

## PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
<b>Title:</b> Temporary Accommodation Policy	
<b>Directorate:</b> Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	<b>Service area:</b> Housing Options
<b>Lead person:</b> Helen Caulfield-Browne	<b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:Helen.caulfield-browne@rotherham.gov.uk">Helen.caulfield-browne@rotherham.gov.uk</a> 01709 807831
Is this a:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy / Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Service / Function</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>If other, please specify</b>	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
<u>Development of a new Temporary Accommodation Policy</u>
<p>The Temporary Accommodation Policy will provide a framework on how temporary accommodation will be allocated and managed, as well as providing the information on the Councils responsibilities, including its statutory legal duties on providing temporary accommodation to those that are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless.</p> <p>The Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities, published by MHCLG states (at paras 17.48 -17.62) that housing authorities are advised to develop policies for the procurement and allocation of accommodation which will help ensure that suitability requirements, including the location of the accommodation, are met. The Policy will take</p>

the statutory guidance into account when making decisions about out of borough temporary accommodation placements.

The development of the Policy will take into consideration relevant health and safety regulations, The Homelessness Suitability Order 2003, including the recent amendments which came into force in 2023. The Policy will have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, as required by section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

No formal consultation is required. However, the voice of households with lived experience of temporary accommodation will play an important role in influencing and shaping the Policy. A range of engagement and consultation activities have commenced with customers and stakeholders.

### 3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?	X	
Could the proposal affect service users?	X	
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?	X	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?	X	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

N/A

If you have answered **no** to **all** the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

#### 4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made.

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

##### **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

The Policy aims in achieving well-balanced fair decisions to households in crisis who have to go into temporary accommodation.

The Policy will seek to ensure that all placements are made on the basis of a balanced assessment of the needs of all households requiring temporary accommodation set against consideration of the type and location of accommodation that is available to be allocated at any given point.

The Policy will demonstrate a consistent approach with temporary accommodation placements and support tenancy sustainment to those vulnerable households in need of support by providing support so that the household can move on into permanent accommodation.

It is key whilst developing the Policy that there is fair access and outcomes across for all of those needing temporary accommodation whilst ensuring that no protected equalities group is being unintentionally disadvantaged or excluded. It is also paramount to prioritise equality and diversity to ensure fair and inclusive access for all individuals in need. By considering this, the Policy can address the diverse needs and circumstances of a wide range of people, including those from marginalised or underrepresented groups. Embracing equality and diversity within the Policy will also enhance the suitability of the accommodation services provided.

To ensure that the development of the Policy identifies any barriers, there will be a thorough data analysis on temporary accommodation stock, usage and current service design/processes in place, as well as a comprehensive consultation undertaken to capture the views of those with lived experience of temporary accommodation, and views from partners and stakeholders. The outcomes of the consultation will be used to 4 Part A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment Form support in shaping a service which will offer equality and diversity for Rotherham residents who require support with substance misuse.

The data analysis being undertaken will look at the following sources of data:

- HCLIC data (government reported data including homelessness approaches and cases data)
- RMBC Housing Register
- Temporary Accommodation data (including stock, utilisation, throughput and

- household makeup)
- Local population demographic data

**Key findings**

It is not anticipated that this Policy will address any differences that may be encountered in the nine protected characteristics. The Policy will give consideration for households that have health factors and that have care and support provided by other statutory agencies or the need to access any specialist medical services that are only available in Rotherham.

The Policy is there to support those who have been assessed as being in a priority need of needing temporary accommodation to elevate their current homelessness whilst suitable and permanent accommodation is sought. As such, no group or individual across Borough should be adversely affected or disadvantaged as a result of this Policy.

The Policy will have a positive impact by ensuring that the type of accommodation allocated to those in need is suitable for the household.

An analysis on of those already accessing the service will help ensure that the Policy has a positive impact across all communities and protected characteristics.

The Policy will actively recognise the difficulties faced by those facing homelessness and rough sleepers in accessing temporary accommodation.

The Policy will align with other key strategies and frameworks across the Council as part of the “One Council” approach. Such as the following:

- Council Plan and Year Ahead Plan
- Housing Service Plan
- Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Housing Strategy
- Housing Allocation Policy
- Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy

**Actions**

A full Equality Analysis will need to be completed once all consultation has been completed. The data gathered will be used to shape the Policy to ensure it is reflective of local demographics.

It will be important to engage with a diverse range of customers and stakeholders as part of the development of the Temporary Accommodation Policy.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	May 2024
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	June 2024

Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Helen Caulfield-Browne Housing Options Operational Manager
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## 5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Sandra Tolley	Head of Housing Options	18 March 2024

## 6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to [equality@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk) For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

<b>Date screening completed</b>	18/03/2024
<b>Report title and date</b>	Temporary Accommodation Policy
<b>If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication</b>	September 2024
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024  Approved 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 Steve Eling Policy and Equalities Manager

## PART B – Equality Analysis Form

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussions, ensure that due regard has been given and remove or minimise disadvantage for an individual or group with a protected characteristic
- Involves looking at what steps can be taken to advance and maximise equality as well as eliminate discrimination and negative consequences
- Should be completed before decisions are made, this will remove the need for remedial actions.

Note – An Initial Equality Screening Assessment (Part A) should be completed prior to this form.

When completing this form consider the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc. – see page 11 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

1. Title	
<b>Equality Analysis title: Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy</b>	
<b>Date of Equality Analysis (EA): 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	
<b>Directorate:</b> Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	<b>Service area:</b> Housing Options
<b>Lead Manager:</b> Helen Caulfield-Browne	<b>Contact number:</b> <a href="mailto:Helen.caulfield-browne@rotherham.gov.uk">Helen.caulfield-browne@rotherham.gov.uk</a> 01709 807831

**2. Names of those involved in the Equality Analysis (Should include minimum of three people) - see page 7 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance**

Name	Organisation	Role (eg service user, managers, service specialist)
Helen Caulfield-Browne	RMBC – Housing Options	Housing Options Operational Manager
Daisy Wardle	RMBC – Housing Options	Development Officer
Sandra Tolley	RMBC – Housing Options	Head of Housing Options

**3. What is already known? - see page 10 of Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance**

**Aim/Scope (who the Policy/Service affects and intended outcomes if known)**

This may include a group/s identified by a protected characteristic, others groups or stakeholder/s e.g. service users, employees, partners, members, suppliers etc.)

The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy will be a new Policy.

Temporary accommodation is a form of housing assistance that local authorities may provide to homeless households who are eligible for assistance, in priority need, and not intentionally homeless. The provision of temporary accommodation is governed by Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002 and the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The aims and objectives of the Policy are:

- To set out the Council's approach to placing homeless households in emergency and temporary accommodation.
- Ensure the Council is compliant with legislation, guidance, case law, and good practice relating to the provision of temporary accommodation.
- To set out the factors that will be considered to make sure that the temporary accommodation being offered is suitable and allocated fairly.
- Keeping households that are homeless because of domestic abuse safe and supported.
- Ensure the effective management of temporary accommodation premises.
- To outline how the Council supports households who approach the Council in need of temporary accommodation, to ensure they are treated in a consistent manner and with empathy and respect.
- Keeping the cost of the Council's temporary accommodation to a minimum by reducing the use of hotel, bed and breakfast and third-party supplier managed temporary accommodation.

The Policy is to help ensure that the Council's duties to provide suitable temporary accommodation for homeless households are met. This Policy can be shared with stakeholders, partners, employees and members of the public to raise awareness of the Council's Policy and to inform operational practice.

**What equality information is available? (Include any engagement undertaken)**

**What we know: households placed into temporary accommodation**

The following data, gathered between financial year April 2022 and March 2023.

All of this data has been collated from individual homeless households who have approached the Council assistance and provided with temporary accommodation.

1409 people have approached and presented themselves either at risk of homelessness or homeless and a case was opened. 80% of those that approached us had a duty accepted. 868 temporary accommodation placements were made within this year.

The main reason for homelessness is family or friends no longer willing to accommodate, which affected 20% of those households placed into temporary accommodation. The second most common reason was domestic abuse, which affected 12% of those that approached us. The other main reasons were eviction from private rented sector (8%) and fleeing violence (non-domestic abuse) (4%).

**Support Needs**

36% of those placed into temporary accommodation stated that they had support needs. 65% of those with a support need stated that they had 2 or more support needs.

The most common support need was mental health, which 23% stated they had. The second was physical ill health which affects 13% and history/at risk of domestic abuse is the third highest support need, 11% stating that this affected them.

<b>Protected Characteristic</b>	<b>Evaluation/analysis:</b>
Age	<p>54% of the main applicants were between the ages of 25 and 40. This figure is higher than the overall population of Rotherham, where 25- to 40-year-olds makes up 19% of the population. 14% of those that needed temporary accommodation were 16- to 24-year-olds. This figure is higher than the overall population of Rotherham, where 16 to 24 year olds makes up 10% of the population. 30% of those that needed temporary accommodation were 41 to 64 years old, this number is lower than the overall population of Rotherham, where 41- to 64-year-olds make up 32%. 3% of those that needed temporary accommodation were 65+. This figure is lower than the overall population of Rotherham, where 65+ year olds make up 20% of the population.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration for households age, in terms of 16- and 17-year-olds, as set out in legislation for suitability of temporary accommodation. The Policy does not exclude individuals due to this protected characteristic.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates</p>



	no actual or likely negative impact.
Sexual orientation	<p>The data tells us that 63% of main applicants identify as Heterosexual or straight. 4% identify as part of the LGBT community. A large percentage of 33% either stated that they would prefer not to say, or the data was unknown. Because of this, the data may not reflect a true picture the analysis has been reliant on data available.</p> <p>There is a recommendation and need to focus on quality data input and service data analysis, so that there is fewer missing data.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Race	<p>The main ethnicity of the main applicant is predominantly White British, at 65% and 16% were from the BME communities, this is slightly lower for White British in comparison to Rotherham's population, which is 88.26% and higher for those within the BME community within Rotherham which is 9%.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Sex	<p>50.3% of main applicants stated that they were male, and 49.7% stated that they were female. This is very similar to local population data where 51.7% are male and 49.7% are female.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Pregnancy and maternity	<p>In the financial year 2022/23, 27% of temporary accommodation placements had children and in the financial year 2023/24 26.7% of temporary accommodation had children.</p> <p>3% of those that were placed into temporary accommodation declared that they were pregnant. However, 34% of those asked did not provide us with an answer, so this figure could be higher. This is likely due to the fact that this question in our housing data base system was not a required question, it is not a required question so figures will be higher in the future.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration for individuals who are pregnant, in terms of as legislation for suitability of temporary accommodation. Households with children or who are</p>

	<p>pregnant should not be in a hotel/bed and breakfast placement longer than 6 weeks. The Policy does not exclude individuals due to this protected characteristic.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Married and civil partnership	<p>The data tells us that 45% of main applicants stated that they were single, 9% stated that they were married, 1% stated that they were divorced and 4% stated that they were co-habiting. A large percentage of 41% either stated that they would prefer not to say, or the data was unknown. Because of this, the data may not reflect a true picture, the analysis has been reliant on data available.</p> <p>There is a recommendation and need to focus on quality data input and service data analysis, so that there is fewer missing data.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Disability	<p>In total, 36% of those that approached us stated that they had a disability. 23% stated that they had a history of mental health illness, 13% stated that they had a physical disability. Although the percentage is low in presentations, there are individuals who may not have considered themselves to have a disability and have not disclosed it to us.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration for households that have health factors and that have care and support provided by other statutory agencies or the need to access any specialist medical services that are only available in Rotherham.</p> <p>The Policy also states that the temporary accommodation portfolio should aim to provide 3% of the temporary accommodation stock as accessible for disabled individuals who are also wheelchair users.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Gender reassignment	<p>Data is limited; therefore, it has not been possible for us to complete a full evaluation. It is recommended that there is a review on data collation and input of this protected characteristic.</p>

	<p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Religion or belief	<p>50% stated that they did not follow any religion or belief, 12% stated that they would prefer not to say, 13% stated that they followed Christianity (all denomination), 4% stated that they were Muslim and 1% stated that they followed any other religion. 21% did not state a religion or the information was not inputted by the officer. In comparison to local population data, 49% stated that they were Christian, 40% stated that they did not follow any religion, 5% stated that they were Muslim and 0.3% stated that they followed another religion.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Complex Needs	<p>65% of applicants were considered to have complex needs. Complex needs are defined by the homeless service as a lead applicant having 2 or more areas of vulnerability, such as substance misuse, offending behaviour, mental, physical ill health and domestic abuse.</p> <p>The data for disabilities has been captured separately.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration for households that have health factors and that have care and support provided by other statutory agencies or the need to access any specialist medical services that are only available in Rotherham.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
Domestic Abuse	<p>13% of those that needed temporary accommodation were at risk or had experienced domestic abuse. 79% of households were missing this data, and 8% stated that they had not experienced domestic abuse and were not at risk.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration for households that who effected by domestic abuse. Specialist temporary accommodation is provided with support.</p> <p>When considering the suitability factors of a placement location is a key factor to ensure safety.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>

Economic Status	<p>16% of those that needed temporary accommodation were employed, either full time or part time. 84% were unemployed.</p> <p>This Policy does set out consideration in terms of affordability when providing a suitable temporary accommodation placement.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy indicates no actual or likely negative impact.</p>
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**Are there any gaps in the information that you are aware of?**

When analysing the local data available specifically from homeless households it demonstrated some gaps in local data reporting. **(Please refer to the table above)**. This is due to the functions in the housing data management system IT combined with the quality of data inputs.

This is currently being addressed at has been identified as at Directorate level as a priority and has been added to the risk register to ensure that the data issues are resolved.

**What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the Policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?**

Any actions derived from this Policy will be monitored and reported on internally through the internal Homelessness Strategic Board and the Homelessness Improvement Board.

The service manager/s responsible for operational delivery of homelessness and temporary accommodation are responsible for the quality assurance of data input and will report to the Head of Housing Options on all performance, including equality analysis and against the aims and objectives of the Policy.

The equality data source NEC is taken from 2023-24 where the fields were not mandatory, this has since been addressed, therefore this should improve but will require oversight to ensure quality assurance and identify and staff training and development.

Analysis of equality and diversity data will be frequently undertaken by the homelessness manager to identify if any protected characteristic groups are under-represented, so these are discussed and help identify any changing trends and the need to respond differently. It is proposed that consideration should be given to undertake the analysis annually as a minimum to help inform local needs when considering future procurement of temporary accommodation units.

**Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)**

Between February 2024 and April 2024, there was various co-design and engagement activities. We received feedback from 76 customers in total.

Activities:

- Phone surveys for those with lived experience of

	<p>temporary accommodation as well as home visits to households living in temporary accommodation, homeless supported providers also gathered customer feedback on the Councils behalf.</p> <p>Groups of people who we engaged with included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who have complex needs who reside at vulnerable adult commissioned services and had previously lived in temporary accommodation.</li> <li>• Families with young children, couples and singles who are living in temporary accommodation, various support needs including domestic abuse</li> <li>• Customers that visit Shiloh (Rotherham Homeless charity) and RMBC, Riverside House, homelessness service, (We asked customers to participate in a visual poll which enable them to engage and express what were the most important areas to them that we needed consider in terms of the service delivery and standards within the Policy)</li> <li>• We also consulted with the Councils Housing Involvement Panel (HIP)</li> </ul> <p>Key areas of the Policy are led by legislation, however opportunities to influence best practice have been influenced by customer engagement. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of the service standards specifically for temporary accommodation.</li> <li>• Providing a more flexible approach to homeless households with pets, acknowledging that pets provide households with many benefits, one being support with their emotional/mental health.</li> </ul> <p>As part of engagement activities, we captured equality data through customer surveys.</p> <p>The analysis of homelessness provisions by different groups have helped to ensure there is a diverse representation across all communities and protected characteristics when consulting and codesigning the Policy with our customer's.</p>
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<p><b>Engagement undertaken with staff (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)</b></p>	<p>Between February 2024 and May 2024, there was various co-design and engagement activities. They were either round table discussions, face to face meetings or an online internal staff survey. We received feedback from 125 people. These were done with the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Options, officers</li> <li>• RMBC Income Team</li> <li>• Workgroup, Housing options Seniors, involved working exercises and co-design.</li> <li>• Homelessness Forum, round the table working exercises.</li> <li>• RMBC - Homelessness Improvement Board</li> <li>• RMBC - Homeless Strategic Board</li> <li>• Adult Care, including Domestic Abuse</li> <li>• Rotherham Safeguarding Board</li> <li>• Childrens Services</li> <li>• Gate Way Primary Health</li> </ul>
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**4. The Analysis - of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service (Identify by protected characteristics)**

**How does the Policy/Service meet the needs of different communities and groups?** (Protected characteristics of Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity) - see glossary on page 14 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance)

The Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy is inclusive of all customer groups who are eligible for assistance of temporary accommodation under the Housing Act 1996.

As such, no group or individual across the Borough should be adversely affected or disadvantaged as a result of the Policy. The Policy actively recognises the difficulties faced by those experiencing homelessness and the statutory obligations the Council must consider set out in the Policy around the assessment of the suitability of a temporary accommodation placement and promotes inclusion.

The Policy recognises that the temporary accommodation portfolio must include accessible accommodation for those individuals who have a disability, including customers who need wheelchair accessibility.

The Policy recognises people experiencing homelessness can have multiple support need's and promotes the service standards all customers should receive from the service.

The Policy emphasises the importance in working with colleagues in Adult Social Care and Children Services and specialist agencies, adopting multi-disciplinary approaches which are focussed on the best interests of the person.

**Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Groups?**

No there are no identified problems or barriers.  
Failure to deliver the Policy may, however, have negative consequences for some protected groups and in that sense the Policy has been designed to meet identified needs.

**Does the Service/Policy provide any positive impact/s including improvements or remove barriers?**

The Policy is designed to support all households to thrive and have a positive impact by accessing suitable temporary accommodation and receiving the right level of support to help people live independently and move on to more settled housing. The policy is intended to minimise any negative effects of the groups of people who are or experiencing homelessness.

The aim will be to develop a leaflet once the Policy is approved, which will be customer friendly and pull out the main key objectives of the Policy to ensure that customers understand the temporary accommodation placement offer in line with the Policy.

**What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations?** (may also need to consider activity which may be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another)

**Future procurement of temporary accommodation considerations to local area and residents:**

Location will be a key consideration for future procurement of temporary accommodation, consideration to ensure that temporary accommodation is dispersed and to avoid a high volume of units in the same location will be pivotal when making decisions.

The Policy states that a risk assessment must help information the suitability of a placement, consideration on individuals' safety will also be a factor for consideration.

**Flexible approach to pets in temporary accommodation**

The development of the Policy identified homeless households with pets who need temporary accommodation will be considered if the request permission for their pets to live with them. In the development of the Policy there has been discussion with Housing Estates Services in relation to responsible pets' owners and the Housing Councils procedures including abandoned pets has been explored and will link to the proposed Policy. The Policy reiterates that households who are given permission will be expected to comply with terms and conditions in relation to their temporary accommodation placement agreement to ensure that all residents in the community are not negatively affected. Support will be available to all households to ensure they understand their rights and responsibilities.

Please list any **actions and targets** that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment on the action plan below and ensure that they are added into your service plan for monitoring purposes – see page 12 of the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance.

## 5. Summary of findings and Equality Analysis Action Plan

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the Policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic - See page 11 of the Equality Screening and Analysis guidance

<b>Title of analysis: Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy</b>
<b>Directorate and service area: Adult Care, Housing and Public Health</b>
<b>Lead Manager: Head of Housing Options</b>
<b>Summary of findings:</b>
<p>Data management system collected equality data; however, the performance of the data input is limited and the quality and capabilities of the data reporting system will need to be addressed to enable a more accurate equality analysis.</p> <p>Local procedures will need to be produced aligned with the Policy to ensure that there is an effective operational practice for all households with protected characteristics.</p> <p>There have been no negative impacts identified. The Policy is reaching all demographic eligible for temporary accommodation under the Housing Act 1996. The Policy supports the most marginalised people in Rotherham who may have protected characteristics and who are homeless.</p>

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics as listed below	Target date (MM/YY)
Robust performance and quality assurance monitoring on equality data	<b>All</b>	<b>Nov 2024 onwards</b>
Analyse homeless statistics relating to the protected characteristics to ensure there is understanding of housing needs for those who have protected characteristics	<b>All</b>	<b>Annually</b>



Develop local procedures aligned with the Policy to ensure that there is an effective operational practice for all households with protected characteristics, considering suitability and actions which may result in discharging the Councils duties under the Housing Act 1996.	<b>All</b>	<b>Following the approval of the Policy and forms part of the implementation plan</b>
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**\*A = Age, D= Disability, S = Sex, GR Gender Reassignment, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage. C= Carers, O= other groups**

### 6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state those that have approved the Equality Analysis. Approval should be obtained by the Director and approval sought from DLT and the relevant Cabinet Member.

Name	Job title	Date
Ian Spicer	Assistant Chief Executive/ Strategic Director for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	05/08/2024
Cllr Allen	Cabinet Member for Housing	18/07/2024

### 7. Publishing

The Equality Analysis will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this Equality Analysis relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy should also be sent to [equality@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk) For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

<b>Date Equality Analysis completed</b>	
<b>Report title and date</b>	Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy
<b>Date report sent for publication</b>	
<b>Date Equality Analysis sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	