



## **Council-in-Committee Meeting – September 9, 2025**

### **Social Services and Housing Advisory Committee – August 25, 2025**

Subject: 10 Year Housing and Homelessness plan – Year 10, 2024  
Report Number: ESS-25-005  
Division: Emergency and Social Services  
Department: Housing Services  
Purpose: For Decision

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#### **Recommendation(s):**

That Staff Report ESS-25-005 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Year 10, be received as information; and

That staff be directed to forward the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan – Year 10 Report to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in accordance with the *Housing Services Act, 2011*; and

Further That staff be directed to post the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan – Year 10 Report on the appropriate link of the Health and Social Services Division website.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of the Year 10 update to the housing and homelessness plan. It seeks Council's endorsement of the proposed updates and requests direction for staff to proceed with submitting the finalized version of the plan to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, in accordance with the legislated reporting requirements.

Under the Housing Services Act, 2011, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers are mandated to develop and maintain a 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan. In addition, they are required to submit annual updates to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) to report on progress and ensure continued alignment with provincial priorities.

## Discussions:

*The Housing Services Act, 2011 (Act)* is provincial legislation that governs the provision of community based planning and delivery of housing and homelessness services. The legislation identifies that it is a matter of provincial interest that there be a system of housing and homelessness services that works within the framework of 12 identified functions. The *Act* also identifies that each Service Manager shall have a plan to address housing and homelessness.

**Housing Vision:** Communities in Haldimand and Norfolk Counties are complete, inclusive and interconnected communities which have safe, adequate and appropriate housing and support services for all residents to live with dignity.

### Housing Goals:

1. To encourage a broad range of dwelling types and tenures which meet the needs of current and future residents of Haldimand and Norfolk Counties.
2. To ensure there is an adequate and appropriate supply of rental housing for households with low incomes and priority populations groups.
3. To ensure there are sufficient options for housing to live with dignity and as independently as possible.
4. Ensure a person-centered housing, homelessness and support system is in place where all housing and homelessness service providers are working in collaboration so that everyone who needs help is able to access it in a timely manner and functional zero end to homelessness is achieved.

Each goal outlined in the plan is supported by specific actions. Where feasible, and within the scope of available resources or in response to changes in Ministry directives or program requirements, staff have advanced the implementation of these actions. One notable achievement is the successful implementation of the Eviction Prevention Program. This initiative is designed to support tenants in the community who are at risk of losing their housing by connecting them with a housing support worker. The support worker provides individualized assistance aimed at stabilizing the housing situation and preventing eviction whenever possible.

One limitation related to Housing Goal #1, is that the housing data received by the 2 planning departments does not currently differentiate between building types targeted towards ownership or tenancy.

## Finance Comments:

### Norfolk County

There are no direct financial implications in the report as presented.

The 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan is supported through programs within the Approved Operating Budget each year. For 2025 this includes the Homelessness

Prevention Program, the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative, the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative and the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit.

Grant and levy contributions towards repairing existing infrastructure have helped ensure rent-geared-to-income units remain in good standing, a requirement of goal #1 in the plan. Looking forward, both Councils have been presented with, and approved, new affordable housing developments in Dunnville and Delhi that will progress towards housing goals #2 and #3 in the plan. Finally, the provincially funded Homelessness Prevention Program continues to assist those in need who face homelessness as outlined in goal #4.

#### Haldimand County

Haldimand County Finance staff have reviewed this report and agree with the information provided by Norfolk County Financial Services.

#### **Interdepartmental Implications:**

None

#### **Consultation(s):**

None

#### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

Building Norfolk - Develop the infrastructure and supports needed to ensure complete communities

#### **Attachment(s):**

- Haldimand and Norfolk 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan – Year 10 Report 2024

#### **Approval:**

Approved By:  
Al Meneses, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed By:  
Brian Davis, Acting Director Social Services & Housing

Prepared By:  
Jessica Horton, Program Manager, Housing Services