



REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE ON 8 NOVEMBER 2016

**SUBJECT: HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICE PLAN 2016/17 –
PROGRESS QUARTERS 1 AND 2**

**BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress achieved in the implementation of the actions agreed within the Housing and Property Service Plan 2016/17.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III F (2) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the functions of the Housing and Property Service.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Communities Committee considers and notes this progress report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 21 June 2016, the Communities Committee agreed the Housing and Property Service Plan for 2016/17 (paragraph 5 of the Minute refers).

4. PROGRESS ACHIEVED

- 4.1 Actions were presented within the Service Plan under four priorities –
- Increase the supply of affordable housing
 - Tackle homelessness
 - Manage our assets effectively
 - Improve service quality

APPENDIX I provides details of progress achieved in Quarters 1 and 2.

- 4.2 The Service Plan for 2016/17 identified a total of 36 actions with 35 due to be completed during the course of the year. Of these, 9 actions were due for completion by 30 September 2016. All of these have been achieved.

4.3 Three separate actions have started but due to the level of complexity involved, it is now unlikely that these will be fully completed in this financial year. They include:

- a review of internal charges relating to Property Services and the DLO;
- a review of the Out of Hours Service; and
- a review of Property Services and Design;

Progress on each will be reviewed as at 31 March 2017 and a revised completion date will be agreed for 2017/18.

4.4 The target spend for non-housing property capital investment spend is unlikely to be achieved in 2016/17 due to delays with two key construction projects:

New Moycroft Depot

Costs for the new depot have come in higher than was projected and a value engineering exercise is currently underway to bring these costs back within budget.

Milne's Primary Extension

Historic Scotland has raised some issues with regards to a schoolhouse which was planned for demolition to allow the extension to proceed. The Council has submitted a case to support demolition to Historic Scotland and await their reply.

4.5 Service Managers continue to closely monitor progress in relation to the Service Improvement Plan on a quarterly basis.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Moray 2026: A Plan for the Future and Moray Corporate Plan 2015 – 2017

The Service Plan reflects the priorities outlined in the Moray 2026 Plan and also reflects priorities identified in the preparation of the Council's Local Housing Strategy.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy and legal implications to consider.

(c) Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from implementation of specific Service Plan actions will be presented in further detail to the relevant Committee.

(d) Risk Implications

A risk assessment has been completed by the Service. Work will be carried out by December 2016 to review sectional risk assessments.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising from this report.

(g) Equalities

There are no equalities issues arising from this report.

(h) Consultations

Consultation on this report has been carried out with senior managers in the Housing and Property Service. Any comments have been incorporated in the report.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 This report provides details of progress during Quarters 1 and 2 in the implementation of the actions agreed as part of the Housing and Property Service Plan 2016/17.

Author of Report:	Richard Anderson
Background Papers:	Held by author
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