

TONGUE

8th August,

63.

Police Station House, Tongue.

Sir,

With reference to the above Police House, I have to report the following complaints and defects for your consideration for repairs and improvements.

Both Bedrooms

There are holes in the floors of both bedrooms caused by woodworm and dry rot and the flooring is now becoming dangerous and needs replacing.

Owing to sloping ceilings it is impossible to have a large piece of furniture in either room and my large wardrobe has to remain in the front porch. The plaster is bulging on the sloping ceilings and is liable to fall at any time.

When one lifts the floor covering from the bedroom above the living room and switches off the light, it is possible to see the light shining up through the floorboards from the living room.

There are broken cords in both room windows.

Landing and Stairway

Rain comes into the house at the edge of the skylight on the landing.

The woodwork on the landing and stairway is infected with woodworm and dry rot and, owing to the stairway being narrow with a sharp bend, it is dangerous and a large piece of furniture just cannot be taken upstairs.

In the water storage tank^{cupboard,} which is ~~is a cupboard~~ off the stairway, the plaster is bulging from the sloping ceiling and is liable to fall.

Front Porch

There is no electric light in the front porch and the window here cannot/

cannot be opened.

Holes are appearing in the lower end of the corrugated iron roof although at present no water appears to be coming through.

The lock on the front door is so rusted that it does not secure the door properly.

Living Room

There are flagstones on this floor which are damp and have large spaces between them and any floor covering which is laid is ruined.

There is a Heather Stove in this room which frequently gives off smoke and the fire bricks at the back and side of the fire are broken and cracked.

The rain water seeps in at the window.

In this apartment there is an electrical fitting which is hanging loose from the wall and is extremely dangerous to an adult let alone a child who may be playing near it.

The hot water storage tank which is in this apartment is now beginning to leak slightly.

Kitchenette and Bathroom

These apartments form a back porch onto the main building with the door of the bathroom leading off the kitchenette.

Kitchenette

There is insufficient room in the kitchenette in which to cook or wash clothes and it has the appearance of a 'Bothy'.

A pane of glass in the kitchenette window is broken and requires replacing.

There is only one sink.

There is very little cupboard space in which to store food and indeed insufficient cupboard space throughout the whole house.

There is a hole in the wall of this apartment above the living room door which is caused by bad workmanship in leading pipes through the wall.

It is very unhygienic as it is situated next to the bathroom.

Bathroom

There are two cracked panes of glass in the window and as there is no snib on the window it cannot be secured.

The waste water from the washhand basin comes back up through the drainage/

drainage pipe into the bath causing a bad smell.

Water is leaking from the roof into both the kitchenette and bathroom. (I have been told by Mr. More, Clerk of Works, that this matter is being taken in hand.)

Letter Box

There is no letter box on any door of the house or office, consequently if I am not at home at mailtime the kitchenette window has to be left unlocked to ensure a delivery of Police mail.

Decoration

The whole of the house, both inside and outside, requires extensive redecoration. (Last decorated approximately 11 years ago.)

Garden Fencing

The dyke around the garden is now in an almost ruinous condition and the heavy stones on it which are loose and falling constitute a danger to my child who plays in the garden. The wire fencing on top of the dyke is broken down and rusted and is not stock proof. I have tried to patch the fence up with old wire and whin branches but with little success. Stock still invade the garden and conditions such as these do not give one any incentive to keep a tidy garden or to cultivate it properly as invariably the fruits of ones labour feed the sheep stock of Tongue.

If a new Station were to be built in the immediate future, one could bear with these conditions, which in a Local Authority house in 1963 I can only describe as appalling, but as there seems little likelihood of this happening at present, I respectfully request that these complaints and defects be attended to and the house brought up to standard as far as the age of the building will permit.

Almost all of the complaints listed in this report were initially reported by me to the Chief Constable at Dornoch on 14th April, 1961.

I would like to thank the Chief Constable for the attention which he has given to my complaints regarding this Station since he became Chief Constable of this Force, and I am fully aware that the responsibility of the foregoing complaints not being attended to does not lie with the Chief Constable but with the Local Authority.

John B. Barry
Constable No. 44.