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<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS COUNCIL HOUSING LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 18, 2013</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>SANDRA DATARS BERE MANAGING DIRECTOR HOUSING, SOCIAL SERVICES AND DEARNESS HOME AND LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD CHILDREN'S AND FIRE SERVICES</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>MUNICIPAL COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE <i>HOMELESS PREVENTION AND HOUSING PLAN 2010 TO 2024</i> AS REQUIRED UNDER THE HOUSING SERVICES ACT, 2011.</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Neighbourhood, Children's, and Fire Services and the Managing Director of Housing, Social Services, and Dearness Home:

1. the attached ***Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010 to 2024***, **BE APPROVED** substantially in the form of the attached document;
2. that this plan **BE ADOPTED** as the local service management plan required under the Housing Services Act, 2011; and
3. that a copy of this decision and plan **BE FORWARDED** to the Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,

it being noted any final amendments to this document based on provincial review will be included in its final published version and shared with Municipal Council.

<b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b>
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- Housing Services Act Requirements Related to a Local Housing and Homelessness Plan (CPSC: June 17, 2013)
- Homeless Prevention System for London - Three Year Implementation Plan (CPSC: April 22, 2013)
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CSPC: December 17, 2012)
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Funding Allocation for January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 (CSC: October 22, 2012)
- Elimination of Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit (CSC: October 22, 2012)
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Homelessness Social Assistance Regulation Amendments (CSC: September 10, 2012)
- Housing Services Act (CSC: December 19, 2011)
- London Community Housing Strategy 2011 Community Update Report (CNC: May 17, 2011)
- London Community Plan on Homelessness (CPSC: November 8, 2010)
- City of London Community Housing Strategy (CPSC: June 21, 2010)

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**BACKGROUND**

**Housing Services Act, 2011:**

On January 1, 2012, the *Housing Services Act* (HSA) came into effect guided by Ontario’s Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy. It established a new provincial framework for homeless and housing related services delivered through municipal service managers.

The HSA sets out a series of technical requirements and content areas that are required within local plans, including that designated service managers must have a ten year local consolidated housing and homelessness plan adopted by Municipal Council in place by January 1, 2014. Prior to their approval, the plan will be reviewed by the Province to ensure it meets legislative requirements and to provide the Province with an opportunity for input.

**HSA Local Housing and Homelessness Plans:**

Local homeless and housing plans are intended to ensure that municipal service management activities advance Ontario’s Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy’s vision:

***“To improve Ontarian’s access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing, and provide solid foundation on which to secure employment, raise families, and build strong communities.”***

Prior to these legislative requirements, London had already established a history of working within a strategic framework and remains actively engaged in the implementation of its homeless prevention and housing plans.

***The Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010 to 2024*** (Attached):

The attached *Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan* represents the final submission to Municipal Council for approval and adoption as the local plan required under the HSA. It relies upon and updates our existing homelessness and housing strategies to ensure all HSA legislative requirements are met and extend out to the required ten year legislated duration.

The *Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan* acts as an umbrella document reflecting work that has been ongoing for over 10 years through the current and relevant London Community Housing Strategy and Community Plan on Homelessness, as well as other housing and homelessness related plans, consultation, and service activities - including those within Re-Think, Age Friendly London, London CARES, and the more recent Homeless Prevention System for London – A Three Year Implementation Plan, (CPSC April 2013). It also reflects the vision of the proposed activities moving forward.

In May 2013, the above noted source plans were submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for their preliminary and informal review. The purpose of this activity was to ensure that the core content of existing local plans already met the legislated HSA requirements.

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Civic Administration submitted a final draft version of the *Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010 to 2024* to the Province for both a “quick review” as well as the formal inter-ministerial review. Neither the “preliminary/informal review” in May nor the “quick review” in August noted any issues or required changes to the plan.

**NEXT STEPS:**

The final review of the local plan by the provincial inter-ministerial committee is anticipated to be completed and forwarded from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the Mayor prior to November 28, 2013 (90 days from the plan submission).

The local plan submitted for Council approval is substantially in the form of the attached document. Any minor modifications to the document based on provincial feedback will be incorporated into the final published version and shared with Council and Middlesex County noting the areas of recommended changes. This approach is consistent with London’s continued

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work to advance its plans and related implementation activities and will ensure the plan’s adoption prior to 2014 in accordance with the HSA.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

This report and attachment have no related financial impacts.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

London’s unique approach to its homeless prevention and housing plans continues to rely upon the active engagement of our communities. Housing, health, homelessness, and social services, neighbourhood organizations, business associations, housing development partners, and a broad range of individuals and groups representing the private, public, and non-profit sectors have all helped inform these plans and have remained participants in the implementation of actions in both the City and the County of Middlesex.

Together, the contributors to these plans - inclusive of those who participated in the recent Homeless Prevention System, ReThink London process, and the proposed housing development consultations, have helped to advance work under the twin guiding visions:

**Community Housing Strategy Vision:**

*All members of our community have access to housing that is safe, secure, and suitable to their needs and ability to pay.*

**Homeless Prevention System Vision:**

*A coordinated and integrated individual and family centred housing stability approach that is outcome focused and designed to address, reduce and prevent homelessness in London.*

<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>
<b>STEPHEN GIUSTIZIA MANAGER, HOUSING SERVICES</b>	<b>LOUISE STEVENS DIRECTOR, MUNICIPAL HOUSING</b>
<b>CONCURRED BY:</b>	<b>CONCURRED BY:</b>
<b>LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN, AND FIRE SERVICES</b>	<b>SANDRA DATARS BERE MANAGING DIRECTOR, HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND DEARNESS HOME</b>

- C. J. Richardson, Manager, Homelessness Services
- J. Iveson, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- T. Brutto, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- C. Howard, Director of Social Services, Middlesex County

**Attachment: Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010 to 2024**