

Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 2- Sevenoaks District Housing Register Allocations Scheme

Summary of decision to be made:	2 nd Draft of the Sevenoaks District Housing Register Allocation Scheme		
Lead Officer (job title):	Liz Crockford, Interim Housing Strategy Manager /Sharon Donald, Interim Head of Housing		
Date the final decision is due to be made:	19/07/2022	Date this assessment commenced:	13/4/22
Is the decision relevant to the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty?			Yes / No
Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation			Yes / No
Advance equality of opportunity			Yes / No
Foster good relations			Yes / No
If the answer is yes to any of the above, proceed with the assessment. If the answer is no, please say why and summarise any evidence:			
For each of the following characteristics, summarise any existing data, consultation activity, interpretation of the impacts and actions that can be taken to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts:			
Characteristic:	Data and consultation	Summary of impact	Actions
Disability	Sevenoaks District Housing Needs Survey 2017, Targeted Review of Local Housing Needs 2021, 2011 Census, Sevenoaks District Housing Strategy 2022 - 2027 (emerging), Older Persons' Housing Study 2022, public consultation February to April 2022.	Highest priority proposed for tenants vacating adapted homes. This will facilitate the potential for more suitable homes becoming available to meet the needs of disabled Housing Register applicants. See also Carers.	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Carers	As above	Reasonable travel distances now stipulated as a factor when determining priority. This will ensure applicants experiencing unsustainable journeys to give/receive care, will have priority.	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Race	As above	None - the allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of race	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Gender	As above	None - the allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of gender .	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Age	As above	Highest priority proposed for tenants	

Equality Impact Assessment

		vacating larger family-size properties and downsizing to homes with fewer bedrooms. This will facilitate more family-size homes becoming available to meet the needs of other Housing Register applicants. Applicants age 55 years or over and wishing to live in designated older persons' housing will not need to demonstrate a local connection.	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Religion / Belief	As above	None - the allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of religion or belief	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Sexual Orientation	As above	None - the allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of sexual orientation	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Pregnancy / Maternity	As above	The draft scheme prioritises pregnancy and maternity as a protected characteristic.	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Marital or Civil Partnership Status	As above	The allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of this status	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Gender reassignment	As above	The allocations policy aims to treat all applicants equally irrespective of gender reassignment	WKEP Aim: Other actions as a service provider
Summary of impacts : (to be included in committee reports)	<p>Under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people.</p> <p>The decisions recommended through this paper will result in clearer definitions and transparency within the new Sevenoaks District Housing Allocations Scheme. The Scheme determines eligibility for, and the allocation of, social housing within the District. Social housing is owned by Registered Provider partners</p>		

Equality Impact Assessment

	<p>as well as other Providers, including Quercus Housing. The Scheme will provide greater opportunities for people with a genuine local connection and an identified housing need, including those in reasonable preference groups and with protected characteristics, to join the Sevenoaks District Housing Register. The Scheme ensures priority is given to those in the greatest housing need, except where homes are delivered on Rural Exceptions Sites or where a Local Lettings Plan has been approved.</p> <p>A review mechanism is proposed, so that minor adjustments to the Allocations Scheme may be made (through delegated authority to the Chief Officer People & Places, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing & Health) to ensure the Scheme retains its relevance and robustness.</p>			
Please tick the outcome of this assessment:	No impact	Adjust the policy	Continue the policy	Stop and remove the policy
Date assessment will be reviewed:	07/07/2022			