Student Accommodation Policy - Presentation noted – Request to Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

7 The partnership heard a presentation by S Shaw, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, advising that

(1) the Council had held a public consultation on student accommodation in January 2021 that had resulted in revisions to Section 2 of SG10: Meeting Housing Needs, which was approved by the Council in June 2021 and the revised section had been adopted for use on 11th October 2021;

(2) in 2022 there had been a shortfall of approximately 6000 beds for students in Glasgow which was the largest supply imbalance in the UK and had a student to bed ratio which was significantly higher than the desired figure;

(3) students currently resided in University's Halls of Residence, houses of multiple occupancy or private lets and of an acute shortage of accommodation compounded by a lack of affordable and/or accessible options for students particularly with additional support needs or mature students with families, that left many students facing precarious living situations;

(4) the Council had several accommodation projects underway, some at planning or consideration stage, accommodation that had been granted planning permission and that some of the accommodation would not go forward to the construction stage;

(5) planning officers would ensure that any building constructed could be used for multi uses to minimise empty properties at a later date;

(6) concentration of student accommodation in certain areas was an issue due to lack of amenities, doctors, dentists and shops and that this would be monitored; and

(7) that planning could be halted if the figures for student accommodation became saturated in certain areas and if a proposal was found to have a harmful impact on the community it would not be supported by planning officers.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the presentation;

(b) raised questions that were addressed by S Shaw, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; and

(c) requested a further update to the Partnership at a future date.