

MRA centre to 'improve standards'

Midlands Reporter

Gwelo, Tuesday.

THE COOLMOREEN Moral Re-armament centre at Gwelo has every intention of achieving the highest possible standards as ways and means permit, a statement issued by the centre said today.

The statement follows a recommendation to the City Council to take immediate action in terms of the Public Health Act and by-laws.

The council's General Purposes Committee has been told that about 60 people are living at Coolmoreen Farm

and only 20 of these are employees.

The "immediate" action the committee has urged the council to take is to force compliance with requirements concerning accommodation sanitary and cooking facilities for genuine employees.

A report about the committee's recommendation appeared in yesterday's *Chronicle* and today's statement was issued by Mr. D. G. Barnett, the secretary of the council of management for Moral Re-armament, and Mr. R. T. Nyampingidza, the chairman of the Coolmoreen Farm Committee.

SURPRISED

It said: "We were surprised to see the question of our staff housing headlined in the paper particularly as we had been given a deadline for certain action and that deadline had not passed.

"Settling into a farm, getting the business side on its feet, and being faced with raising money for a much-needed building programme is no easy task.

"We would like to assure those interested that we are doing all we can. We have every intention of having the highest possible standards as ways and means permit.

"Coolmoreen Moral Re-armament Centre is meant to become a meeting place for people of all backgrounds where God's guidance will be sought on all aspects of living, both personal and national."

CHILDREN

Another source at the centre said the actual number of employees at the 300 ha. dairy and poultry farm — which was given to the movement in February — was between 20 and 30.

Of the number of 60 mentioned as living there about 27 of these were children of employees who, until the farm was incorporated into the municipal area, were allowed to live there.

The organisation had plans to build proper housing for its employees, but on a piecemeal basis. It needed time to do this and to raise the necessary money.