

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO HOUSING AND CUSTOMER SERVICES WORKING GROUP ON 16 MARCH 2020

PART A: REPORT

SUBJECT:	Decant Policy
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REPORT AUTHOR:	Johanne Batty, Neighbourhood Services Manager Satnam Kaur, Group Head of Residential Services
DATE:	6 March 2021
EXTN:	37721
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Residential Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
This report seeks approval for the adoption of a Decant Policy which sets out the Council's approach to decanting tenants, licensees, leaseholders and shared owners from their home whether on a permanent or temporary basis. This is usually (but not always) when we intend to carry out major repairs, improvements, redevelopment work, or demolition.

RECOMMENDATIONS:
Housing and Customer Services Working Group is asked to recommend to Cabinet:
a) The adoption of the Decant Policy 2021.
b) Delegated authority to the Group Head of Residential Services to make changes to the policy.

1. BACKGROUND
1.1 Decanting is in reference to the process where tenants, licensees, leaseholders and shared owners are moved from their home on a temporary or permanent basis usually for the reasons set out above.
1.2 The Decant Policy will help manage the decant process to ensure it is carried out in an efficient manner while causing the least possible disturbance to residents who are obliged to decant on either a temporary or permanent basis. The Council will work with residents throughout a decant process to ensure the disruption to their

lives is kept to a minimum and where applicable disturbance and home loss payments are made to them.		
1.3	We will endeavour to offer tenants suitable alternative accommodation, or they will be provided with temporary accommodation until such time as suitable alternative accommodation is found or they can return to their original property.	
1.4	The aim of this policy is to clearly set out what happens when it is identified that a decant is necessary and to ensure consistent decisions are made by officers supporting residents during the decant period.	
2.	PROPOSAL(S):	
2.1	To adopt the Decant Policy 2021.	
3.	OPTIONS:	
3.1	To adopt the Decant Policy 2021.	
3.2	Not to adopt the policy. This is not considered a feasible option as currently the Council does not have a formal Decant Policy. The adoption of the policy which provides clear guidance to staff and residents will drive consistency in service delivery.	
4.	CONSULTATION:	
	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify) Members of the Housing and Customer Services Working Group	✓	
5.	YES	NO
ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)		
Financial	✓	
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		

6. IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 The revenue costs for disturbance payments and reasonable expenses incurred have been identified within existing budget provision.

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:

7.1 The aim of this policy is to clearly set out what happens when it is identified that a decant is necessary and to ensure consistent decisions are made by officers supporting residents during the decant period.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

N/A