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24 October 2024

Dear Jamie

**The Dumfries and Galloway Housing Need & Demand Assessment (HNDA): Final appraisal by the Centre for Housing Market Analysis (CHMA)**

Following the CHMA's initial appraisal of Dumfries and Galloway Council's HNDA of 10 July 2024, we would like to thank you on behalf of the Scottish Government for agreeing to make the necessary amendments and clarifications requested.

The CHMA has reviewed these against the recommendations of our initial appraisal and, on this basis, the CHMA now considers that the process and methodology used to produce Dumfries and Galloway Council's HNDA are robust and credible.

As the CHMA is satisfied that the HNDA is robust and credible, the approach used will not normally need to be considered further when Evidence Reports are submitted at the Local Development Plan Gate Check. However, where stakeholders consider further evidence may be relevant after a robust and credible HNDA has been achieved, this may be raised in engagement, reflected in the Evidence Report and it is at the discretion of the reporter to consider whether a request for further information is appropriate.

The Council can now take forward the evidence from the HNDA for use as appropriate in the development of its Local Housing Strategy and Local Development Plan. I am also aware that the Council has recently announced a housing emergency and may be looking to take forward specific work in support. It will be important to ensure that this work is based on robust and up to date evidence and is aligned with the HNDA and the developing Local Housing Strategy. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this further then please not hesitate to get in touch and we can ensure that you are put in touch with an appropriate team within Scottish Government.

The CHMA recommends that the HNDA and our appraisal are made available to your stakeholders and our suggestion is that they should be formally published online. Whilst this is at your discretion, it should be seen as good practice.

Yours sincerely

**Murdo MacPherson**  
**Head of Housing Market Analysis**  
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