Housing First

Social Development - Affordable Accessible Housing

Approved by Council: November 7, 2011

Purpose:

Housing First is an approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing homeless people with housing quickly and then providing services as needed. What differentiates a Housing First approach from traditional emergency shelter or transitional housing approaches is that it is "housing-based", with an immediate and primary focus on helping individuals and families quickly access and sustain permanent housing. Housing First programs share critical elements including:

- A focus on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible and;
- The provision of tailored services following housing placement to promote housing stability and individual well-being.

This policy is intended to guide intergovernmental advocacy and deliberations related to the provision of enhanced access to sustainable housing for Prince George individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Policy:

The City of Prince George supports a *Housing First* approach to ending homelessness.