

by the social sector size criteria.

- Kinship Care arrangements supported financially by the Council will be treated in line with foster carers. Kinship Care arrangements made privately are not affected by the under-occupancy rules;
- Other applications will be considered on a case by case basis for exceptional circumstances where a DHP award is appropriate. This will include for example applications involving single people who need an extra room to support child access arrangements; older people approaching pension age where work is not a realistic option; and families expecting a first child where housing allocation has been made in this basis. Also people who are experiencing severe financial difficulties and those affected by Local Housing Allowance changes.

2. Explain how the main aims of the policy, strateg

- Penalties for under-occupation will affect disabled people living in significantly adapted accommodation – including any adaptations made for disabled children; and foster carers, whose housing benefit is reduced because of a bedroom being used by, or kept free for, foster children.

The Discretionary Housing Payments Policy recognises and addresses the needs of these particular groups. It will target support within these areas and will continue to monitor the impact on them.

5. Will the policy, strategy, function or service, have an adverse (negative) impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?

No

Please provide an explanation for your 'Yes' or 'No' answer

There are no adverse differential impacts resulting from the DHP policy, noted for different equality characteristics.

The impact of the Government's HB reforms for social sector tenants and large families will mean that many tenants will struggle to pay their rent. The additional funding from the Government recognises that some people will need help following the changes but the level of funding is unlikely to be sufficient to support the groups identified as needing help.

The Discretionary Housing Payments Policy directs the Council on how to use these funds effectively in order to meet these needs with due regard to the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

6. Is an Equality As a(o)90(r)1.22.68.0451(u)11.1634(n)m43(D3Tm 0437s)6.5645(a)9t56(c)3.7040g)084

