Housing Emergency – Motion dealt with, after division.

17 Bailie Thomas Kerr, seconded by Councillor Daly, moved that:-

"Council acknowledges Shelter Scotland's call to declare a Housing Emergency by both Devolved and Local Authorities.

Council notes the decision taken at the City Administration Committee on 30th November 2023, to declare a housing emergency and calling on Council to pressure the UK Government to fully-fund the implications of its decision to streamline the asylum process, as well as calling on the Scottish Government to provide sufficient housing and homelessness funding in their budget, which is due to be announced on 19th December 2023.

However, Council notes that the issue around the Housing Emergency is vast and goes beyond the current issues of asylum relocation. Council also notes the failure of UK Housing Policy over the past 4 decades, the 2008 financial crash and 15 years of austerity, which has led to a significant shortfall in housing supply particularly in the affordable sector. Council notes that rising inflation has meant significant challenges to house builders and the construction industry. Council further notes, that a generation of young people are struggling to get on the housing market, or even find suitable and affordable homes in the rental market. Council agrees to continue to work on the delivery of the recommendations of the Scottish Government's Temporary Accommodation Task and Finish Group; and engage with the consultation process to develop the proposals for a Housing Bill, with stronger tenants' rights and powers to prevent homelessness.

Council agrees, that while many of the issues mentioned above are out with the control of Glasgow City Council, resourcing continues to be an issue right across the planning sector, in our role as the planning authority, with an increase in investment and resources, planning processes could possibly be speeded up to maximise the quantity and quality of housing across all types and tenures.

Council also reiterates its support in making Compulsory Purchase Orders more efficient and with a quicker turnover, as well as the introduction of Compulsory Sales Orders and the exploration of Compulsory Rental Orders to help radically increase empty homes in Glasgow being brought back into use. As such, Council agrees the letter to Scottish Government should include a reiteration to of the need for Compulsory Sales Order Legislation, streamlining of Compulsory Purchase Orders and the need for Compulsory Rental Orders.

As such, Council agrees that the Council Leader writes to the Deputy First Minister, and the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, alongside the UK Secretary of State for Housing, outlining the actions council is taking to address the housing emergency, and seeks costed additional resources to help meet the severe challenges. Council also agree that the newly established working-group note the annual performance report of the Planning Service and the feedback from the Scottish Government, and the work is informed by the consideration of the Planning Performance Framework at the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee in 2024."

Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Casey, moved as an amendment:

(1) to insert the following after “relocation” in the third paragraph:

“Council also notes the failure of UK Housing Policy over the past 4 decades, the 2008 financial crash and 15 years of austerity, which has led to a significant shortfall in housing supply particularly in the affordable sector.”;

(2) to delete all after “Glasgow City Council” and replace with the following at the fourth paragraph:

“resourcing continues to be an issue right across the planning sector, in our role as the planning authority, with an increase an investment and resources, planning processes could possibly be speeded up to maximise the quantity and quality of housing across all types and tenures.”; and

(3) to delete the last sentence and replace with the following at the fifth paragraph:

“Council also agree that the newly established working-group note the annual performance report of the Planning Service and the feedback from the Scottish Government, and the work is informed by the consideration of the Planning Performance Framework at the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee in 2024”.

Councillor Burke, seconded by Councillor Alam, moved as an amendment:

(1) to delete the second paragraph and insert the following new paragraph:

“Council notes the decision taken at the City Administration Committee on 30th November 2023, calling on Council to pressure the UK Government to fully-fund the implications of its decision to streamline the asylum process, as well as calling on the Scottish Government to provide sufficient housing and homelessness funding in their budget, which is due to be announced on 19th December 2023.”;

(2) to insert a new paragraph after the second paragraph:

“Council also notes the failure of the Scottish Parliament to declare a housing emergency for Scotland. Both Glasgow and Edinburgh have since declared a housing emergency, illustrating the reality of life for far too many.”;

(3) to insert the following new sentence at the end of the fourth paragraph:

“Council agrees that the Planning department needs adequately resourced in light of the housing emergency, as without adequate staffing numbers and better retention of experienced officers exercising these powers will continue to be a challenge. Furthermore, Council endorses a review into Glasgow City

Councils planning functions, to give more delegated authority to our planning department, to enable the fast tracking of planning applications."; and

(4) at the sixth paragraph after "severe challenges" insert "Council agrees this letter should include a reiteration to the Scottish Government of the need for Compulsory Sales Order Legislation, streamlining of Compulsory Purchase Orders and the need for Compulsory Rental Orders."

Councillor Wardrop, seconded by Bailie Carroll, moved as an amendment to delete all and replace with the following:-

"Council acknowledges Shelter Scotland's call to declare a Housing Emergency by both Devolved and Local Authorities.

Council acknowledges the decision by City Administration Committee last week (30th November) to declare a Housing Emergency; and the cross-party support that is achieved.

However, Council notes that the issue around the Housing Emergency is vast and goes beyond the current issues of asylum relocation.

Council regrets the disastrous UK Government mini-budget of 2022, which has left the housing market struggling against inflationary pressures, as well as the devastating impact of Brexit on construction costs and workforce challenges.

Council notes that rising inflation has meant significant challenges to house builders and the construction industry. Council further notes that a generation of young people are struggling to get on the housing market, or even find suitable and affordable homes in the rental market.

Council agrees to continue to work on the delivery of the recommendations of the Scottish Government's Temporary Accommodation Task and Finish Group; and engage with the consultation process to develop the proposals for a Housing Bill, with stronger tenants' rights and powers to prevent homelessness. Council recognises that Rent Controls will be a positive step in making renting - in particular in the private sector - more affordable and incentivise improvements of housing conditions.

Council agrees, that while many of the issues mentioned above are out-with the control of Glasgow City Council, that we do have significant powers relating to planning which could be speeded up to ensure more good quality, affordable, mixed residential developments in particular, social housing are not only built but encouraged in our city including giving consideration to urgently developing an affordable housing planning policy which would see developers contribute 25% affordable homes within market developments as required by the fourth National Planning Framework.

Council also reiterates its support in making Compulsory Purchase Orders more efficient and with a quicker turnover, as well as the introduction of Compulsory Sales Orders and the exploration of Compulsory Rental Orders to help radically increase empty homes in Glasgow being brought back into use.

Council therefore asks the City Convenor for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use to write to the Scottish Minister for Housing to ask that the Scottish Government include these measures and reforms in the new Housing Bill. Council also calls on the UK Government to immediately uprate Local Housing Allowance, end the spare room subsidy, more commonly known as the bedroom tax, and reverse the planned real terms reduction to Scotland's capital budget.

As such, Council agrees that the Council Leader writes to the Deputy First Minister, and the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, alongside the UK Secretary of State for Housing, outlining the actions council is taking to address the housing emergency, and seeks additional resources to help meet the severe challenges. Council also agrees for officers to undertake a review into the council's planning resources required to respond to the housing emergency and asks for an update to come before the newly established working-group looking into the Housing Emergency agreed at City Administration Committee."

During the debate Councillors McLean, Burke and Wardrop, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their amendments resulting in the following combined amendment proposed by Councillor McLean and seconded by Councillor Wardrop:-

"Council acknowledges Shelter Scotland's call to declare a Housing Emergency by both Devolved and Local Authorities.

Council acknowledges the decision by City Administration Committee last week (30th November) to declare a Housing Emergency; and the cross-party support that is achieved.

However, Council notes that the issue around the Housing Emergency is vast and goes beyond the current issues of asylum relocation.

Council regrets the disastrous UK Government mini-budget of 2022, which has left the housing market struggling against inflationary pressures, as well as the devastating impact of Brexit on construction costs and workforce challenges.

Council also notes the failure of UK Housing Policy over the past 4 decades, the 2008 financial crash and 15 years of austerity, which has led to a significant shortfall in housing supply particularly in the affordable sector.

Council notes that rising inflation has meant significant challenges to house builders and the construction industry. Council further notes that a generation of young people are struggling to get on the housing market, or even find suitable and affordable homes in the rental market.

Council agrees to continue to work on the delivery of the recommendations of the Scottish Government's Temporary Accommodation Task and Finish Group; and engage with the consultation process to develop the proposals for a Housing Bill, with stronger tenants' rights and powers to prevent homelessness. Council recognises that Rent Controls will be a positive step in making renting - in particular

in the private sector - more affordable and incentivise improvements of housing conditions.

Council agrees, that while many of the issues mentioned above are out-with the control of Glasgow City Council. **r**esourcing continues to be an issue right across the planning sector in our role as the planning authority, with an increase in investment and resources, planning processes could possibly be speeded up to maximise the quantity and quality of housing across all types an tenures in particular social housing is not only built but encouraged in our city. The strategic plan commitment of an affordable housing planning policy which would see 25% affordable homes within market developments as required by the fourth National Planning Framework will be considered at EHTR Committee in March 2024 as scheduled.

Council also reiterates its support in making Compulsory Purchase Orders more efficient and with a quicker turnover, as well as the introduction of Compulsory Sales Orders and the exploration of Compulsory Rental Orders to help radically increase empty homes in Glasgow being brought back into use.

Council therefore asks the Convenor for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use to write to the Scottish Minister for Housing to ask that the Scottish Government include these measures and reforms in the new Housing Bill. Council also calls on the UK Government to immediately uprate Local Housing Allowance, end the spare room subsidy, more commonly known as the bedroom tax, and reverse the planned real terms reduction to Scotland's capital budget.

As such, Council agrees that the Council Leader writes to the Deputy First Minister, and the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, alongside the UK Secretary of State for Housing, outlining the actions council is taking to address the housing emergency, and seeks additional resources to help meet the severe challenges and notes the decision taken at the City Administration Committee on 30th November 2023, calling on Council to pressure the UK Government to fully-fund the implications of its decision to streamline the asylum process, as well as calling on the Scottish Government to provide sufficient housing and homelessness funding in their budget, which is due to be announced on 19th December 2023.

Council also agree that the newly established working-group note the annual performance report of the Planning Service and the feedback from the Scottish Government, and the work is informed by the consideration of the Planning Performance Framework at the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee in 2024."

On a vote being taken electronically and by roll call, 75 members voted for the combined amendment and 2 for the motion.

The combined amendment was accordingly declared to be carried.

Adjournment.

18 In terms of Standing Order No 5 (12), the time being after 1630 hours, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting, the remaining items of business being 9(e), 9(f), 9(g), 9(h) and 9(i).