

14. POLICY FOR DEALING WITH APPLICATIONS TO FUND SPECIAL HOUSING INITIATIVES

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Corporate Plan Output: Housing Development fund – not budgeted	

The Council has indicated a willingness to enter into “partnerships” in an innovative way to encourage special affordable/social housing initiatives in the City.

There is, however, a need to ensure that, in doing so, legislative and prudential interests are fully canvassed and that the Council’s “investment” is adequately protected, that embarrassing precedents are not established, and that the Council’s Strategic Objectives are met in an efficient and effective manner.

External legal advice pertaining to an application from a recently formed charitable trust confirms that while the Council has extensive powers to provide/fund housing, it would be prudent to first establish a policy framework.

Recommendation: That the Policy Directorate develop a policy framework to deal with applications for funding special housing initiatives.

Chairman’s Recommendation: For discussion.