

Report

Decision to establish the Housing Crisis Emergency Taskforce

Purpose of the report

The Minister for Housing and Communities has declared a housing crisis, which poses a significant risk to the Island's future prosperity and social cohesion.

The Minister has established the Housing Crisis Emergency Taskforce ["the Taskforce"] to enhance the Government's response to the housing crisis, reflecting the urgency and focus needed to deliver tangible improvements for Islanders.

Background

The cost of housing is a major cause of poverty and is influencing Islanders' choices as to whether to remain in the Island.

The aim of the Taskforce is to convene senior officers, under the leadership of the Minister, to ensure the expedited delivery of housing-related priorities and inspire confidence in Islanders that the Government will make progress in this key area as a matter of urgency.

The Taskforce will serve as a strategic, tactical and operational decision-making forum, delivering on the priorities established by the Minister for Housing and Communities, and wider Council of Ministers, on housing-related matters.

The scope of the Taskforce is to:

- Respond to the Minister's priorities to:
 1. Support more Islanders into home ownership;
 2. Improve the experience of renters; and,
 3. Address the plight of homelessness
 - Ensure the expedited delivery of housing initiatives that will further the Minister's priorities;
 - Address strategic, tactical and operational decision-making; and,
 - Share new information as it becomes available and develop appropriate responses to challenges as they arise.

Recommendation

The Minister recommends instructing officers to take necessary action in establishing the Housing Crisis Emergency Taskforce.