

## **Midlothian Council submission on the housing emergency**

We are committed to ensuring that all of Midlothian Council void housing stock is being brought up to a lettable standard to maximise that housing availability. We have recently implemented and streamlined the process to minimise the time a property remains void, last year 2023/24 we had 321 voids. We are reviewing all of our housing stock under a proactive maintenance schedule, this report is hoped to be available at the end of this year. We have allocated significant resources to refurbish and modernise undesirable properties, making them attractive and habitable. This includes energy efficiency and an introduction of a condensation and dampness policy. We are buying back homes from the open market, last year we purchased 26 homes, and this year we have budgeted for 6 homes. We continue to invest and build new council homes and the details can be seen in our Strategic Housing Investment Plan on our website.

Thanks

### **Housing Services Manager - Place**

Midlothian Council | Midlothian House | Buccleuch Street | Dalkeith | EH22 1DN