

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

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| Work Programme Reference | I115900 |
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1. **TITLE:** Housing Allocation Policy

2. **SERVICE AREA:** People

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

A new housing allocation policy is required to bring the policy in line with legislative changes and to address the current housing supply and demand challenges facing the borough.

Government guidance states that all Housing authorities must have an allocation scheme for determining priorities, and for defining the procedures to be followed in allocating housing accommodation; and they must allocate in accordance with that scheme.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED that:

- i. the proposed changes to the Housing Allocation Policy are approved.
- ii. the proposed consultation plan to enable applicants, stakeholders, partner organisations, councillors, and the wider public to give their views on the proposed policy changes prior to presenting the findings and any subsequent amendments to the Executive for approval.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

1. The current housing allocations policy is over seven years old and requires a refresh to take account of legislative changes, to support the Council's homelessness and housing strategies, and to address shortfalls in housing supply against demand in Bracknell Forest.
2. The proposed policy reflects and demonstrates the Council's ambitions, whilst also addressing the challenges of a limited supply of homes for allocation and an increased demand for social and affordable rented homes.
3. Stakeholder consultation is an important part of the development of a new Housing Allocations Policy, enabling residents, applicants, partners, Registered Providers of social housing, and officers and councillors to understand and comment on the proposed changes to the policy.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The current policy is out of date and no longer reflects the housing needs of the residents of Bracknell Forest and those seeking housing assistance in the Borough

and so the option of doing nothing has not been considered.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Executive Director: People

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

| Date Decision Made | Final Day of Call-in Period |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 14 November 2023 | 22 November 2023 |