

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title: Division Name and Mandate Review

Date Prepared: September 3, 2020

Report To: Committee of the Whole

Councillor and Role: Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, Housing

Ward: N/A

Decision/Direction Required: Adopt proposed division name and mandate change

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

Affordable, adequate and accessible housing is essential to the health of individuals, our communities and in preventing homelessness. The City of St. John's is committed to working together with the other levels of government, as well as community and private sector partners, to take the actions required to produce, protect and promote housing solutions for the people of St. John's.

Since the non-profit housing division was established, the City's areas of focus and scope of interest in the housing sector have evolved.

To clarify the City's role in the housing and homelessness sector, the following changes are proposed for the lead division on housing related matters.

1. That the division name be changed from 'Non-Profit Housing' to the 'Housing Division'.
2. That the mandate of the division be changed

From

'To provide adequate and affordable housing to residents of St. John's and surrounding areas'.

To

'To provide affordable housing to residents of St. John's and lead the City's commitments in the housing and homelessness sectors'

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3. That the division's work be defined as

Key areas of housing and homelessness work:

- To provide safe, adequate and affordable housing
- To lead the implementation of the City's 10-year affordable housing strategy
- To address emerging needs across the full housing and homelessness spectrum

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: Funding is already allocated for 2020 Affordable Housing objectives.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: The City's Affordable Housing Strategy was built upon public and strategic stakeholder engagement, and the implementation continues to be guided and shaped by multi-stakeholder partnerships and processes.
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans: The Affordable Housing Strategy aligns with the Strategic Plan's vision and directions. Affordable Housing implementations actions work in tandem with the Municipal Plan and Development Regulations.
4. Legal or Policy Implications: No legal implications.
5. Privacy Implications: None anticipated at this time.
6. Engagement and Communications Considerations: The City's Communications and OPS departments are aware, involved and very supportive of the work being completed by the Non-Profit Housing Division. Should the above recommendations be approved, they will be reflected on a housing division link on the City of St. John's webpage
7. Human Resource Implications: None anticipated at this time.
8. Procurement Implications: None anticipated at this time.
9. Information Technology Implications: None anticipated at this time.
10. Other Implications: None anticipated at this time.

Recommendation:

That Council rename the 'Non Profit Housing Division' as the 'Housing Division' and that Council adopt the Division's mandate to 'provide affordable housing to residents of St. John's and lead the City's commitments in the housing and homelessness sectors'.

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Tanya Haywood, Deputy City Manager, Community Services

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Housing Mandate .docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 4, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Judy Tobin - Sep 3, 2020 - 9:39 AM

Tanya Haywood - Sep 4, 2020 - 3:33 PM