



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 19 December 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Lee Brazier, Housing

Director Lead: Suzanne Shead, Director - Housing, Health & Wellbeing

Lead Officer: Caroline Wagstaff, Business Manager – Housing Maintenance & Asset Management, Ext. 5637

Report Summary	
<b>Type of Report</b>	Open Report, Key Decision
<b>Report Title</b>	Building Safety in the Home Policy
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To share the draft Building Safety in the Home Policy which includes how tenants and leaseholders in Council owned homes can raise safety concerns and our responsibilities to keep homes warm safe and decent.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Cabinet endorse the Building Safety in the Home Policy for approval as recommended by the Local Influence Network Chairs.
<b>Alternative Options Considered</b>	There were no viable alternatives and taking no action would mean failure to meet our regulatory requirement to ensure that we have measures in place to keep tenants safe in their homes.
<b>Reason for Recommendations</b>	As detailed in the report and recommended for approval by the Policy, Performance & Improvement Committee on 4 December 2023.

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The aim of this Policy is to provide tenants and leaseholders assurance of the steps the Council is taking to keep them safe in their homes. It also identifies the steps tenants and leaseholders can take to support us in this matter.
- 1.2 The Policy also outlines the additional measures we are taking above and beyond our statutory requirements for buildings over 11 meters and identifies which ones these are.
- 1.3 It outlines how tenants can get involved to scrutinise our service in general or attend our Local Influence Network for Building Safety.
- 1.4 The Policy supports the Council’s Community Plan to create more and better quality homes through our roles as landlord, developer and planning authority.

## **2.0 Proposal**

- 2.1 The Building Safety in the Home Policy is attached as an **Appendix** to this report for comment and approval. If approved, the Policy will be added to the Council's website and posted in each block on the notice board.
- 2.2 The Local Influence Network, Tenant Engagement Board and Policy, Performance & Improvement Committee have seen and recommended the Policy for approval.

## **3.0 Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

### **Financial Implications - FIN23-24/**

- 3.1 This Policy has no direct financial implications outside of existing budgets for compliance and safety measures in Council owned homes.

### **Equalities**

- 3.2 The Policy has no direct equalities implications although there is an expectation that approaches to engagement are varied and reflect the needs and requirements of tenants.

### **Tenant Involvement**

- 3.3 Local Influence Networks (LINs) have been consulted in the creation of this Policy.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None