

EX19. Local Housing Strategy 2017-2012

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting the draft Local Housing Strategy (2017-2022) for approval and submission to the Scottish Government. The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 places a statutory duty on Councils to prepare local housing strategies, supported by an assessment of housing need and demand. The previous strategy covered the period 2011-2016 and 55 of the 59 actions were completed.

The draft strategy set out six key priorities:-

1. Increasing housing supply
2. Creating sustainable communities
3. Improving access to housing
4. Providing housing and support to vulnerable groups
5. Tackling fuel poverty
6. Improving housing conditions.

The draft strategy had been reviewed by the Scottish Government and feedback was received that it was a “very strong Local Housing Strategy”. In two areas additional information had been requested and the strategy had been amended to include this.

The report advised that the housing need and demand assessment had estimated that 591 additional homes would be required in the Falkirk area each year to 2021. The Council’s Strategic Housing Investment Plan would be reviewed and an updated plan for 2017-2022 would be submitted to the next meeting taking account of the allocation of an additional c£11.1m per annum from the Scottish Government’s Resource Planning Assumptions.

Decision

The Executive approved the Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 for submission to the Scottish Government.