# Demolition begins at Clune Park estate, 'Britain's Chernobyl'



In Port Glasgow, the Clune Park housing estate, often referred to as 'Britain's Chernobyl', is set to undergo demolition as work commenced this week. The Inverclyde Council made the decision following safety concerns regarding the estate's deteriorating buildings, which have been abandoned for some time.

The Clune Park estate, which consists of approximately 430 properties spread across 45 tenement blocks, has become a notable location for urban explorers and photographers. The area is notorious for its unsafe conditions, prompting the council to increase security measures and issue warnings about the dangers of trespassing. The estate's reputation as 'Britain's Chernobyl' stems from the extensive neglect and decay that has plagued the site in recent years.

Inverclyde Council announced that demolition efforts are part of a broader initiative to ensure public safety. "Contractors on behalf of Inverclyde Council have moved on site to prepare for the demolition of the former school and church buildings within the estate within the next couple of weeks," stated a council representative. An initial phase of the demolition project will involve the dismantling of 138 properties located within 15 tenement blocks. The demolition work is anticipated to span approximately six months.

A report by the Daily Record noted the recent fire that ravaged a school within the area, rendering it beyond repair, along with a nearby church that has been deemed structurally unsafe. A spokesman for the council highlighted that "these works are being carried out in the interests of safety" following thorough investigations conducted by council building standards officers and external surveyors.

Stephen McCabe, the Leader of Inverclyde Council, affirmed, "It's important to remember that the former school and church buildings and the residential properties are being demolished in the interests of safety based on professional advice following extensive investigations." He added that the council prioritises public safety and is committed to taking necessary actions for the protection of the community.

In addition to safety concerns, the deterioration of the estate has been exacerbated by incidences of deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour. The council has been actively acquiring properties in Clune Park over recent years and now owns more than half of the estate.

Following the demolition, plans have been approved to construct new affordable homes for social rent, with up to 165 units projected to be developed in the area. As the council embarks on this significant redevelopment project, they have urged the public to adhere to safety warnings while demolition activities are underway.

The Clune Park estate represents a challenging chapter in the history of Port Glasgow, and the forthcoming demolition marks a potential turning point as the area seeks to progress towards rejuvenation.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.urbanrealm.com/news/11432/Demolition_of_notorious_Port_Glasgow_estate_to_begin.html> - This URL supports the claim about the Clune Park estate demolition, detailing the process and safety concerns. It mentions the involvement of Inverclyde Council and the phased demolition plan.
2. <https://projectscot.com/2025/04/work-to-begin-on-demolition-of-port-glasgows-clune-park-estate/> - This website article confirms the commencement of demolition works at Clune Park, highlighting the safety issues, including fire damage and anti-social behavior. It also notes the future plans for affordable housing.
3. <https://www.scottishhousingnews.com/articles/demolition-contractors-move-on-site-at-clune-park> - This news source further supports the details of the demolition, focusing on the contractors' site preparation and the council's efforts to ensure public safety during the process.
4. <https://www.urbanrealm.com/news/11432/Demolition_of_notorious_Port_Glasgow_estate_to_begin.html> - This article also confirms the fire damage to the school and church, which contributed to their structural instability and the decision for demolition.
5. <https://www.scottishhousingnews.com/articles/demolition-contractors-move-on-site-at-clune-park> - This source mentions the broader project of regenerating Clune Park, including plans for up to 165 new affordable homes, which aligns with the council's long-term vision for the area.
6. <https://projectscot.com/2025/04/work-to-begin-on-demolition-of-port-glasgows-clune-park-estate/> - This article explains the challenges faced by the council, including securing ownership and funding for the new housing development, highlighting the complexities of the regeneration project.
7. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/britains-chernobyl-430-rotting-flats-35039060> - Please view link - unable to able to access data