
Report To:	Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee	Date:	6 March 2012
Report By:	Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities	Report No:	SSC/95/AH/DH
Contact Officer:	Drew Hall	Contact No:	01475 714272
Subject:	Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2012 - 2015		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report advises Committee of a change to the arrangements for the annual submission of the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (the SHIP) following the publication of revised Scottish Government Guidance in January 2012.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The SHIP is prepared on an annual basis and is normally due for submission to the Scottish Ministers by 30 November each year. The Scottish Government (SG) has made substantial changes to the SHIP Guidance, including a three-year planning period to complement the introduction of three-year SG budgets, and the use of simplified Tables to capture information on projects and estimated funding requirements.
- 2.2 Given the late publication of the revised SHIP Guidance the SG has altered the submission date to 30 March 2012 to allow local authorities and their development partners in RSLs time to review their programmes for the period 2012-2015. The revised SHIP should take account of the new format and timescale set out in the Guidance, and the impact of recently announced budget changes affecting new housing developments by RSLs.
- 2.3 Consultation on the SHIP 2012-2015 is under way with RSLs and representatives of the SG Housing Supply Division to ensure that the plan accurately reflects the capacity of RSLs to undertake developments in the current financial climate. It has not been possible to finalise the 2012 submission for approval by Committee due to the late publication of the revised Guidance and the fact that no Resource Planning Assumptions have been provided by SG. The SHIP 2012-2015 will be submitted to Scottish Ministers by the deadline of 30 March 2012 and Committee is invited to agree the most appropriate method of approval, as set out in the recommendation below.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Committee agree to submit the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2012-2015 for approval to the Policy & Resources Committee on 27 March 2012.

John Arthur
Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities