

## Report HDR-SS-05-15

**To:** Chair Burley and Members of the Social Services Committee  
**From:** Anne Marie Shaw, Housing Director  
**Meeting Date:** February 10, 2015  
**Subject:** Wait List Report 2015  
**Status:** Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution SSC32-15; Endorsed by County Council per Resolution CC43-15 March 3, 2015;

### Recommendation(s)

**THAT Report HDR-SS-05-15 regarding the Wait List Report for social housing be received for information.**

### Background

#### *Waitlist Totals*

Our current wait list for rent geared to income housing is at 406 applicants compared to 490 applicants at this time last year. The list consists of 80 families, 227 singles and 99 seniors. The wait list has decreased over the past year due to a number of factors such as the success of our Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) Program and the provincial data base program for rent geared to income housing.

The IAH rent supplement program has allowed applicants to remain housed for up to 10 years in their current housing situation and be removed from our housing list. Participants that have appropriate accommodations are able to stay as the subsidy provides the financial means to stay housed. Our Ontario Renovates Program provides funds to fix up homes to allow seniors, people with disabilities and those with a fixed income to remain in their homes longer. Our Homeownership program has provided a 5% down payment to some of our families in Grey County and non profit housing to buy their own home. All three programs have had an impact on our wait list.

The Provincial data base for rent geared to income housing keeps track of individuals that owe rent or damages to rent geared to income housing providers across the Province. According to the Housing Services Act, 2011, an individual is ineligible for rent

geared to income housing if they owe a housing provider arrears. The arrears can be for rent or damages.

### *Waitlist by Area*

The following graph breaks down the number of applicants by town and by category such as families, singles and seniors. Currently, Owen Sound, Meaford and Hanover have the greatest lists for rent geared to income housing.

### **Coordinated Access Housing Wait List**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>Senior</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Chatsworth</b>		5	3	<b>8</b>
<b>Dundalk</b>		3	3	<b>6</b>
<b>Durham</b>	7	16	6	<b>29</b>
<b>Holstein</b>		2		<b>2</b>
<b>Flesherton</b>		4	3	<b>7</b>
<b>Hanover</b>	12	50	23	<b>85</b>
<b>Markdale</b>		8	7	<b>15</b>
<b>Meaford</b>	7	23	13	<b>43</b>
<b>Neustadt</b>			2	<b>2</b>
<b>Owen Sound</b>	68	155	55	<b>278</b>
<b>Thornbury</b>		11	3	<b>14</b>

### *Waitlist by Priority*

The County of Grey provides special priority to victims of domestic violence. Special priority means a household will move to the top of the list for housing. The Housing Services Act, 2011 has specific terms in order to determine priority. The County of Grey works closely with Women’s Centre Grey Bruce through the women’s shelter and second stage transitional housing program to provide services to victims of domestic violence. In 2014 there were 25 applicants granted special priority status.

## Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology

### Considerations

Wait list determines the need for rent geared to income housing in various communities throughout Grey County.

### Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

Rent Geared to income housing allows the County of Grey to continue to address the issues of housing and homelessness to enable healthy and resilient communities and assist in implementing the recommendations of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne Marie Shaw  
Director of Housing