

# Decision under Delegated Powers

## Officer Requesting Decision

Katie Moore – Housing Needs Manager

## Officer Making the Decision

Alison Simmons - Head of Strategic & Private Sector Housing

## Recommendation

To approve amendments to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy, as agreed in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

## Reason


To ensure that the policy reflects changes in legislation and local and regional services and supports the Council to fulfil its statutory duties.

## Authority for Decision

Section 8.2 of the Constitution gives delegated authority to the Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing to make amendments to the Allocations Policy in response to future legislative changes, changes at local or regional level, or government guidance, in consultation with the relevant Lead Member.

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## Decision and Date

  
Head of Strategic and  
Private Sector Housing

Background 7th May 2019

A new Housing Allocations Policy was approved by Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The policy was initially due to be implemented in April 2018, but this was delayed to enable the policy implementation to coincide with the introduction of a new online Housing Register and Choice Based Lettings system.

Since the policy was approved, there have been a number of relevant changes to legislation and to services at a local and regional level. The impact of some of these changes (for example the Homelessness Reduction Act) on the Council's Housing Allocations and Housing Options services and customers are now better understood.

Minor amendments to the policy have been made, to ensure that it supports the Council to fulfil its statutory duties.

A copy of the policy approved by Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 is attached as Appendix A. A copy of the amended policy is attached as Appendix B.

## Comments from HR

HR Adviser: Anna Cairns (8/4/19)

There are no HR comments regarding this.

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with these changes.

## Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
This DD is not agreed and the Council's Housing Allocations Policy does not support the Council to fulfil its statutory obligations, potentially resulting in increased complaints, legal challenges and bed and breakfast expenditure.	Medium	Medium	Request additional budget to cover legal costs and bed and breakfast costs.

Key Decision:

No.

Background Papers:

None.