

Decision Number: 31 (2019/21)

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject: Sevenoaks District Housing Allocations Policy amendments

Details of Decision taken

1. To make amendments to various sections of the Policy to clarify applicants' requirements relating to local connection criteria, exceptions, the Banding system, fraud investigations and data protection.
2. To add in additional information for reciprocal rehousing arrangements, in line with a new Kent Housing Group protocol.
3. To add in additional information to clarify Register applicant requirements for parents who have shared responsibility for dependent children.
4. To add further clarity on the evidence requirements for applicants claiming a local connect to give/receive essential care and support, through the close family connection.
5. To amend the documents required by each applicant, to improve the processes for the customer.

Please see Appendix A for the full wording relating to the amendments or the current Sevenoaks District Housing Allocations Policy.

Reason for Decision

To agree the above amendments to the Sevenoaks District Housing Allocations Policy to ensure this Policy remains up to date and fully complies with this Council's legal duty under Part VI of the Housing Act 1996, which regulates the allocation of social rented housing by local authorities. These minor wording amendments and additions provide clear and transparent information within the current Policy for Social Housing Register applicants.

All Documents considered:

Appendix A - Summary of new and amended wording for the Allocations Policy

Appendix B - Revised Sevenoaks District Housing Allocations Policy

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Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

None

Financial implications

None

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

These amendments ensure this Council is fully compliant with Part VI of the Housing Act 1996 for allocation of social rented housing.

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted

Cllr Kevin Maskell - Portfolio Holder for Housing & Health

Sarah Robson - Deputy Chief Executive, Chief Officer - People and Places

Hayley Brooks - Head of Housing & Health

Details of any conflicts of interest

a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker


None

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict

None

(For Democratic Services use)

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Decision taken by:	Portfolio Holder for Housing & Health
Signed by Portfolio Holder	
Date of Decision	21/12/2020.
Record made by:	
Date of record:	21.12.2020

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail