

### **3 LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROFORMA (AN 90-2007)**

Communities Scotland has an interest in ensuring that there is a comprehensive picture of housing need across the country. With this aim in mind it commissioned consultants to develop a housing needs assessment proforma that would improve the consistency of information collected at local level.

All Local Authorities were issued with this proforma which contained an estimate of the need, if any, for additional affordable housing within their boundaries. This estimate was based on a nationwide research project carried out by Heriot Watt University.

Local Authorities were asked to come forward with their own estimates of housing need based on local information where possible.

This exercise has been completed and it has reached the same conclusion as the exercise carried out by Heriot Watt: ie, there is no apparent need at the present time for new affordable housing in the City in addition to that set out in the Local Housing Strategy (this is defined at approximately 200 units per annum).

It is acknowledged, however, that both of these exercises do not provide a complete picture of 'housing need' in the sense of need for housing investment or the need to redress imbalances of dwelling size/types.

Communities Scotland have also indicated that this exercise will not directly influence the allocation of resources to Local Authorities.