Councillor Geoffrey G Calvert**

Home address:

45 Mary Fisher Crescent

Lomond Gate

Dumbarton G82 1BJ

Home tel/fax: (01389) 730983

Council Offices
Garsshake Road
Dumbarton
G82 3PU

Tel: (01389) 737749

Fax: (01389) 737219

GC/FD/1

27 May 2008

Mrs Agnes-Mary McGroarty
The Abbotsford Hotel
Stirling Road
DUMBARTON
G82

Dear Agnes-Mary

FIRE AT LOMOND COURT, WEST BRIDGEND, DUMBARTON, 19 MAY 2008

I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks to you and to all of your staff who responded so magnificently, and with no notice, to make accommodation and facilities available in order to house the residents displaced as a consequence of the fire. It was a most traumatic time for all of our residents, particularly for those of advanced years and/or who are disabled.

We always assume and expect that the Emergency Services – Police, Fire and Rescue and Ambulance will perform with excellence but when a situation develops beyond those services, it is the Local Authority's Emergency Planning procedures that come in to play. As part of those procedures, the Council could not have achieved such an efficient and effective response without your help.

On the evening of Tuesday 20th May, even whilst some residents were still returning to their homes, I chaired a public meeting at West Bridgend. At this meeting, we were able to explain the full circumstances surrounding the incident to all the residents of West Bridgend, not just those of Lomond Court. After explanations from Police, Fire, Emergency Planning and Mrs Elaine Melrose, the Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development, and many questions from the audience, the audience applauded the success of everyone in managing the effects of the incident so well. The efforts of everyone at The Abbotsford Hotel were included in that applause.

On behalf of all of the residents, and on my own behalf as one of the local Councillors, I would ask that you pass on my thanks to every member of your staff who was involved. They were wonderful. I am sure that you are as proud of them as I am.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Geoff Calvert
Ward 3 - Dumbarton