

7. HOUSING CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2019/20 TO 2022/23

The panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive advising of the updated housing Capital Investment Programme 2019/20 to 2022/23 and the proposed exemption for works under the terms of the Best Value Framework.

The report set out the proposed updated Housing Capital Investment Programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23, with proposed investment of £115.481 million and anticipated expenditure of £40.250 million. It was noted that the planned borrowing figure of £67.124 million under section D4 in the report was incorrect and that the correct figure was £71.367 million, shown under 'borrowing total' in Table 2.

The programme built on and consolidated local housing needs identified within the Strategic Housing Investment Programme and Local Housing Strategy. Through the Housing Capital Investment Programme, the council continued to maintain quality standards and invest in the suitability and sufficiency of its housing stock to improve the environment within communities and meet the needs of existing and future tenants across West Lothian. Further information on Housing Capital Investment Programme Projects was included in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively, while Appendix 3 showed the Equality Relevance Assessment undertaken as part of the programme.

There was a strong focus on the creation of additional social housing including completion of the existing new build programme, delivering a further 250 new build homes and continuing with a programme of open market acquisitions.

All aspects of the programme were geared towards securing best value, and a review of the programme had been undertaken to determine works to be carried out by external providers and works to be carried out in house to ensure compliance with the council's Best Value Framework.

It was recommended that the panel note:

- The updated 2019/20 to 2022/23 Housing Capital Investment Programme and related funding as detailed in the report; and
- The updated exemptions for works under the terms of the Best Value Framework as outlined in section D5 of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.