

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo

Community and Health Services Committee

Summary of Recommendations to Council

The Community and Health Services Committee recommends as follows:

1. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo direct staff to take the following actions in response to Ont. Reg. 241/22 and Ont. Reg. 242/22, new regulations under the Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA), as described in CSD-HOU-23-008 dated March 7, 2023:
 - a. Draft and negotiate a funding model that achieves the legislative directives and supports long-term financial sustainability of the community housing portfolio for housing providers to meet their operating and capital needs upon End of Mortgage (EOM);
 - b. Subject to annual budget approval, direct staff to develop an annual housing reinvestment plan using the funds resulting from community housing provider mortgage maturity for the purpose of:
 - i. Maintaining or increasing the number of rent-geared-to-income (RGI) units to meet the Region's obligations under the HSA; and
 - ii. Providing capital funding for asset renewal needs of community housing providers; for the renewal and expansion of Waterloo Region Housing properties, including investments within the Waterloo Region Housing Master Plan; and grants to incent the construction of new affordable housing units;
 - c. Authorize the Commissioner, Community Services to enter into service or exit agreements as housing providers reach EOM in a form satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor;
 - d. Amend the current surplus-sharing practice within the mandated funding model to allow community housing providers to retain annual operating surpluses subject to the following conditions:
 - i. The amount of the surplus transferred to a provider's capital reserve is limited such that the balance in the capital reserve will not to exceed the value of capital work identified for the next five years, and;
 - ii. Capping the accumulated surplus at \$500/unit;
 - e. Endorse a new Asset Limit Policy required by Ont. Reg. 242/22 to establish asset limits of \$75,000 for single households and \$100,000 for households with more than one person for households applying for and receiving rent-geared-to-income (RGI) subsidy.

2. Due to the high volume of calls causing lack of availability of paramedic resources and life saving measures, the Regional Municipality of Waterloo fully supports the Medical Priority Dispatch System, requests that the Ministry of Health adopt a Medical Priority Dispatch System at the Cambridge Central Ambulance Communications Centre as soon as possible;

And that the Region of Waterloo Paramedic Services Chief and Deputy Chiefs be directed to continue to engage with the Ministry of Health and the Guelph-Wellington and Dufferin County Paramedic Services to support this request;

And that the Regional Chair, Council, Chief Administrative Officer, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health be directed to advocate to Provincial counterparts (Minister of Health, ADM, local MPPs etc.) for the early adoption of a Medical Priority Dispatch System at the Cambridge Central Ambulance Communications Centre.

March 7, 2023