

AssessmentNo	99	Owner	sconnor
Resource	Regeneration, Environment and Growth		Service/Establishment Housing and Employment
	First Name	Surname	Job title
Head Officer	Suzanne	Connor	Strategic Housing Officer
	(include job titles/organisation)		
Members	Stefan Kristmanns - Housing Development Co-Ordinator		
	<i>(Please note: the word 'policy' is used as shorthand for strategy policy function or financial decision)</i>		
Policy Title	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan		
	The aim, objective, purpose and intended out come of policy		
	Deliver a Whole Systems approach to the prevention of homelessness; Enable service users with low or no support needs to access settled housing quickly; To develop interim housing options which enable independent living and housing sustainment; Implement a Housing First model which enables the most excluded service users to achieve housing sustainment; and reduce transitions in temporary accommodation.		
	Service/Partners/Stakeholders/service users involved in the development and/or implementation of policy.		
	WDC Homeless and Housing Operations Team, RSL's, HSCP and 3rd Sector support providers.		
Does the proposals involve the procurement of any goods or services?			No
If yes please confirm that you have contacted our procurement services to discuss your requirements.			No
SCREENING			
<i>You must indicate if there is any relevance to the four areas</i>			
Duty to eliminate discrimination (E), advance equal opportunities (A) or foster good relations (F)			Yes
Relevance to Human Rights (HR)			Yes
Relevance to Health Impacts (H)			Yes
Relevance to Social Economic Impacts (SE)			Yes
Who will be affected by this policy?			
Homeless households, WDC Homeless team, social landlords and support providers.			
Who will be/has been involved in the consultation process?			
Consultation events were held during November and December 2018 in preparation of creating our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan. Key stakeholders including WDC Homeless Team, WDC Housing Operations, local Registered Social Landlords, Health and Social Care Partnership and 3rd sector organisations who provide support to homeless households were all present at the consultation events. Consultation events involved focus groups and discussions being held with stakeholders allowing them the opportunity to discuss and influence proposals for the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan.			
Please outline any particular need/barriers which equality groups may have in relation to this policy list evidence you are using to support this and whether there is any negative impact on particular groups.			

	Needs	Evidence	Impact
Age	West Dunbartonshire has the 2nd highest incidences of youth homelessness in Scotland.	Scottish Government HL1 Figures.	All homeless applicants will be moved through the homeless process and into settled accommodation quicker and supported to remain in their tenancy. Transitions in temporary accommodation will be reduced. In addition, there is defined pathway for Young Care Leavers to ensure their housing needs are met.
Cross Cutting	The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan cuts across age, disability, health and social and economic impacts. This EIA also highlights that more information is required around sexual orientation and gender reassignment.		Rapid Rehousing will positively impact on age, disability, health and social and economic impact by increasing the support provided to homeless households and reducing the transitions they experience in temporary accommodation. However, more information is required around sexual orientation and gender reassignment to ensure the needs of these groups are being met.
Disability	Homeless households in West Dunbartonshire have the 2nd highest rate of severe and	Scottish Government HL1 Figures. Internal exercise also carried out to review 1074 homeless	Positive impact due to increased support made available to homeless households with support needs and

	<p>multiple disadvantage in Scotland. Information is currently collected in relation to disability and support needs assessed.</p>	<p>applications and assess level of need. Found that 53% of applicants had no/low needs, 45% had medium/high needs and 2% would benefit from Housing First approach.</p>	<p>tailored to the level of support required in order to provide settled, secure accommodation quickly and support the household to sustain their tenancy. Introduction of Housing First will also positively impact on households with the greatest support needs. Transitions in temporary accommodation will be reduced.</p>
<p>Social & Economic Impact</p>	<p>Need for homeless households to be rehoused quickly to improve their social and economic position.</p>	<p>Internal Temporary Accommodation Modelling exercise.</p>	<p>Support will also include financial support to ensure that homeless applicants receive financial assistance they are entitled to help them maintain their tenancy and build a home. Transitions in temporary accommodation will be reduced. The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan will also have an economic impact as it has identified a need for additional support resources and increases the number of temporary accommodation places required over the 5 year period.</p>

Gender	Gender information is currently collected as part of the homeless application. WDC does not provide any gender specific accommodation however can make referrals to Women's Aid who are specific to women.	Scottish Government HL1 Figures.	There will be no impact on gender equalities.
Gender Reassign	Limited information is currently available in relation to homeless clients in West Dunbartonshire and Gender Reassignment.		Specific pathways are being developed for LGBT+ clients as part of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, however information relating to gender reassignment needs to be routinely collected from homeless applicants to ensure their needs are being met.
Health	2nd highest concentration of homeless households with Severe and Multiple Disadvantage (SMD) in Scotland is found within West Dunbartonshire. Support needs are currently assessed and support provided where necessary.	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Guidance cites research carried out by Mandy Littlewood at Heriott Watt University which states that West Dunbartonshire has 2nd highest rate of SMD in Scotland. Internal exercise also carried out to review 1074 homeless applications and looks at level of need and found 53% of applicants	Increased support for clients with SMD and tailored to their level of need in order to help them obtain settled, secure accommodation and support them to maintain their tenancy. Housing First approach will also positively impact on homeless households with the most complex needs. Transitions in temporary accommodation

		had no/low needs, 45% had medium/high needs and 2% would benefit from housing first.	will be reduced.
Human Rights	N/A		There will be no impact on applicants Human Rights.
Marriage & Civil Partnership	N/A		There will be no impact on marriage or civil partnerships.
Pregnancy & Maternity	N/A		There will be no impact on pregnancy or maternity.
Race	Race information is currently collected as part of the homeless assessment.	Scottish Government HL1 Figures.	There will be no impact to racial groups.
Religion and Belief	N/A		There will be no impact on Religion or Beliefs.
Sexual Orientation	Limited information is currently collected in relation to the sexual orientation of homeless households in West Dunbartonshire. However, nationally it is recognised that youth LGBT clients are over represented in the homeless population and are more likely to experience parental rejection, familial abuse including physical, mental, emotional and sexual and are more likely to experience targeted violence and	The Albert Kennedy Trust 2015 "LGBT Youth Homeless" Report.	Specific pathways are being developed for LGBT+ clients in the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, however, sexual orientation information requires to be routinely collected from homeless clients to ensure that this group is not discriminated against and their needs are met.

	discrimination, develop substance abuse problems and be sexually exploited.		
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Actions

Policy has a negative impact on an equality group, but is still to be implemented, please provide justification for this.

The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan is not expected to have a negative impact on any equality group.

Will the impact of the policy be monitored and reported on an ongoing bases?

The transition to Rapid Rehousing will be monitored and reported on an annual basis to the Housing and Communities Committee and Scottish Government.

Q7 What is your recommendation for this policy?

Introduce

Please provide a meaningful summary of how you have reached the recommendation

A key recommendation made by the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG) and accepted by Scottish Government was a transition to a Rapid Re-housing approach for homeless households and for all Local Authorities to submit a 5-year Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan by 31st December 2018 for the period 2019/20 - 2023/24. Our Equalities Impact Assessment highlights that a transition to Rapid Rehousing in West Dunbartonshire would positively impact the homeless population by providing additional support allowing them to sustain their tenancies and reducing the number of transitions homeless people experience in temporary accommodation. However, more information is required around gender reassignment and sexual orientation to ensure the needs of these groups are being met. It is therefore recommended to proceed with Rapid Rehousing in West Dunbartonshire, however to commence routinely recording and analysis of gender reassignment and sexual orientation.