

**REPORT NO. 313 of the
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
HEALTH & CULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE**
of its meeting held July 8, 2015

Present:
Councillor Ed Sleiman, Chair
Councillor Paul Borrelli
Councillor Rino Bortolin
Councillor John Elliott
Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

That the following recommendation of the Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee **BE APPROVED** as follows:

Moved by Councillor Borrelli, seconded by Councillor Elliott,
THAT the Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community **BE RECEIVED** for information purposes; and

THAT the Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community **BE APPROVED** for submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in July as outlined in the Housing Services Act.

Carried.

Livelihood #17793 GH/11710

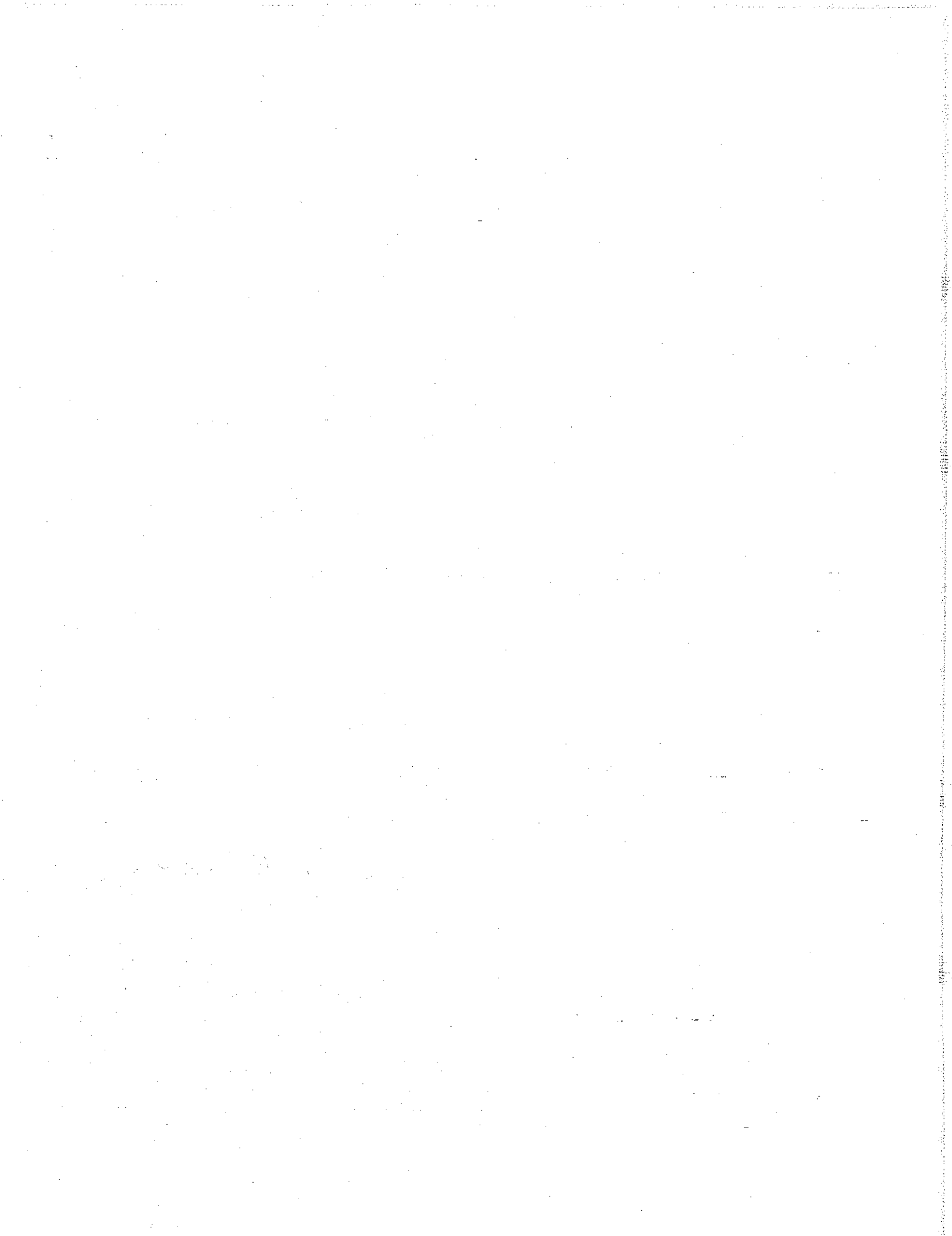
Clerk's Note: The administrative report authored by the Coordinator of Housing Administration & Development dated May 21, 2015 entitled "*Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community on the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan*" is **attached** as background information.


CHAIRPERSON


SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES

NOTIFICATION :

Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX
See notification list on report				



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR
Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee-
Administrative Report

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

"Our City is built on relationships – between citizens and their government, businesses and public institutions, city and region – all interconnected, mutually supportive, and focused on the brightest future we can create together."

LiveLink REPORT #: 17793 GH/11710	Report Date: May 21, 2015
Author's Name: Kelly Goz	Date to Standing Committee: July 8, 2015
Author's Phone: 519 255-5200 ext. 5362	Classification #:
Author's E-mail: kgoz@citywindsor.ca	

To: Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee

Subject: Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community on the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan

1. RECOMMENDATION: City Wide: Ward(s): _____

THAT the Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community **BE RECEIVED** for information purposes; and

THAT the Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community **BE APPROVED** for submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in July as outlined in the Housing Services Act.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

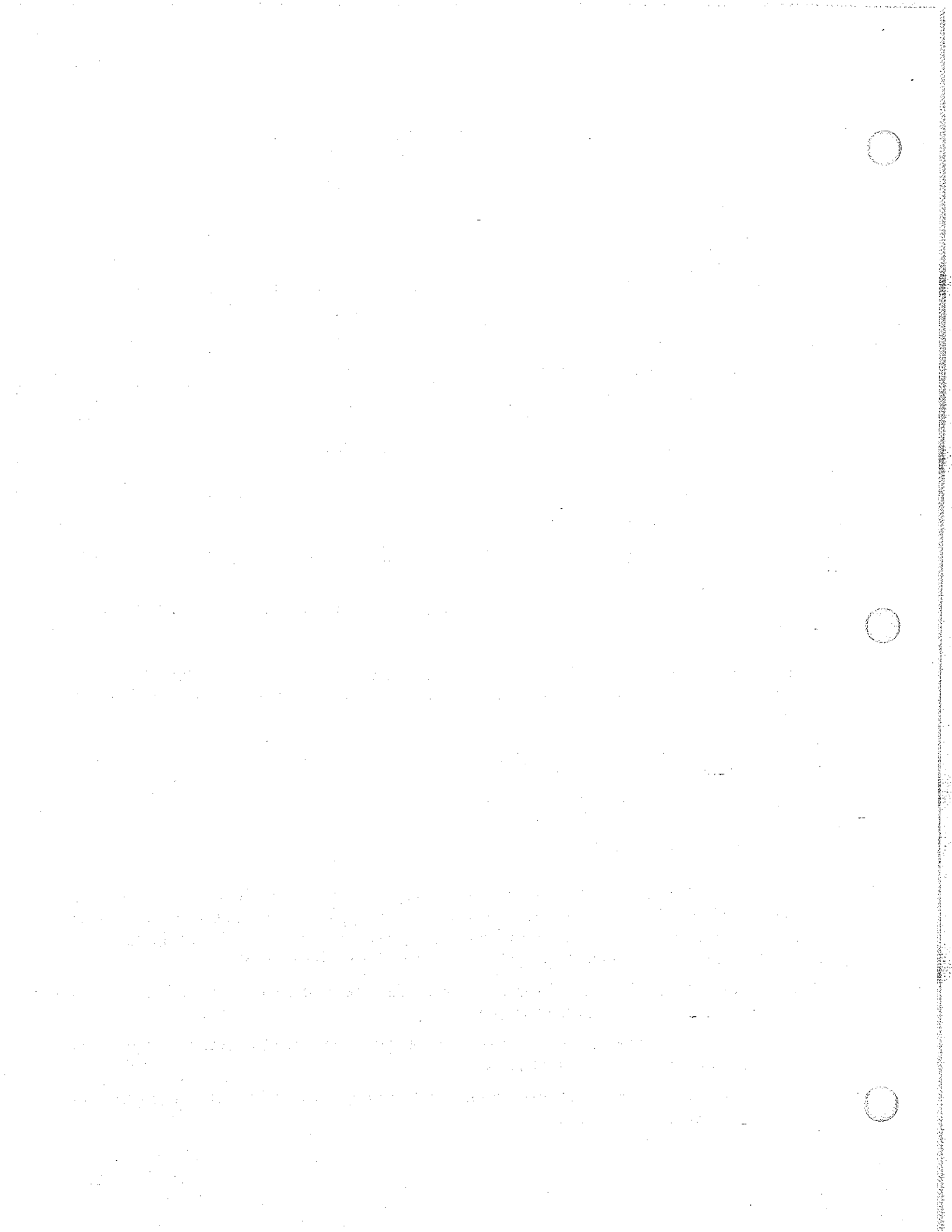
N/A

2. BACKGROUND:

The *Housing Services Act, 2011*, requires that every Service Manager have a plan to address housing and homelessness. In May 2014 City Council approved the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (Plan) and also approved the implementation of the strategies identified in the Plan (Council Report #17176, Council Resolution #128/2014).

Furthermore, Ontario Regulation 367/11 s.8 states that every year on or before June 30th the Service Manager must provide the details of:

- i. the measures undertaken by the service manager to meet the objectives and targets in its housing and homelessness plan, and
- ii. the progress achieved towards meeting those objectives and targets, as measured in accordance with the plan.



The first report to the community is due on June 30th, 2015 for the 2014 year as outlined Ontario. Reg. 317/13, s. 1.

Under the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan the Housing Advisory Committee (HAC), under strategy 7.1 “will be responsible for championing the implementation of the Plan and for evaluating and monitoring progress towards meeting the goals and strategies of the Plan.” The final review of the Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Report to the Community on the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan by HAC occurred on June 2, 2015, therefore causing a delay in bringing the final report before Council. A request had been made to, and was approved by, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to submit the final Council approved report in July. The Minister requires that Annual Reports be posted publicly by June 30th and this requirement has been met as this Council Report will have been posted on the City website prior to June 30th. The Annual Report will be emailed to MMAH who will be advised that Council approval will occur in July. Housing Services will confirm Council approval to MMAH in July.

3. DISCUSSION:

With the first year anniversary of Council’s approval of the Plan, the attached report is intended to highlight various accomplishments and challenges faced throughout 2014, and to provide a framework for items to be addressed moving forward into 2015

The Annual Report includes the following highlights:

- The initiation of the implementation of a comprehensive Housing First approach to deliver a system of housing and homelessness services;
- Increasing the number of affordable housing units through Rent Supplements and Housing Allowances;
- Assisting households in purchasing a home;
- Assisting households in providing renovations to their home;
- Approval of a multi-year plan to increase per diems for the Housing with Supports Program;
- Enhancement to the Trusteeship Program to assist participants in securing and maintaining housing, achieve education goals, access medical services, obtain healthy food and problem solve;
- Vacancy rates in Windsor Essex have decreased to 4.3% in Windsor and 2.4% in Leamington;
- The Central Housing Registry Waitlist has 2,700 active households on the waitlist;
- Interim Housing use: 3,728 nights spent at the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women at an average of 9.3 nights; 6,454 nights spent at the Salvation Army at an average of 8.3 nights; and 1,808 nights spent in motel at an average of 6.3 nights per household;
- Housing Stability Plan served 4,059 households with Rental and Utility Assistance and Housing Essential Fund;
- The majority of Windsor Essex Housing Stock is 35 to 58 years old; and
- 26 households were assisted with Homeownership Downpayment Assistance and 39 households with Ontario Renovates.

Priorities for 2015:

- Increase the supply of rental housing for households on, or eligible to be on, social housing waiting lists;
- Strengthen the Interim Housing sector, which will include a transition to block funding and right sizing the system;
- Expand the availability of Aboriginal Housing Support Workers;
- Continue dialogue and collaboration with the health sector and community stakeholders to increase coordination of support to maintain housing;
- Implement a Housing First intensive support initiative for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and/or who have the highest need within the community; and
- Implementation of coordinated access and coordinated access and common assessment for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness or at risk of homelessness with triaging to appropriate services.

4. RISK ANALYSIS:

Resource Risks: None identified.

Timing Risks: An extension to the end of July has been requested and approved by MMAH, submission of the council approved report must occur prior to the end of July 2015.

Cross-Corporate Impact Risks: There are no impacts on other departments. It is considered low impact and unlikely to occur.

Community Impact Risks: The risk in not delivering the housing and homelessness programs under the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan would be a lost opportunity to deliver supports to those in need of housing support in our community in order to meet their respective housing needs and to achieve goals consistent with the Plan.

Financial Impact Risks: None identified as all strategies are being funded through the approved municipal budget that includes funding from the provincial and federal governments.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

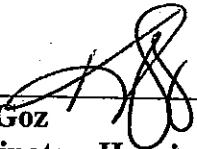
All the strategies identified within the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan are funded within the approved municipal budget that includes funding from the provincial and federal governments.

6. CONSULTATIONS:

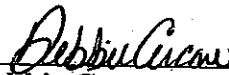
- Housing Advisory Committee;
- Implementation Committee for the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (I-CHHP);
- Communications and Customer Service

7. CONCLUSION:

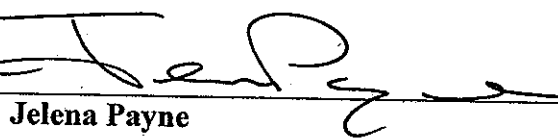
In summary, as of April 2015, 24 of 29 strategies identified under the Plan are currently underway or in process, with the assistance and dedication of our community partners we are well on our way to exceeding the anticipated targets identified in the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan for 2015. The first annual report to the community will provide the necessary framework for Windsor Essex as we move forward through the implementation phase of the Plan.




Kelly Goz
Coordinator, Housing Administration &
Development



Debbie Cercone
Executive Director, Housing & Children's
Services



Jelena Payne
Community Development and Health
Commissioner and Corporate Leader
Social Development, Health, Recreation
and Culture



for Helga Reidel
Chief Administrative Officer

KG

APPENDICES:
2014 Windsor Essex Annual Report to the Community on the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan

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2014

WINDSOR ESSEX ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE COMMUNITY ON THE 10 YEAR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS PLAN

www.citywindsor.ca



PREFACE

We are pleased to provide you with the first annual Report to the Community on the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (Plan). As Windsor Essex approaches the anniversary of the completion of the Plan, there are a number of things that have been accomplished by the community as we continue to work towards providing a comprehensive Housing First approach to deliver a system of housing and homelessness services. This report is intended to highlight various accomplishments and challenges faced throughout 2014, and to provide a framework for items to be addressed moving forward into 2015.

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

The Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA) requires that each Service Manager have a ten year plan to address Housing and Homelessness. The HSA required that each plan include the following principles:

1. Housing First
2. People-Centred
3. Partnership Based
4. Locally Driven
5. Inclusive
6. Fiscally Responsible; and
7. Outcome Focused

The process of developing the Housing and Homelessness Plan for Windsor Essex began in 2012 with the establishment of the Windsor Essex Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) Advisory Committee. The Committee includes representatives from the City of Windsor and County of Essex, as well as community partners and stakeholders. The LTAHS Committee developed a preliminary housing and homelessness systems model, which formed the basis for the Housing and Homelessness Plan. In early 2013, SHS Consulting was retained to assist with the development of the Plan, under the guidance of the LTAHS committee, through a series of community wide stakeholder workshops; focus groups and interviews; surveys; and agency-led discussions with persons utilizing various services. The process for developing the Housing and Homelessness Plan built on the work undertaken for the Windsor Essex Housing Analysis Recommended Strategies (HARS) Report in 2004 and 2010.



THE WINDSOR ESSEX 10 YEAR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS PLAN

The Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan was approved by City Council in May 2014. The Plan addresses key aspects of housing from homelessness to affordable home ownership and focuses on housing stability, homelessness prevention and quick access to permanent housing, rather than emergency responses. The Plan also considers the housing and support needs of specific population groups, including persons with disabilities, Aboriginal people, immigrants, youth, seniors and victims of domestic violence. The Plan establishes a process to measure and report on progress toward meeting the identified goals.

The Plan adopts a Housing First approach, using a common assessment priority tool (SPDAT) and provides a vision, 7 goals and 63 strategies identified by the community to achieve the principles outlined in the Housing Services Act (HSA).

WHAT IS HOUSING FIRST?

A Housing First approach is where people who are experiencing homelessness obtain and maintain permanent, affordable housing and assists those who are at-risk of homelessness to remain housed. A range of factors can put housing security at risk, including low income; health issues/illness (including mental health issues); substance use; incarceration or other legal issues; hospitalization; family breakdown; violence; discrimination; and inadequate and/or unsafe housing. Housing First is a person centred approach that places the highest priority on retaining and attaining permanent housing as quickly as possible and then providing the support necessary to maintain their housing.

WHAT IS SPDAT?

The Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) is a common assessment tool that will assist support workers in examining the components of a person's or family's life that are most likely to result in housing instability. The SPDAT will assist the support worker to understand the depth of these issues; which household is most likely to benefit from which type of housing support intervention; which household should be prioritized above others based upon their acuity; and, informs the case planning process so that time is spent working on those areas that are most likely going to result in the person/family becoming homeless again.

WHAT IS THE PLAN'S VISION?

Windsor Essex is an inclusive community where everyone has a safe, affordable, accessible, and quality home, and everyone lives where they can actively participate.

WHAT ARE THE PLAN'S GOALS AND STRATEGIES?

There are 7 Goals under the Plan as follows:

1. Access
2. Person Centered Supports
3. Interim Housing
4. Housing Linked with Supports
5. Rental Housing
6. Ownership Housing
7. Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

The Plan identifies 63 strategies to be implemented by the end of 2023. Of those, the community identified 29 strategies as priorities which have been targeted for completion in 2014 - 2015.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

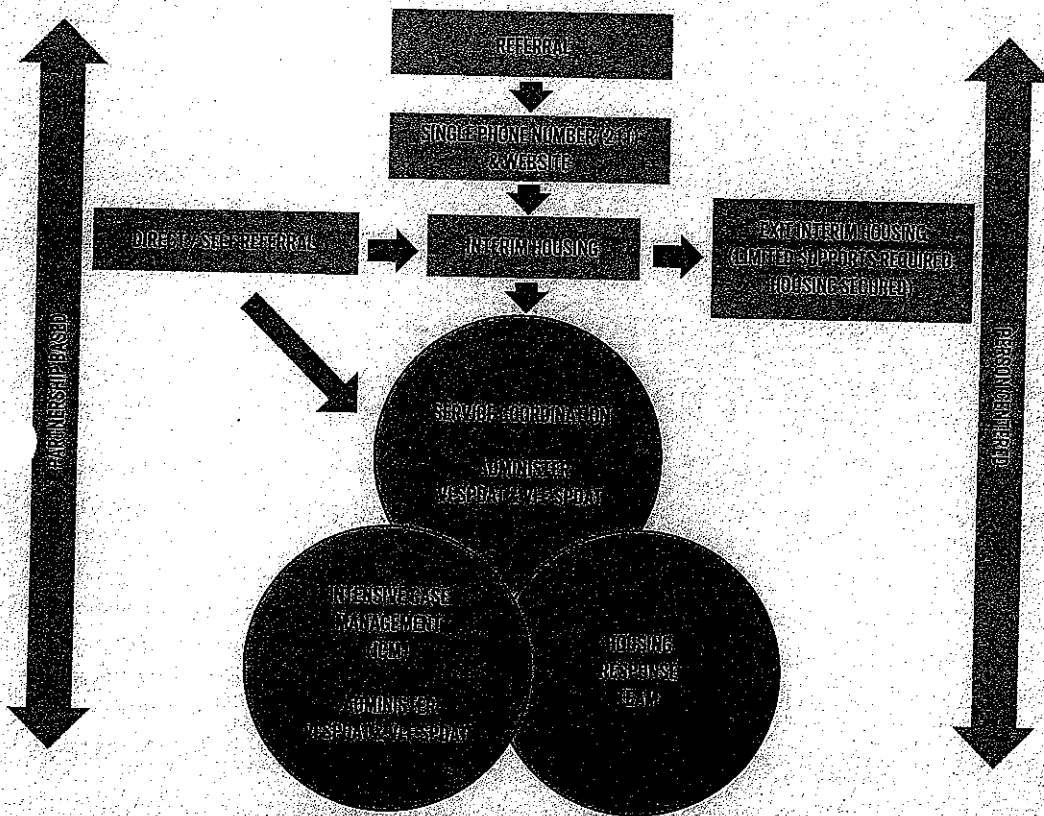
Under the following goals, 11 of the 29 strategies identified have been completed as of December 2014.

GOAL #1: ACCESS

Provide simple, coordinated and consistent access to programs, services and supports that act on what is important to the person receiving services

STRATEGIES

- Phase 1 – Access model completed and approved - below



- Pilot with the Interim Housing Providers to administer the Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) which will assist in triaging persons to appropriate services and supports
- 211 chosen as the single phone number which includes an after-hours crisis line through the Community Crisis Centre
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Request for Proposal issued October 2014

