



Background Paper 1

# RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2016-2021:

## Summary of Key Achievements LHS 2011-2016



This is background paper 1 to Renfrewshire's Local Housing Strategy 2016-2021.

The document can be found online at

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

For any further information on the Local Housing Strategy please contact:

Strategy and Place Team,  
Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street,  
Paisley  
PA1 1JD

0141 618 6148

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

## Summary of Key Achievements - Local Housing Strategy 2011-2016

### Outcome 1 Residents live in good quality housing.

- Completion of the Council's £138M Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) investment programme that included internal works such as new kitchens, bathrooms and heating systems as well as external fabric improvements to the Council's housing stock.
- Completion of partner Housing Association programmes to meet the SHQS by 2015.
- Comprehensive Tenement Improvement (CTI) project completed at Gordon Street, Paisley and tenement refurbishment works completed at Brown Street, Paisley.
- The provision of advice and assistance to older and disabled home owners and private tenants through 'Care and Repair' including the carrying out of small repairs and adaptations.
- The registration of almost 8,400 private rented sector properties owned by 6,776 approved landlords who have been assessed as 'fit and proper'.
- Survey of 3,000 private rented sector tenants to assess satisfaction and affordability within the sector.
- 842 affordable housing unit completions. This provision includes homes for social rent, low cost home ownership and the first development of mid market rental properties in Renfrewshire. House types provided include amenity flats; supported accommodation units and wheelchair accessible homes.
- Renfrewshire's Places Residential Design Guide developed to encourage high quality design in new residential development.

## **Outcome 2 Homes are energy efficient, fuel poverty is minimised and the environmental impact of housing is reduced.**

- A new multi-agency Fuel Poverty Strategy developed in May 2014 with a partnership group established to monitor outcomes within the strategy.
- Increased average National Home Energy Rating for Renfrewshire housing stock.
- Successful completion of the SHQS programme which will improve the energy efficiency of affordable housing stock.
- Renewable technology included in some affordable housing developments.
- Upgraded district heating system completed in the Charleston area of Paisley.
- Promotion of energy advice to Renfrewshire residents to reduce levels of fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency.
- Scottish Government funding secured to improve the condition of houses, improving their energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions.

**Outcome 3 Regeneration programmes are progressed to create stable mixed communities that are attractive places to live.**

- Shortroods housing regeneration completed, delivering 196 new affordable homes for a mix of social rent and low cost home ownership.
- First council new build development for a generation, at Blackhall, Paisley delivering family and amenity housing on a brownfield site.
- Social housing regeneration completed in Gallowhill, Paisley including demolition of one multi-storey block and refurbishment of two blocks including conversion of 90 flats within one multi-storey block of flats into amenity housing and 71 new homes for social rent.
- Bishopton Community Growth Area private sector development well underway with 605 homes completed
- New build developments offering a range of tenure types completed in Paisley Town Centre, providing 77 affordable homes; 47 units completed through a Comprehensive Tenement Improvement Scheme (CTI) at Gordon Street and 16 tenement flats refurbished at Brown Street. A further 38 new build units for older people for social rent and low cost home ownership due for completion in 2016.
- Thrushcraigs, Paisley housing regeneration programme progressing well to provide 56 homes for social rent and 14 homes for low cost home ownership by late 2016.
- Paisley Town Centre Heritage Asset Strategy developed and approved 2014.
- “Homes Again Renfrewshire” empty homes project established in 2012 and to date 52 homes brought back into use through direct engagement with owners.
- Scotland’s first Town Centre Simplified Planning Zone delivered in Renfrew which promotes residential development within the Town Centre.



#### **Outcome 4 People are able to live independently in suitable housing with appropriate support.**

- Multi storey block at Gallowhill, Paisley converted to amenity standard with social space for residents' use and conversion of high rise flats to amenity standard at Charleston in Paisley.
- Council new build development at Blackhall, Paisley of 15 grouped amenity flats with separate social space.
- Developments funded through the Scottish Government Change Fund:
  - additional O/T post and extra funding for adaptations;
  - Housing Options Advice Post for Older People hosted by Bridgewater Housing Association;
  - Health and Well Being Post established within Renfrewshire Council;
  - Handyperson Service established within the existing Care and Repair Service;
  - completion of external reviews of sheltered and very sheltered/extra care housing.
- New build development for older people completed at Cotton St, Paisley to provide 38 amenity flats for low cost home ownership and social rent.
- Development of 10 new build units of supported accommodation for previously looked after young people in Paisley.
- Feasibility study completed by Linstone Housing Association on the potential for conversion of a multi storey block in Linwood for flexible housing and support for older people.

## **Outcome 5 Homelessness is prevented where possible and services meet the needs of people who become homeless.**

- Achieved the Scottish Government’s 2012 target for the abolition of the “priority need” test to give all unintentionally homeless people the right to settled accommodation a year ahead of schedule.
- Referral pathway into Mental Health Services established to enable homeless or potentially homeless people with urgent mental health issues to receive appropriate care and treatment.
- Introduction of several innovative homeless prevention initiatives :
  - “Home 4 Keeps” to enable young people to acquire the skills to manage their own home
  - “Time 2 Mend” providing focussed mediation and support to young people and their families and which achieved a Silver Excellence award at the 2013 COSLA awards
  - “Housing First” pilot project in partnership with Turning Point Scotland to support homeless people with a history of repeat homelessness and complex needs to sustain their own tenancy.
  - “Foundations First” project in Renfrewshire - in partnership with Shelter – aims to reduce the level of repeat homelessness in families.
- The removal of use of bed and breakfast as temporary accommodation in 2014

**Outcome 6 A range of housing options are available, routes into suitable housing are simplified and people have access to good quality information and advice.**

- Work started on a common allocation policy involving the Council and four other local RSLs.
- Homexchange Shop opened in August 2014 between a partnership of Renfrewshire Council and 7 other social housing landlords.
- Choice Based Lettings Pilot established by Renfrewshire Council in two areas.
- Ongoing activities to mitigate against the impact of Welfare Reform.

## Alternative Formats

This document can be made available in braille, large print or audio.

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.