

Policy and Resources Committee
Monday, 15 July 2024

PART I

**Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy - Update
(ADCCC)**

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy sets out to ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligations, in particular the criteria used when considering out of district placements.
- 1.2 Three years has passed since the last review of the policy, therefore, a review of the policy has been undertaken, and the policy has been updated. The Policy can be found in Appendix One.

2 Details

- 2.1 The current Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy has been reviewed and requires six minor amendments.
- 2.2 Section 2.7 references the grant provided to local authorities to prevent homelessness. The name of this grant has changed since the last review of this policy, therefore, this has been updated.
- 2.3 Section 2.10 lists the legislation that this policy complies with. This list has been updated accordingly.
- 2.4 Section 4.2 referenced the Council's Housing Supply Manager, a post that has now been deleted as part of a Service restructure. This Section has been amended accordingly.
- 2.5 Domestic Abuse has been added to the factors that the Council will consider when assessing the suitability of accommodation. Domestic Abuse was previously considered as part of Section 5.1.19 (Any risks associated with living in a particular area), however, has now been made an individual factor. The policy states that the Council will always consider placement in a refuge as the first option for the offer of accommodation for a customer who is fleeing domestic abuse, if this is suitable for the customer, or members of their household.
- 2.6 Section 6.2.7 has been amended to require any customer to evidence any longstanding arrangement to provide care and support to any family member, who is not part of their household, in the district by providing the Council a copy of a Carers Assessment and/or the receipt of Carers Allowance.
- 2.7 A version control has been added to the policy at Section 12.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Committee agree the updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy to ensure the Council fulfils its statutory obligations and complies with relevant legislation.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report are within the Council's agreed policy and budgets.
- 4.2 The recommendations in this report relate to the achievement of the following performance indicators.
 - 4.2.1 HN01 – Maximum number of households living in temporary accommodation on the last day of the quarter (snapshot).
 - 4.2.2 HN03 – Maximum number of households in temporary accommodation throughout the year.

Financial, Staffing, Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre, Communications & Website, Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

None specific.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 It is recommended that JLT agree the updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy to ensure Council compliance with relevant legislation and reduce the risk of successful legal challenge against the Council.

6 Equal Opportunities Implications

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed, approved and is attached as an Appendix to this report.

7 Environmental Implications

- 7.1 A Sustainability Impact Assessment is not required for this decision.

8 Communications and Website Implications

- 8.1 If agreed, an updated version of the Council's Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy will be required to be uploaded to the Council's website.

9 Risk and Health & Safety Implications

- 9.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.
- 9.2 The subject of this report is covered by the Housing Services service plan(s). Any risks resulting from this report will be included in the risk register and, if necessary, managed within this/these plan(s).

Nature of	Consequence	Suggested	Response	Risk Rating
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Risk		Control Measures	<i>(tolerate, treat, terminate, transfer)</i>	<i>(combination of likelihood and impact)</i>
The Council fails to adopt an updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy.	The Council are not compliant with relevant legislation, therefore, increasing the risk of successful legal challenge against the Council.	To agree the updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy	Tolerate	4

9.3 The above risks are scored using the matrix below. The Council has determined its aversion to risk and is prepared to tolerate risks where the combination of impact and likelihood scores 6 or less.

Very Likely ----- Likelihood ----- Remote	Low	High	Very High	Very High
	4	8	12	16
	Low	Medium	High	Very High
	3	6	9	12
	Low	Low	Medium	High
	2	4	6	8
	Low	Low	Low	Low
	1	2	3	4
	Impact			
	Low	----->		Unacceptable

Impact Score

4 (Catastrophic)

3 (Critical)

2 (Significant)

Likelihood Score

4 (Very Likely (≥80%))

3 (Likely (21-79%))

2 (Unlikely (6-20%))

1 (Marginal)

1 (Remote (≤5%))

9.4 In the officers' opinion none of the new risks above, were they to come about, would seriously prejudice the achievement of the Strategic Plan and are therefore operational risks. The effectiveness of the management of operational risks is reviewed by the Audit Committee annually.

10 Recommendation

10.1 **That:**

For Committee to approve the updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy.

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Data Quality

Data sources:

N/A

Data checked by:

N/A

1	Poor	N/A
2	Sufficient	N/A
3	High	N/A

Background Papers

None.

APPENDICES / ATTACHMENTS

**Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy
Equalities Impact Assessment**