

Decision Notice

Delegated Decision

Decision No:	DD11
Subject:	REVISION OF HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY
Notification Date:	16 August 2021
Decision taken by:	Louise Taylor, Head of Housing
Delegated Authority:	Delegation 73 of the Scheme of Officer Delegations (Section 6) of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Constitution
Decision Type:	Executive Non-Key Decision
Call-In to Apply?	No (<i>Call-in does not apply to Non-Key Officer Decisions</i>)
Classification:	Unrestricted

Reason for the Decision:	To make amendments to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy.
Decision:	To make necessary amendments to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy as detailed in the attached Appendix.

1. **Consideration and Alternatives (*if applicable*)**
 - 1.1 Section 166A of the Housing Act 1996 requires Local Authorities to publish an Allocations Policy which sets out how social rented housing is allocated within the district, including who is eligible to join the housing register.
 - 1.2 The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020 meaning that from 1 January 2021 new immigration and eligibility rules applied.
 - 1.3 The Allocations Policy has therefore been amended to reflect the new rules relating to 'qualifying persons' and outlines the information that must be provided when applying to the housing register.
 - 1.4 The amendments and the additional necessary minor changes to the policy do not require formal consultation.
2. **Identification of Options**
 - 2.1 The Options available are to:
 - A. Approve the revised Allocations Policy.
 - B. Reject the revised Allocations Policy.
3. **Evaluation of Options**
 - 3.1 Option A: This is the preferred option as the existing policy needs to be revised to take account of new legislation and address some minor anomalies.
 - 3.2 Option C: This is not recommended because it will mean continued operation of the existing policy which needs to be updated to take account of new legislation.
4. **Any Conflicts of Interest Declared?**
 - 4.1 None.

5. **Supporting Information** *(as applicable)*

5.1 See attached Appendix. All amendments are track-changed for ease of reference.

6. **Resource Implications**

6.1 There are no resource implications related to this report.

7. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

7.1 There should be no environmental or climate change implications as a consequence of this decision being taken.

8. **Corporate Implications**

8.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): Accountancy have been consulted in the writing of this report and have no further comments. (AC)

8.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Head of Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.

Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report does not specifically highlight any equality implications. The amendments do not change the barriers to those that the Secretary of State class as being ineligible for housing assistance, as outlined in the Housing Act 1996. In discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>

8.3 Other Officers (as appropriate):