

Considerations of consultation feedback – Corporate Rent Guarantor Scheme for Care Experienced Young People, November 2023

Consultation feedback		Officer response	Actions proposed
Broad themes	Comment themes		
Quantitative feedback	92% of the respondents agreed with the draft policy overall.		
	87% of the respondents agreed that the draft policy would have a positive impact.		
	90% agree that the draft policy is easy to understand and 83% agree that it provides sufficient information.		
Positive comments	General positive/supportive comments	No officer response required (positive consultation feedback).	None.
Concerns and suggestions	Comments around the eligibility criteria and being tenancy ready.	The eligibility criteria outlined in the policy aim to ensure that any young person accepted into the scheme is tenancy ready. This is because we want to give every young person the best chance to be successful in maintaining a tenancy and living independently. During the scheme, the Personal Advisor is available to provide support if necessary. Whilst supporting young people into private accommodation, we also want to mitigate financial risks to the council.	None.
	Comments around debt of applicants.	The council understands that a young person's debt should not include student loans. The council has included a statement to make this clear.	The council has updated the policy to make it clear that the young person's 'Debt to Income Ratio' must be no greater than 20% (excluding student loan debt).
	Comments around people who are unable to work due to a disability or a medical condition.	The council wants to ensure that young people are ready to maintain a tenancy so that they are set up to succeed in this scheme. The council understands that some people may not be able to work due to their disability or on medical grounds. Therefore, we have updated the policy to make it clear that these people may still be eligible for the scheme.	A paragraph was added to the policy to make it clear that people who are unable to work because they have a disability or on medical grounds, may still be eligible for this scheme. However, they will need to demonstrate that their income/benefits can cover the costs of rent and cost of living.

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	Comments around landlords/letting agents involved in this policy.	The council will act as a single point of contact for issues around the young adult's accommodation. If necessary, the council will engage with the landlord/letting agents to ensure issues are dealt with. Local authorities have access to legal advice and support if necessary.	None.
	Comments about covering the cost of rent.	<p>As a corporate guarantor, the council will cover the cost of rent (up to £850) for a young person whose circumstances have changed and who is unable to pay rent. The council will not require the young person to pay the council back for covering the cost. However, if the young person is unable to manage the ongoing rent costs and cost of living, then the council will support the young person out of private rented accommodation and into other forms of accommodation.</p> <p>A care leaver must inform their Personal Advisor as soon as they think they may not be able to pay rent. The Personal Advisor will support the care leaver to find ways to cover these costs, (i.e., through finding employment).</p>	The policy has been updated to make it clear that the young person will not be required to re-pay any of the cost covered by the council. However, if they are unable to meet ongoing rent costs and living expenses, then the council will support the young person out of private rented accommodation and into other forms of accommodation.
	Comments on the suitability of accommodation.	The council will act as an advocate and single point of contact for issues around the young adult's accommodation, including unsuitable standards. If things deteriorate, the Personal Advisor will be able to support and advise the care leaver on the next steps.	None.
	General comments/concerns.	<p>This scheme aims to help young people to find sustainable accommodation that they can maintain in the long-term.</p> <p>This scheme plans to provide more housing options for our young people in a time of limited social housing vacancies.</p>	None.

