



Administrative Report

Office of the Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk

To: Warden Tom Bain and Members of County Council

**From: Mary Birch
Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk**

Date: February 21, 2018

Subject: Community Services / Housing with Supports Update

Report #: 2018-0221-CCS-R004-MB

Purpose

To provide County Council with an update on the Community Services /Housing with Supports Program.

Background

In the 2017 Community Services budget, a new position was approved for a supervisory position to oversee the Housing with Supports program. That position was filled in early January 2018 by Jeanie Diamond-Francis. Mrs. Diamond-Francis is a registered Social Worker with the Ontario College of Social Workers and brings with her extensive experience in the field of mental health.

Discussion

In previous years, updates to the Housing with Supports program were predominantly provided to County Council through the annual budget presentation. With the assistance of the Community Services Coordinator, the intention of Administration is to now provide updates on the Housing with Supports program to County Council approximately three times per year.

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Mrs. Diamond-Francis will be making a presentation to County Council (Appendix I) that is intended to

- Provide an overview of the Housing with Support Program
- Explain the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Funding
- Provide information on program criteria, intake process, types of homes and level of supports
- Review subsidy history
- Provide current subsidized resident statistics (averages)
- Highlight Home Service Provider Standards
- Highlight County Housing with Supports staff monitoring and support roles and responsibilities
- Provide an update on Community Partnerships established, with more developing

In recent months, there has been communication from some of the contracted Service Providers that the changes to minimum wage, as well as other Employment Standards Act amendments, created through the enactment of Bill 148, have substantially increased their staffing costs, to a point that some are fearful they may not be able to continue to operate. The daily per diem provided to subsidized residents is currently \$51.19 and has not been increased since 2016. The allocation of CHPI funding to homelessness initiatives within the region is decided through the City of Windsor as the Consolidated Services Manager. The daily per diem paid by the City of Windsor under their Housing with Supports Program is also \$51.19.

At the March 7th, 2018 meeting of County Council, there will be a delegation by one or more of the contracted Housing with Supports Service Providers regarding the impact of Bill 148 on their operations and seeking assistance of County Council to have the daily per diem increased for subsidized residents or to develop of some alternate subsidy arrangement that will help offset the increased expenses of the contracted Service Providers.

Recommendation

That Report 2018-0221-CCS-R004-MB be received for information.

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Respectfully Submitted

Mary Birch

Originally Signed by

Mary Birch Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk

Concurred With,

Robert Maisonville

Originally Signed by

Robert Maisonville, Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix No.	Title of Appendix
Appendix 1	Housing with Supports Powerpoint Presentation Slides