

# INFORMATION NOTE

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**Title:** Shelters

**Date Prepared:** December 20<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Report To:** Affordable Housing Working Group

**Councillor and Role:** Deputy City Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary

**Ward:** N/A

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**Issue:** Emergency Shelters

## **Discussion – Background and Current Status:**

Council has requested that we have a discussion with members of the AHWG around what the City's interaction with emergency shelters is and what it could or should be.

The City's current interactions with emergency shelters include:

**Regulatory** - In partnership with Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, the City provides assistance with inspections and enforcement of the province's Emergency Shelter Program. On a pilot basis, the City of St. John's will inspect all buildings used for private emergency shelters every six months and nonprofit emergency shelters annually.

**Information** - The City documents information about emergency shelters as part of efforts to keep a nonmarket housing inventory

**Planning** - Development decisions with regards to emergency shelters are laid out in the City's Municipal Plan and Development Regulations

**Advocacy and system planning** - Via EHSJ (Part of the City until April 2020) - End Homelessness St. John's continues to support efforts and help lead discussion on the state of emergency shelters, as the system planning organization for St. John's.

## **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.

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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 under the Affordable Housing Strategy.
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.

**Conclusion/Next Steps:** We would like to have a discussion on the topic of emergency shelters.

**Prepared by/Date:** Simone Lilly, Affordable Housing and Development Facilitator

**Reviewed by/Date:** Judy Tobin, Manager, Non-Profit Housing

**Approved by/Date:** Judy Tobin, Manager, Non-Profit Housing

**Attachments:**