Programme Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme award and title:</th>
<th>MSc/PG Diploma/ Certificate in Housing Studies</th>
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<tr>
<td>SCQF Level:</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCQF Credit Value:</td>
<td>MSc = 180, Dip = 120, Certificate = 60, 15 credits per module</td>
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**Educational aims of the programme:**

Concise (e.g. a few sentences), general statement of aims and broad purposes of the programme

- The programme is designed to provide a high quality vocational programme to meet the needs of those employed in housing and to provide a postgraduate programme for those wishing to enter a career in housing, to provide a programme of academic study appropriate to the learning needs of graduates, to ensure that students receive a sound practical training to enable them to be understanding and efficient professional housing practitioners and to meet the specific needs of employers in housing organisations. In addition, the award of PG Dip/Certificate meets the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Housing as a validated programme.

**Intended programme learning outcomes:**

Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) of what the student will know, understand and be able to do as a result of their learning, expressed in the categories below. Please consider the contribution made to the student’s personal development planning (PDP) and future employability.

Knowledge and understanding

- Dependent on their choice of modules, on completion of the programme, students will achieve learning outcomes combined from one or more of the following sets of modular outcomes:
  - the institutional framework for provision of housing services, the rationale and focus of state intervention in housing, key roles, responsibilities and activities in the public, private and personal spheres, key themes in service provision, including power, discretion, needs, choice, control;
  - forms of house construction and the provision of services to housing; the planning and development processes and the roles of those involved; the principles of sustainability and how they apply to construction, procurement and communities; issues around housing quality and energy efficiency and their relationship to health and well-being;
  - the organisation of repairs and maintenance services;
  - the Scottish, UK and EU housing policy networks and governance structures, the policy process and housing legislation within and between housing organisations, the role of, and apply concepts in, strategic planning for housing organisations, a range of appropriate concepts and theories for explaining outcomes in housing policy and strategy;
  - the role of managers and management, drawing on relevant theory, organisational structures and cultures and relate these to organisational strategies and performance, the importance of staff development in housing organisations, drawing on appropriate literature and practice, the impact of external and internal change on housing organisations;
  - information sources for housing planning and information gaps; data for housing information requirements; research issues and questions;
  - the various funding streams that pay for housing and how these relate to the policy and market environments, financial data for housing services, financial planning for changing social housing capital finance regimes;
  - the physical and social context for poor housing conditions, inequality in housing and area deprivation, theories of empowerment and community development; contemporary policy and practice initiatives for the renewal, regeneration and sustainability of physical and social housing environments;
  - the physical and social links between housing environments and people’s health and well being, theories and practice in inter-professional working to meet complex housing and social needs, contemporary policy and practice for user involvement in the development of mainstream and specialist housing and support services to meet complex housing and social needs.
Subject-specific skills and other attributes
- Technical skills in the appraisal and evaluation of housing development, design and construction in the built environment; legal analysis. Financial procedures in social and market housing

Generic skills (e.g. information skills, communication skills, critical, analytical and problem solving abilities) and other attributes
- Academic skills in library research for assignments and academic writing, theoretical analysis and policy analysis. Key professional skills: advanced presentation skills communication skills of voicing and listening, writing; self-management, organising work and meeting deadlines; interpersonal skills in team work, the negotiation and presentation of group ideas. Research skills in information processing and research methods

Learning, teaching and assessment strategies:
Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) on overall approach taken to develop and assess learning outcomes, including any distinctive features
- The academic parts of the programme are assessed through continuous assessment, involving a range of different assignments, including essays, reports, groupwork etc. In addition, learning at the workplace is assessed through reports written by students on aspects of their work, together with reports on performance from workplace mentors.

Professional/statutory body accreditation or recognition: | Chartered Institute of Housing

Further details:
Entry requirements: [http://www.external.stir.ac.uk/postgrad/index.php](http://www.external.stir.ac.uk/postgrad/index.php)
Programme structure: [http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/](http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/)
Relevant Subject Benchmark statement (if applicable): [http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/default.asp](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/default.asp)
Introduction/revision date: Revised March 2011