

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 26 November 2024

Decision No: (CAB 24/25 46235)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Housing Operations
SUBJECT:	Private Sector Leasing Scheme
AUTHOR:	Maria Byrne

THE DECISION

- (i) To approve the Private Sector Leasing Scheme proposal. The scheme will aim to meet some of our current demand for additional temporary accommodation which will assist in reducing our use of costly emergency accommodation. This scheme is one of the interventions that will form part of our homelessness transformation programme.
- (ii) To grant delegated powers to the Director of Housing following consultation with and the Executive Director of Enabling Services, Executive Director of Growth and Prosperity, the Director of Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Housing, to do anything required to support the implementation of the proposal and to make minor amendments as required.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The number of households approaching the Council who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and the number of people sleeping rough is increasing. By implementing the PSL scheme we will:

1. Increase the council's housing solutions as a tool to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping.
2. Mobilise housing solutions that contribute towards the councils cost efficiencies.
3. Modernise the council's delivery model/ toolkit to tackle homelessness.
4. Improve the quality of accommodation solutions we use to intervene in instances whereby we owe households a homeless duty.
5. Reduce the risks of people sleeping rough and living in unsuitable accommodation which impacts adversely on the life chances of those we serve.
6. Help harness partnership working with private sector stakeholders.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Council could decide not to proceed with a PSL scheme, but it is in the Council’s interests to consider all alternative options of temporary accommodation.

Given that the Council has an extensive housing waiting list and unprecedented demand for temporary accommodation, this would be a missed opportunity to meet a small proportion of that need.

Several local authorities already operate Private Sector Leasing Schemes and use the scheme as an established model to help increase temporary accommodation options.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 26 November 2024

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council’s Scrutiny “Call-In” provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed <i>(if applicable)</i>
Call-in heard by <i>(if applicable)</i>
Results of Call-in <i>(if applicable)</i>