

Adopted by Council at its meeting held October 5, 2015 [M410-2015]

/AC

Windsor, Ontario, October 5, 2015

**REPORT NO. 324 of the
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
HEALTH & CULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE**
of its meeting held September 9, 2015

Present: Councillor Ed Sleiman, Chair
Councillor Paul Borrelli
Councillor Rino Bortolin
Councillor John Elliott

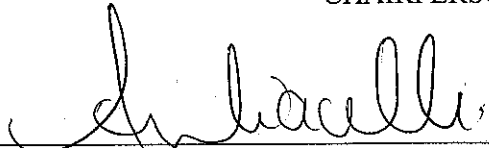
Regrets: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

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

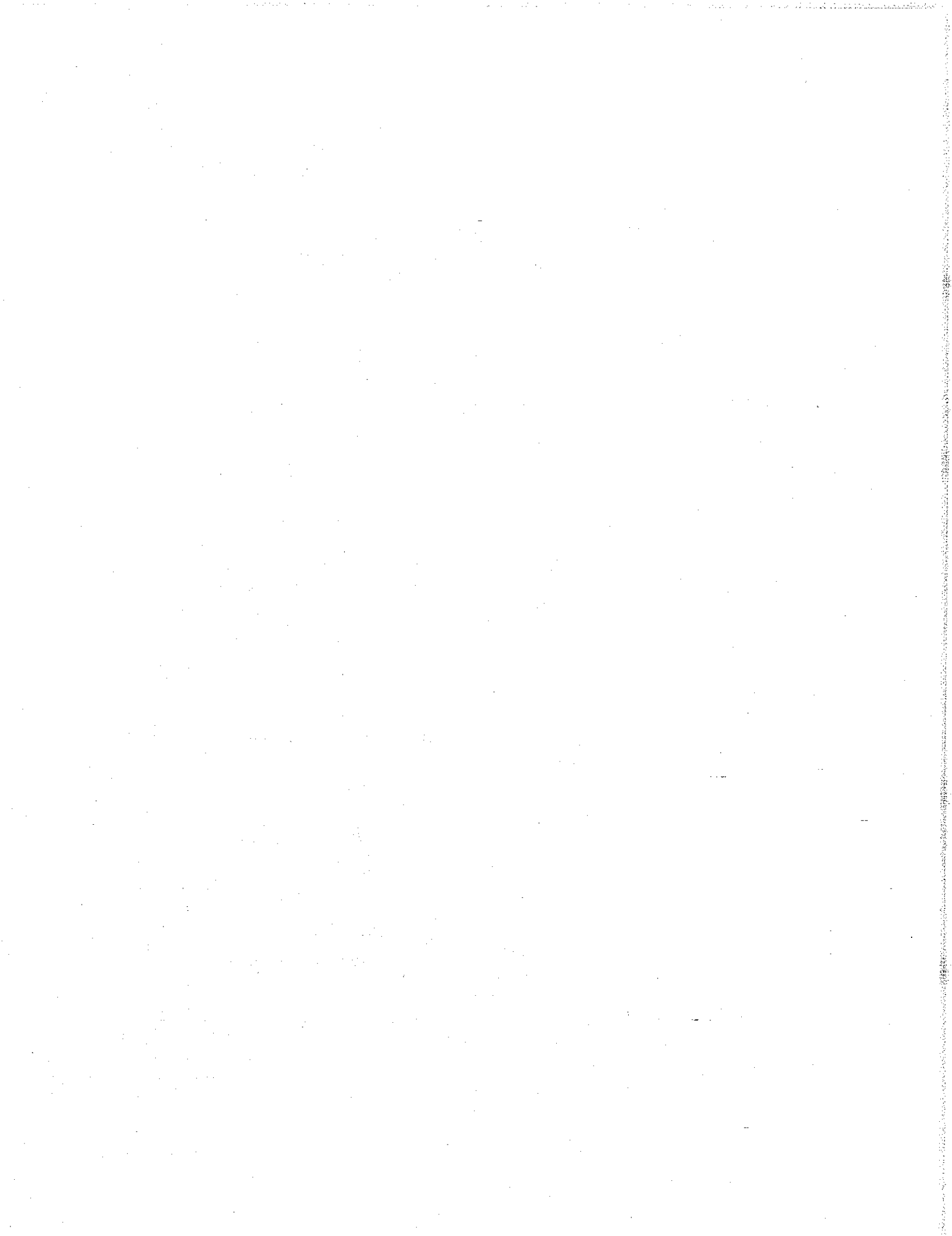
Moved by Councillor Borrelli, seconded by Councillor Elliott,
THAT the minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee meeting held
June 2, 2015 **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Clerk's Note: The minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee meeting held June 2, 2015 are attached as background information.


CHAIRPERSON


SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES

NOTIFICATION:				
Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX



KK
Windsor, Ontario June 2, 2015

A meeting of the **Housing Advisory Committee** is held this day commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Walkerville Meeting Room, 3rd floor, City Hall, there being present the following members:

Marina Clemens, Chairperson
Councillor John Elliott
Mayor Gary McNamara, Town of Tecumseh (arrives at 9:12 a.m.)
Fahimuddin Bai
Linda Coltman
Steve Govette (arrives at 9:08 a.m.)
Jessica Kipping
Sid Palumbo
Cheryl Porter
Paul Renaud
Jim Steele
Leigh Vachon
Mike Van der Vlist
Angela Yakonich

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Chris Aspila, Policy Planning
Judith Binder, CMHC
Kelly Goz, Housing Administration & Development Coordinator
Rob Oleynik, Program Coordinator, Housing & Children's Services
Lucy Sobczyk, Manager of Housing Support Services
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson calls the meeting to order at 9:01 o'clock a.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT

None disclosed.

3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Moved by L. Coltman, seconded by Councillor Elliott,
That the provision for a Vice Chair as noted in the Housing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference/Mandate **BE REMOVED**.
Carried.

4. **MINUTES**

Moved by L. Vachon, seconded by C. Porter,
That the minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee of its meeting held April 28, 2015 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.1 **HAC Mandate/Terms of Reference**

Moved by P. Renaud, seconded by A. Yakovich,
That the *Revised* June 2015 – Housing Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference and Mandate”, attached as Appendix “A” **BE APPROVED**.
Carried.

5.2 **HAC Goals for 2015**

The Chairperson provides the 2015 goals and responsibilities for the Housing Advisory Committee as follows:

- HAC’s role in the 10 Year Plan – Goal 7 (excerpt from the Plan): Measure and report on progress, evaluate success and invest in continuous improvement of the housing and homelessness system strategies. Section 7.1 – The Housing Advisory Committee, a committee of Windsor City Council 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.
- Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension Delivery – Monitor results and provide input to progress.
- Continue to work with the City to reach the goal of implementing a Secondary Suite By-law.
- Long Term Affordable Strategy renewal.

Moved by P. Renaud, seconded by Mayor McNamara,
That the verbal update by the Chairperson relating to 2015 goals and responsibilities for the Housing Advisory Committee **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

5.3 First Annual Report – 10 Year Plan

The Revised Draft of “The Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Housing and Homelessness Plan Report to the Community” is distributed and attached as Appendix “B”. K. Goz indicates several amendments have been made to the document including updated vacancy rates, waiting lists, age of housing stocks and CHPI statistics. She notes the document will be reviewed by City Council at its meeting to be held on June 15, 2015.

D. Cercone reports the photographs to be included in the Report are being refined and notes the document will be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing prior to the June 2015 deadline.

Mayor McNamara requests statistics from the County also be included in the Report.

Moved by J. Steele, seconded by L. Coltman,
That the Revised Draft of “The Windsor Essex 2014 Annual Housing and Homelessness Plan Report to the Community” **BE ENDORSED**.
Carried.

5.4 MMAH Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy Consultation

R. Oleynik states the “Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy Renewal Consultation” will be held on June 11, 2015 in the WFCU Collavino Hall. The City of Windsor is hosting this consultation session in order to submit a collective response in collaboration with its community partners and stakeholders to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing by July 3, 2015.

5.5 Windsor-Essex Connections Implementation – June 1, 2015 Roll-out

K. Goz advises a new Manager has been hired by Family Services Windsor Essex for the Housing First model. The program is known as Windsor Essex Housing Connections and will be released and rolled out in June 2015.

5.6 Housing Market Outlook

J. Binder reports the following statistics relating to the Windsor Essex housing market outlook:

- Housing starts will decrease to 780 in 2015 and be stable at 785 units in 2016.
- Existing home sales will increase to 5,700 in 2015 and grow to 5,900 in 2016.
- Average vacancy rate will decrease in 2015 and 2016.
- Remains an affordable community and the report is positive.

G. McNamara notes his office has received calls from the GTA, North Bay, etc. requesting information relating to amenities in Windsor Essex County as the area is a great retirement community.

6. **UPDATES FROM MEMBERS**

It is suggested the matter relating to Secondary Suites be discussed at the September 15, 2015 HAC meeting.

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Room 407, 400 City Hall Square East.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 9:36 o'clock a.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR



AGENDA
And Schedule "A"
to the minutes of the meeting of the
HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
held Tuesday, June 2, 2015
at 9:00 o'clock a.m.
Town of Walkerville Meeting Room
3rd floor, City Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

(The position of Vice Chairperson is noted in the "draft" Terms of Reference/Mandate)

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held April 28, 2015 (*attached*).

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.1 **HAC Mandate/Terms of Reference**

The Chair to lead a discussion regarding a review of the HAC Terms of Reference and Mandate. The Draft HAC Terms of Reference and Mandate – *attached*. Discussion regarding "communications protocol".

5.2 **HAC Goals for 2015**

- HAC's role in the 10 Year Plan – Goal 7 (excerpt from the Plan): Measure and report on progress, evaluate success and invest in continuous improvement of the housing and homelessness system strategies. Section 7.1 – The Housing Advisory Committee, a committee of the city of Windsor Council 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.
- Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension Delivery – Monitor results and provide input to progress.
- Continue to work with the City to reach the goal of implementing a Secondary Suite By-law.

5.3 **First Annual Report – 10 Year Plan**

The Housing Administration and Development Coordinator (K. Goz) to lead the discussion.

5.4 **MMAH Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy Consultation**

The Administration and Development Coordinator (R. Oleynik) to lead the the "Long – Term Affordable Housing Strategy Update – Consultation Discussion Guide – April 2015" is *attached*. Flyer regarding the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy Renewal Consultation to be held on June 11, 2015 – *attached*.

- 5.5 **Windsor Essex Connections Implementation – June 1, 2015 Roll-out**
The Administration and Development Coordinator (K. Goz) to lead the discussion.
- 5.6 **Housing Market Outlook**
The document entitled “Housing Market Outlook – Windsor CMA” – *attached*.
6. **UPDATES FROM MEMBERS**
7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
To be determined.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Housing Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference and Mandate – June 2015

Mandate

Advise City Council on issues relating to the supply, demand, and need for additional affordable housing units; act as a medium for informational exchange with sector representatives on housing program initiatives and community issues; act as a resource and advocate on behalf of all stakeholders to educate and advance the awareness of Council representatives on matters pertaining to housing in the Windsor and Essex County.

Composition/Membership

The Housing Advisory Committee shall consist of 16 voting members and 8 non-voting resource members.

The Housing Advisory Committee of the City of Windsor consists of the following sectors for the 2014-2018 term:

- 1 City Councillor Windsor City Council
- 1 Member County Council
- 1 representative (Labour Council)
- 4 representatives (community groups)
- 1 representative (Central Housing Registry)
- 2 (tenant representatives)
- 1 (Canadian Mental Health Association)
- 2 representatives (housing providers)
- 1 representative (Real Estate Board)
- 1 representative (housing with supports)
- 1 representative (emergency housing)

Duties and Responsibilities

The Duties and Responsibilities of the Housing Advisory Committee are outlined in the Committee's Mandate.

Appointment and Term

Windsor City Council shall appoint the members of the Housing Advisory Committee.

The term of Committee membership shall be established by Windsor City Council and is currently approved to be for four years. A Committee member may be offered and may accept consecutive terms subject to the approval of Windsor City Council.

A Chairperson shall be chosen by a majority vote of the Committee members. The position of Chairperson shall be held for the same term as the Committee member term, currently four years. At the expiration of the term, the outgoing Chairperson may, subject to the approval of Windsor City Council, remain as Committee members and may be nominated for the position of Chairperson for consecutive terms.

Vacancy:

The Committee may, but is not required to, recommend persons to fill a vacancy if such recommendation is approved by a majority vote of the members present. A vacancy, and any recommended replacements shall be reported by the Chair of the Housing Advisory Committee to Windsor City Council. Windsor City Council shall appoint a replacement for the unexpired term of the vacant position.

Absenteeism:

Any member who is absent from three consecutive meetings without the express approval of the Committee given at a scheduled meeting will be deemed to have resigned from the Committee at the end of the third meeting.

Any member who is absent from 30 percent of the meetings during any one calendar year without the express approval of the Committee given at a scheduled meeting will be deemed to have resigned from the Committee.

Agenda and Minutes

An Agenda will be provided prior to each meeting. Committee members may suggest items for the agenda to the Chair who may direct that item to be scheduled.

Minutes shall be taken of all meetings of the Committee and shall be distributed as soon as possible to all Committee members.

All matters related to recording and distributing the Minutes shall comply with the City of Windsor policies governing the recording and distribution of the Minutes of a Committee of City Council.

Rules of Order

Elections and meetings will be conducted in accordance with Bourinot's Rules of Order and the City of Windsor's Procedural By-Law 98-2011.

Meetings shall generally be guided by the following:

1. The order of business shall ordinarily be as set out in the Agenda, except that the items may be taken up out of order or added to the agenda at the discretion of the Chair by a majority vote of the members present.
2. All decisions of the Committee shall be made by resolution approved by a majority vote of all members present.

3. The Chair shall generally conduct the meeting in accordance with standard Rules of Procedure.
4. In the event of absence of the Chair, a person chosen by a majority vote of the members present shall chair the meeting, provided a quorum is present.
5. A person or persons may be invited to one or more Committee meetings as additional resource to discuss and provide guidance, input or information relevant to a specific subject matter under discussion by the Housing Advisory Committee, provided the invitation is approved by a majority vote of the members present.

Reporting Structure/Frequency of Meetings

The Housing Advisory Committee reports to the Social Development, Health & Culture Standing Committee

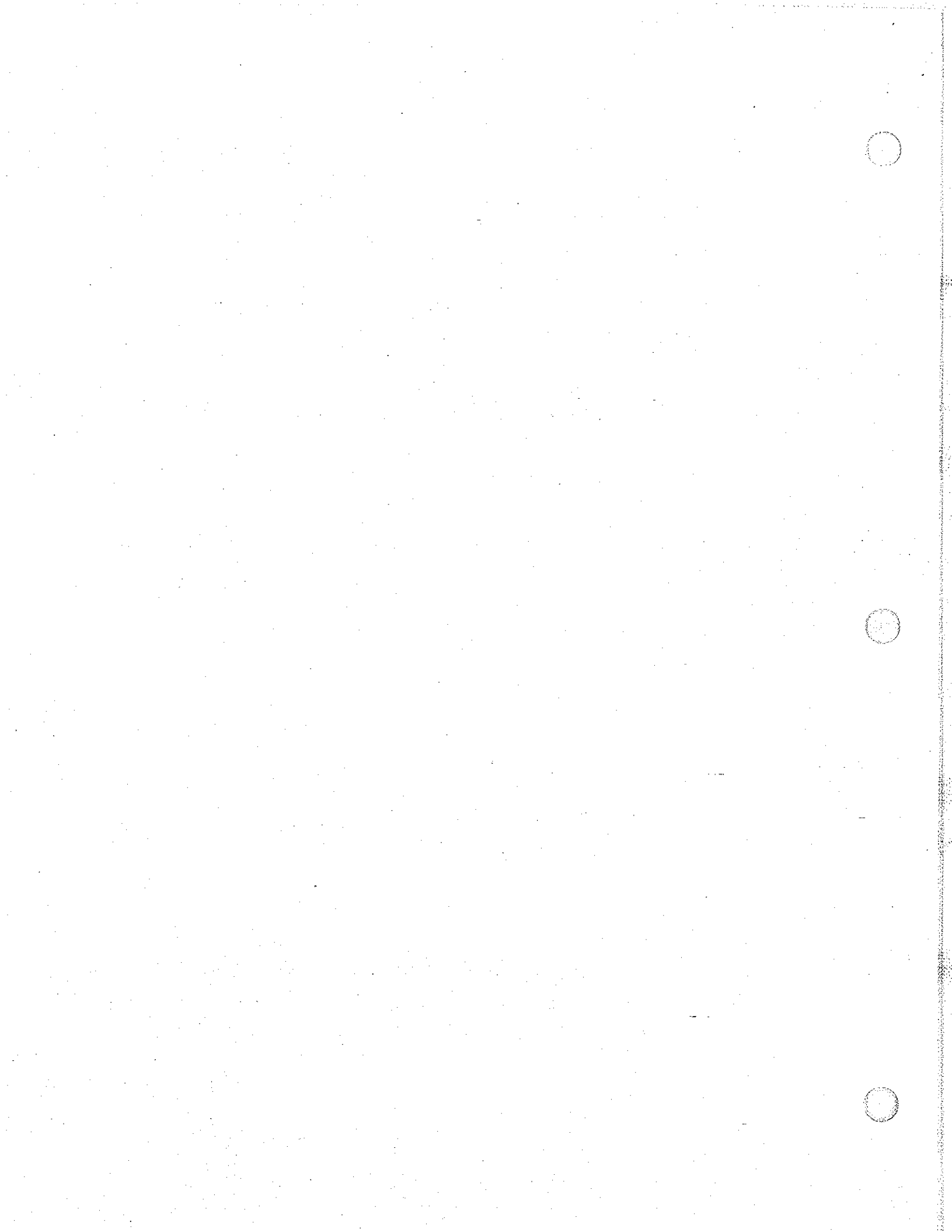
The Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis.

Remuneration

Advisory Committee members receive no compensation for their service on the City's Advisory Committees.

Quorum

The quorum of the Housing Advisory Committee is 8 voting members.



**THE WINDSOR ESSEX 2014
ANNUAL HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS PLAN
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**

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 Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) Advisory Committee. The Committee includes representatives from the City of Windsor, 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 to assist 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, 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 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

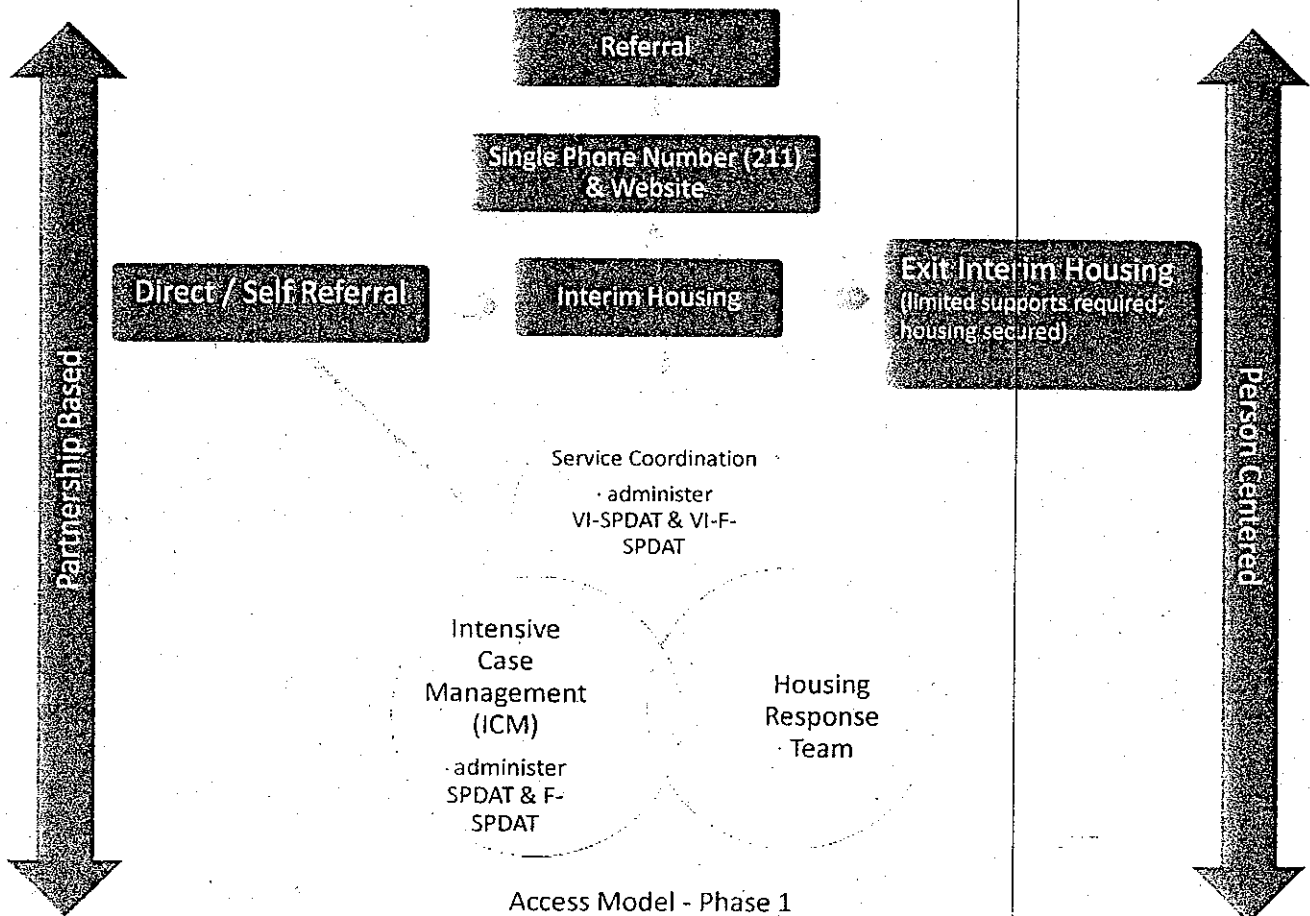
The Plan identifies 63 strategies to be implemented by the end of 2023. Of those, the community identified 29 strategies as priorities which have been targeted for completion in 2014 - 2015.

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



Access Model - Phase 1
10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan - Windsor Essex

- Pilot underway 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

HOW ARE WE DOING?

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

GOAL #2: PERSON-CENTERED SUPPORTS

Have supports available when needed, to act on what is important to the person receiving services, to assist the person in succeeding in their preferred housing

STRATEGIES

- Family Service Windsor Essex and Access County Community Support Services have collaborated with The City of Windsor Housing Services, Ontario Works and the United Way Centraide Windsor Essex to deliver a comprehensive trusteeship program. The funding of additional staff will allow for the increase in trusteeships required by persons seeking voluntary trusteeship
- CHPI funded service refinements include services funded through the Housing Stability Plan

GOAL #3 INTERIM HOUSING

Have temporary housing, meant to bridge the gap between homelessness and permanent housing, available where appropriate and where needed

STRATEGIES

- The informal 14 day policy has been removed

GOAL #4 HOUSING LINKED WITH SUPPORTS

Have housing linked with a comprehensive and coordinated package of services and programs to assist a wide range of individuals with support needs in maintaining their housing

STRATEGIES

- One time Quality of Life funding enhancements were provided to Housing with Supports Homes to enhance the quality of life for their residents. Along with a second phase of one time Quality of Life funding was provided with a focus on Staff training enhancement and resources. Examples include:
 - The purchase a van for ACCESS County Community Support Services
 - Refrigerators, washing machines, dryers
 - Picnic tables, patio furniture & benches
 - Exercise equipment
 - Mental Health First Aid and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASSIST) train the trainer certification
- 4% per diem increase over 3 years approved by City Council effective April 1, 2013
- Implementation of the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) funded FALLS prevention program delivered by the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) within the CHPI funded Housing with Support homes.

Housing with Supports

HOWS Alliance

Open House

In May 2014, the Housing with Supports Alliance held their first annual Open House to the community for organizations and community partners to gain knowledge and understanding of the many supports being offered to residents in Housing with Supports homes. These homes offer a supportive community environment for residents.

GOAL #5 RENTAL HOUSING

Have a full range of rental housing that offers safe, accessible and quality accommodations

STRATEGIES

- In collaboration with community partners, a review of social housing policies is currently underway to identify opportunities to remove barriers to accessing social housing.
- Increase the supply of rental housing in the County. The Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension funded a project in Amherstburg at the Blue Haven Apartments adding 20 affordable units
- Housing Allowance Subsidy Program pilot assisted 30 households to address affordability issues in rental units
- Allocated additional rent supplements units to Assisted Living Southwestern Ontario (ALSO)

GOAL #6 OWNERSHIP HOUSING

Have a full range of ownership housing that offers safe, accessible and quality accommodations

STRATEGIES

- 26 households assisted with Homeownership Downpayment Assistance (HOP). HOP provides a 20 year forgivable loan to eligible households with downpayment assistance to a maximum of 10% of the purchase price.
- 39 households assisted with Ontario Renovates – Homeowner. Ontario Renovates – Homeowner provides a 10 year forgivable loan to eligible households to complete qualifying repairs and renovations to their homes.

GOAL #7 MONITORING, REPORTING, AND EVALUATION

Under the leadership of the Housing Advisory Committee, measure and report on progress, evaluate success, and invest in continuous improvement of the housing and homelessness system

STRATEGIES

- Development and completion of the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan which achieves the outcomes set out by the province
- Approval of the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and City Council
- Establishment of the Implementation Committee for the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (I-CHHP)

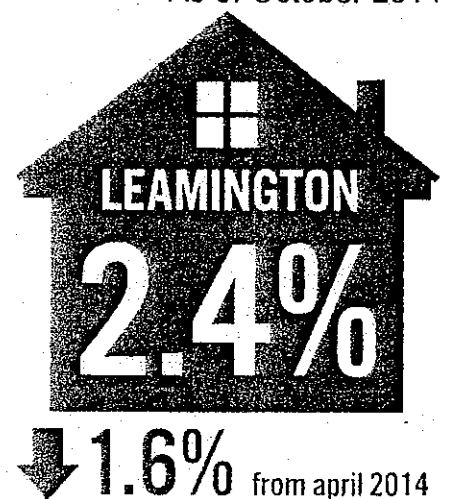
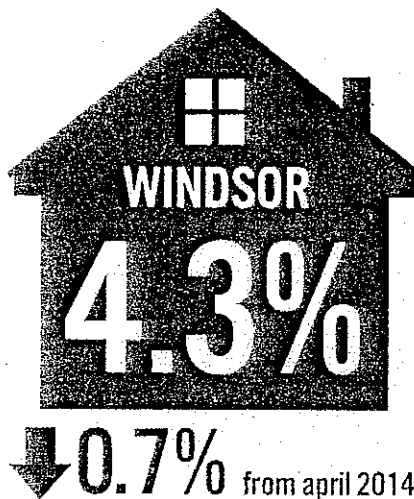
PROFILE OF WINDSOR ESSEX IN 2014

VACANCY DE-CONTROL

Although market rents are subject to guideline limit increases governed by the provincial legislation, the limits do not apply to the market rent when a landlord is re-renting a unit in creating a new tenancy. There is no limit to the initial rent amount established for the new tenancy. After years of high vacancy and flat and declining rental rates, Windsor Essex is experiencing decreasing vacancy rates creating a trend for higher rental amounts charged for a new tenancy.

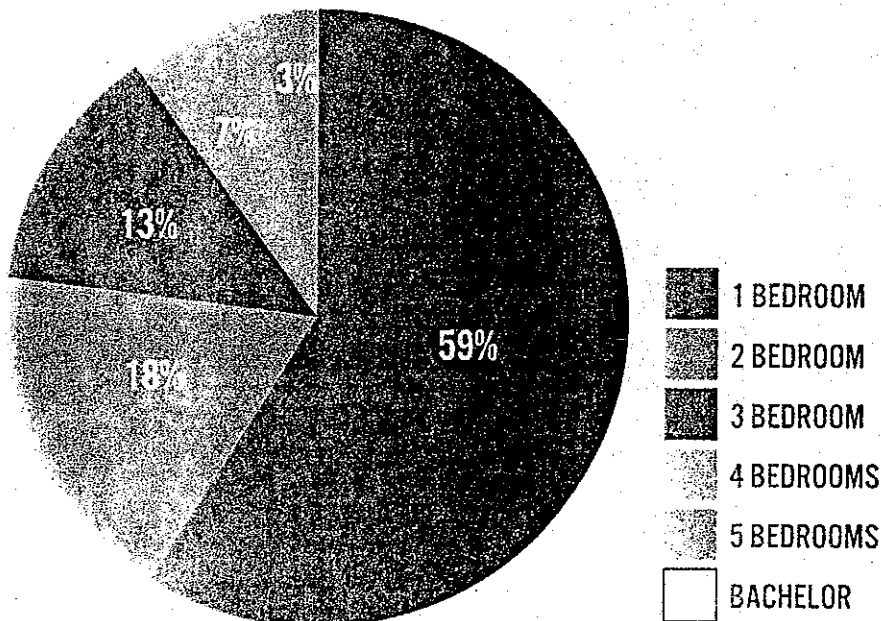
VACANCY RATES

As of October 2014



CENTRAL HOUSING REGISTRY WINDSOR ESSEX WAIT LIST

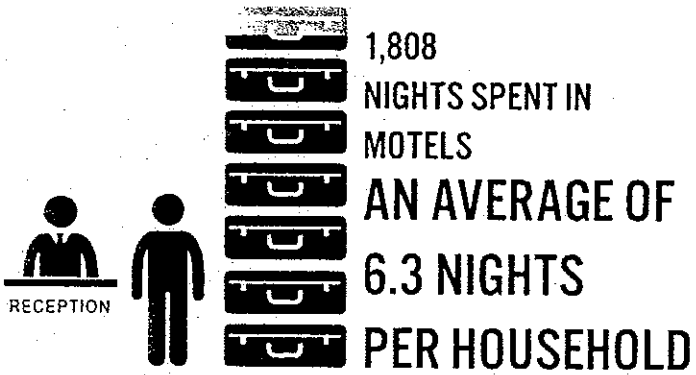
SOCIAL HOUSING WAITING LIST



ACTIVE HOUSEHOLDS ON WAITING LIST AS OF DECEMBER 2014

2,700

MOTEL USE



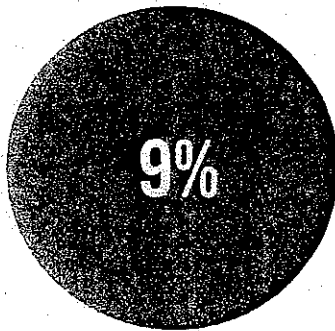
AGING SOCIAL HOUSING STOCK

THE MAJORITY OF WINDSOR ESSEX HOUSING STOCK IS

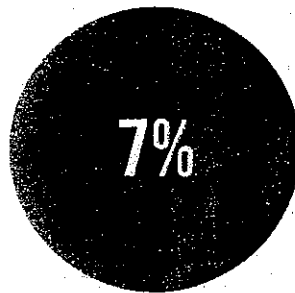


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

WINDSOR



CANADA

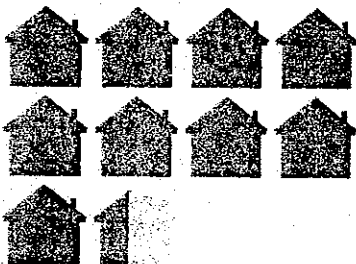


SOCIAL ASSISTANCE RATE

ONTARIO WORKS

9,400

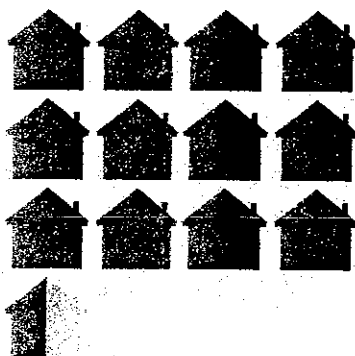
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLDS IN RECEIPT



ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

12,500

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLDS IN RECEIPT



COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION INITIATIVE (CHPI)

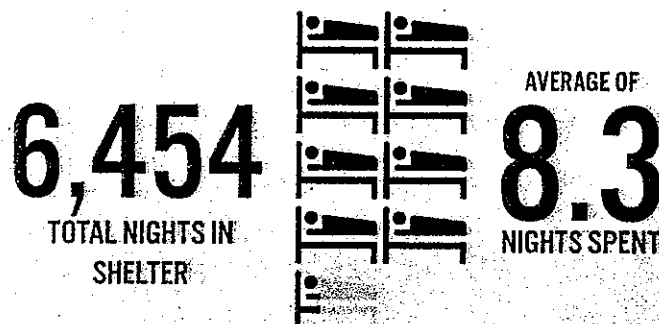
The CHPI aims to prevent, address and reduce homelessness by improving access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing that is linked to flexible support services based on peoples' needs.

Interim Housing Use (formerly Emergency Shelters) means short-term accommodations intended for 30 days or less for individuals experiencing homelessness. Emergency shelters provide sleeping arrangements with varying levels of support to individuals.

WELCOME CENTRE SHELTER FOR WOMEN



SALVATION ARMY

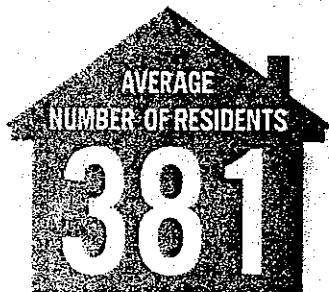


Housing with Support Homes

Housing with Supports is a place of board or lodging maintained and operated by a person under an agreement with the Municipality. Housing with Support Services means the provision of board and lodging and personal requirements, including items of personal care, cleanliness and grooming needs on a long-term basis for vulnerable adults that are low income and that are not eligible for long term care. Currently there are 24 Housing with Support Homes located throughout the City of Windsor and the County of Essex.

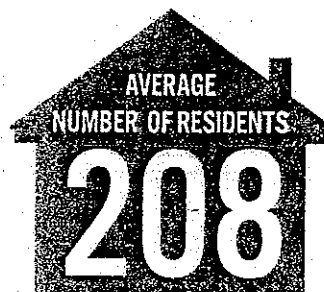
CITY OF WINDSOR

12 HOUSING WITH SUPPORT HOMES



COUNTY OF ESSEX

12 HOUSING WITH SUPPORT HOMES



HOUSING STABILITY PLAN (HSP)

The City of Windsor is committed to preventing homelessness and, in response to these changes, has developed the Housing Stability Plan (HSP). The goals of the Housing Stability Plan are as follows:

1. To help people who are experiencing homelessness to obtain and retain housing; and
2. To help people at risk of homelessness remain housed

The Housing Stability Plan is comprised of the following components:

1. Rental Assistance
2. Utility Assistance
3. Housing Essentials Fund

HSP TOTAL SERVED: 4,059

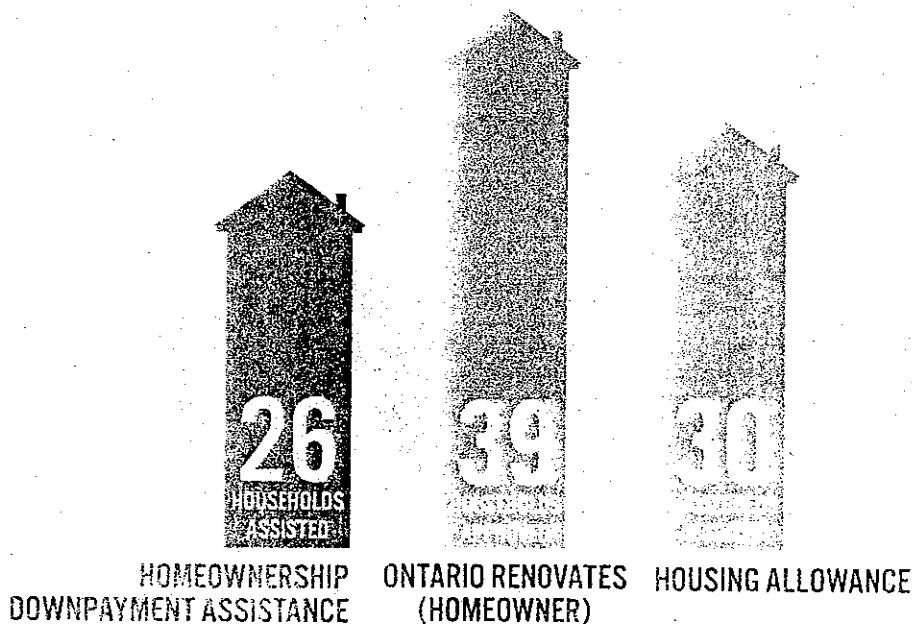
HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) is federally funded through Employment and Social Development Canada. It is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to 61 designated communities across Canada. HPS programs take a Housing First approach with a focus on the chronic and episodic homeless population.

Total number of people served through HPS funded programs in 2014 - 976

- HPS Request for Proposal issued October 2014
- Mental Health Commission of Canada Training & Technical Assistance held on October 14 & 15 2014 combined over 150 attendees were present. In addition to this on-site training, Windsor Essex is participating as a Community of Practice (CoP) which will allow for transfer of knowledge about the implementation of the Housing First model within a regional context.

INVESTMENT IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM



Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension
- In August 2014, the provincial and federal governments announced an extension to the Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario program. This six year initiative will assist to improve access to affordable housing that is safe, sound, suitable and sustainable for households in need throughout Windsor Essex.

YEAR TO COME & STRATEGIC 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.

Implementation of coordinated access and common assessment for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness with triaging to appropriate services

Implementation of 211 as the single phone number for housing help

Implement an education / public awareness campaign

Expand use of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS)

In summary, as of April 2015, 24 of 29 strategies 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.

Thanks & Appreciation

The City of Windsor Housing Services Staff, would also like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those persons, agencies and committees who have contributed their time and efforts in participating in the countless number of meetings and consultation sessions that have made this work possible as well as their contributions to the successes achieved to date.

