

INVER & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Local Housing Needs, Conditions and Views Survey, January/February 2006

At the request of Inver & District Community Council, The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust (HSCHT) is carrying out a detailed survey to help the community get a much clearer picture of local housing needs and preferred housing options in the Inver area.

The attached questionnaire is being sent to every resident household in the Inver area. **All information in the returned questionnaires will remain completely confidential and will only be seen by HSCHT staff**, who will analyse the returns and report back to the community on the key findings. The report can then be used to help the community consider and secure the solutions and resources required to tackle any housing-related problems which are identified

Please note that names and addresses are not requested, although you can provide them if you wish.

The questionnaire also gives you the opportunity to express your views (see Section 5) on any housing related issue in your community which concerns you – so, **even if your household has no housing needs, please fill it in and return in the stamped addressed envelope provided**. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Please return by: Friday 24th February 2006

If you have any queries about this questionnaire please contact:

Issi McGrath (HSCHT Development Officer) or
tel: 01479 810272 email: issi.mcgrath@hscht.co.uk

Kate Dunbar (HSCHT Information Services Officer)
tel. 01463 233549 email: kate.dunbar@hscht.co.uk

1. HOUSEHOLD DETAILS

Can you please give details below of all the people in your household who live with you in your house?

No names are required but the age, gender and family relationship (to yourself) details requested will help to show potential housing needs which might otherwise remain hidden.

Household Member (with relationship to Householder e.g. Partner, wife, son etc.)	Male/ Female (M or F)	Age				
		0-4	5-15	16-44	45-59	60+
Householder						

2. ABOUT YOUR HOME

Where do you live at the moment? _____

Tenure Please tick, as appropriate

Owner/Occupier Renting Privately Renting from Council

Renting from Housing Association Tied House

Other (please specify) _____

If private rented, please indicate what type of lease you have:

long-term secure lease short-assured tenancy no written tenancy agreement

other (please specify) _____

3. YOUR HOUSEHOLD'S HOUSING NEEDS

Does anyone in your household have a housing need?

Yes No

If anyone in your household has a housing need (see below), please tick each reason and put in the numbers of household members affected alongside.

	√	No. of persons affected
Living in a caravan		
Likely to become homeless in near future		
Living in short term accommodation (no long term lease)		
Living in tied housing		
Overcrowding – need a bigger house		
Need a smaller house		
Young adults in house seeking independent housing		
Relationship breakdown – separate housing required		
Hoping to build/buy a new home but can't afford current prices		
Can't afford rent/or mortgage payments		
House is too expensive to heat properly		
Existing house needs repairs/improvements		
Existing house needs disabled persons adaptations		
Adaptations not feasible – new house required		
Other (please specify)		

3b) How quickly do you/the person(s) you have identified need to find more suitable housing in the Community?

Urgently Within 1-2 years Not for 2 years+

4. NEW HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Housing Options (for anyone identified in section 3, with a requirement for new housing)

4a) Which of the following options do you think might best suit the person(s) in your household you have identified as having a housing need? (See blue sheet for further information on the options)

	yes	perhaps	no
Rented housing			
Existing Council housing			
New or existing Housing Association rented			
Private rented			
Home Ownership			
1. Rural Home Ownership Grant (RHOG) assistance to build a house (on a privately secured plot), or in certain circumstances, to buy an existing house			
2. RHOG assistance to build a house on a 'cheap' serviced plot but with HSCHT buyback conditions attached			
3. Shared ownership/ equity house (part owned with local Housing Association)			
4. An affordable starter home built by a private developer			
5. Crofter Housing Grant assisted house (See Note 5)			
6. An open market house or house plot			

4b)

What size or type of house would be required to meet the (minimum) <u>actual housing need</u> being experienced by you or the person/s in your household?					
Number of bedrooms required?	1	2	3	4	5+
Single-storey housing required?	Yes	No	Please circle size and any other details		
Are you looking for a smaller home?	Yes	No			
Are you looking for a bigger home?	Yes	No			
Would you be interested in a purpose-built flat?	Yes	No			
Other requirements (please be specific)					

4c) Whereabouts in the Iver and District area do you think the person(s) with housing needs would prefer to be located?

In the Village

Elsewhere

(please specify below by selecting an area in 6c)

5. POTENTIAL RETURNERS TO THE COMMUNITY

Do you know anyone with a strong local work or family connection with the Inver area, but currently living away, who would be seriously interested in coming to live in the area if an appropriate affordable housing option was available?

Yes

Perhaps

No

If you wish, please give further details of the potential returner(s) in the space below:

6. YOUR VIEWS ON ANY NEW HOUSING TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS

6a) Do you think the community would benefit from some more affordable housing opportunities being made available for local people?

Yes

Perhaps

No

6b) What kind of additional affordable housing options would you like to see provided locally? (See the blue information sheet for further information on the options).

Housing Option	yes	perhaps	no
Housing Association rented housing			
Private rented housing			
RHOG assisted house plot / houses			
Locally affordable house plots from HSCHT			
Shared ownership/equity housing			
Affordable starter homes			
Crofter Grant assisted homes			
Open market housing			
Other (please specify)			

6c) Where do you think might be a suitable location for any new small scale affordable housing development?

Option	Village Centre	Other area or specific site (please specify)	Other area or specific site (please specify)
H.A. rented Housing			
RHOG plots from HSCHT			
Other RHOG plots /houses			
Shared ownership / equity housing			
Affordable state housing			
Crofter Housing Grant houses			
Other			

6d) In your view what kind of community development objectives should any new housing built in the Inver Community Council be aimed at meeting?

Community Development Objective	yes	perhaps	no
Helping young people to secure affordable homes			
Helping to keep up the numbers of children attending local schools etc			
Helping older persons and / or those with special care needs to be more suitably housed			
Enabling people with a local workplace or family connection to live in the community			
Assisting key incoming workers (like teachers, nurses etc) to find suitable accommodation			
Making it easier for in-migrants to live and work locally			
Other (please specify)			

6e) If you are a landowner (or have control of land) would you consider selling a site for the provision of affordable housing (if this survey reveals a local requirement for additional housing)?

yes perhaps no

(If yes, please give contact details or phone Issi McGrath 01479 810272)

6f) If you have any other comments on any other housing-related issues affecting your community, please use the space below

Thank you very much for the time and trouble you have taken to complete this questionnaire. Please return it to HSCHT staff in the stamped addressed envelope provided by Friday 24th February 2006.