Dear Mr Doris

Thank you for your letter of 31st May 2017, seeking further information on the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) process.

In response to your two specific questions:

a) How you decide on the number of specific house type, house sizes and tenures that will be delivered in your area (which may either be detailed in your SHIP or decided at a later date).

We use the data from our Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) together with up to date information on our joint waiting list to establish the size and types of properties to be built in Shetland. This provides us with a very detailed evidence base of the housing market and helps us to identify demand in line with the key themes of our Local Housing Strategy (LHS). We view the SHIP as the delivery plan to our LHS.

b) How you monitor and evaluate whether the SHIP, and the projects finally delivered, meets the requirements and needs of the local area and also contribute to the Scottish Government’s target of 50,000 affordable homes by 2021.

We regularly review the delivery of the programme, in partnership with the local Housing Association and colleagues from Planning and our Capital Programme service. This allows a multi-agency approach to identification of land and future projects to consider. We also have regular meetings both face to face and by VC with our regional office of the Scottish Government’s More Homes Division to review the SHIP and its delivery against LHS targets.

I trust this provides the information you require.

Kind regards

Anita M Jamieson
Executive Manager – Housing
Shetland Islands Council