



LSC: 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

CABINET: 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW &  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2023

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**Report of:** Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources

**Relevant Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Pryce-Roberts

**Contact for further information:** Nicola Bradley (Ext. 5296)  
(E-mail: [nicola.bradley@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.bradley@westlancs.gov.uk))

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**SUBJECT: DRAFT DECANT POLICY**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To consider and agree the Decant Policy

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

2.1 That the Decant Policy attached at Appendix 1 of the report be approved

2.2 That the Head of Housing, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, be given delegated authority to make minor updates and changes as required to this policy.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

3.1 That the contents of the policy be considered by the committee.

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## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

4.1 The Council on occasion needs to ask tenants to move from their home so that improvements, repairs or redevelopment can take place. This is known as decanting. Tenants may need to move out of their homes on a temporary or permanent basis.

4.2 Whilst there is no statutory requirement to produce a Decant Policy, a written Policy will allow future decants to be undertaken in a transparent and consistent manner with the focus being on supporting the tenant.

4.3 Decanting can be very difficult and stressful for a family household and having a clearly stated policy for reference will help officers to manage the process in such a way as to minimise disruption and to manage the expectations of the various people involved

## **5.0 AIMS OF THE POLICY**

5.1 The aim of the draft policy is to:

- develop a consistent approach to the management of decants
- set out the assistance offered to our tenants affected by decant situations
- cause the least possible disturbance to tenants who must decant on either a temporary or permanent basis, by assisting them in the moving process,
- ensure that information, and support is provided throughout the process;
- make reasonable and prompt payments or assistance to those affected, complying with statutory and regulatory requirements.

## **6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 This Policy formalises our approach to supporting tenants who need to move out of their homes on a temporary or permanent basis, which allows the Council to undertake essential work or regenerate areas to ensure we provide good quality homes.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The financial impact of paying Home Loss and associated Disturbance Payments will be considered as part of the viability of any undertaken works or redevelopment schemes.

## **8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

8.1 The actions referred to in this report are covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and any necessary changes have been made in the relevant risk registers.

## **9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Policy aims to promote the wellbeing of our tenants by providing help and support to those needing to be decanted from their homes.

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## **Background Documents**

\*There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

\* There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report

## **Appendices**

1. Draft Decant Policy
2. Equality Impact Assessment
3. Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 12 January 2023
4. Minute of Landlord Services Committee (Cabinet Working Group) – 18 January 2023