



EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

PART 1 - INITIAL SCREENING

Name of Policy/Function:	X	This is new
Temporary Accommodation Policy		This is a change to an existing policy
		This is an existing policy, Function, not previously assessed
		This is an existing policy/function for review

Date of screening	12 th February 2025
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1. Briefly describe its aims & objectives

The Temporary Accommodation Policy sets out Oadby & Wigston Borough Council's approach to the placement of households in temporary accommodation both in and outside of the Borough.

The purpose of the Temporary Accommodation Policy is to clarify what the term 'reasonably practicable' usually means in terms of the suitability of offers made within and outside of the Borough area. The guidance is intended to frame the decisions made in each individual case, having regard to the:

- Accessibility of the temporary accommodation location
- Proximity of the temporary accommodation location to employment and schools
- Significance of any disruption which would be caused by the location of the accommodation to the employment, caring responsibilities or education

2. Are there external considerations?

e.g. Legislation/government directive etc

- The Housing Act 1996 Part VII (as amended)
- The Housing Act 1996 (S208)
- The Children Act 2004 (s11)
- The Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) Order 2012
- Nzolameso V Westminster City Council 2015

3. Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?

The Council;

- to inform tenants of its approach to the placement of households in temporary accommodation both in and outside of the Borough
- to ensure that all Legal and Regulatory Framework is adhered to meet its statutory obligations

Tenants/leaseholders;

- to have an awareness of this policy
- to understand the Council's approach to the placements of households in temporary accommodation both in and outside of the Borough

Members;

- to ensure members are aware of the new Temporary Accommodation Policy
- to enable members to explain the introduction of the new policy to their constituents and/or signpost them to the Housing Options Team appropriately

4. What outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?

The Council will want:

- to avoid liability in not meeting its statutory obligations in sourcing suitable temporary accommodation for homeless households
- to ensure households are placed in temporary accommodation in a fair and transparent way

5. Has any consultation/research been carried out?

Yes

- research into temporary accommodation policies adopted by local authorities has been completed
- a consultation exercise has been completed

6. Are there any concerns at this stage which indicate the possibility of Inequalities/negative impacts?

Consider and identify any evidence you have -equality data relating to usage and satisfaction levels, complaints, comments, research, outcomes of review, issues raised at previous consultations, known inequalities) If so, please provide details.

No

7. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?

Positive – *It could benefit*

Negative – *It could disadvantage*

Neutral – *Neither positive nor negative impact or not sure.*

	Type of impact, reason & any evidence
Disability	Neutral
Race (including Gypsy & Traveller)	Neutral
Age	Neutral
Gender Reassignment	Neutral
Sex	Neutral
Sexual Orientation	Neutral
Religion/Belief	Neutral
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Neutral
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral

8. Could other socio-economic groups be affected?

e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes, homeless?

There are no specific groups that would be affected by the Temporary Accommodation Policy.

9. Are there any human rights implications?

Yes/No (If yes, please explain)

No

10. Is there an opportunity to promote equality and/or good community relations?

Yes/No (If yes, how will this be done?)

Yes

- through the consultation exercise the Council intends this will ensure tenants, leaseholders, local residents, members and relevant agencies are aware of the new Temporary Accommodation Policy

- through creating an awareness of the new policy, the Council anticipates it will naturally promote equality and good community relations

11. If you have indicated a negative impact for any group is that impact legal?

i.e. not discriminatory under anti-discrimination legislation

N/A

12. Is any part of this policy/service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

No

13. Is a Part 2 full Equality Assessment required?

No

14. Date by which a Part 2 full Equality Assessment is to be completed with actions.

N/A

Please note that you should proceed to a Part 2, the full Equality Impact Assessment if you have identified actual, or the potential to cause, adverse impact or discrimination against different groups in the community.

We are satisfied that an initial screening has been carried out and a full equality assessment **is not required*** (please delete as appropriate).

Completed by: Sunny Basran Date: 12th February 2025
(Policy/Function/Report written)

Countersigned by: Adrian Thorpe Date: 17th March 2025
(Head of Service)

Screened by:.....Date:.....

Please forward an electronic copy to: *Community Engagement Officer*

Equality Assessments shall be published on the Council website with the relevant and appropriate document upon which the equality assessment has been undertaken.