

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**PETS POLICY**

1. Purpose of report

To seek approval for an updated Pets Policy.

2. Background

A Pets Policy was original approved by Housing Committee in March 2019.

3. Detail

The Council allows tenants and leaseholders to keep pets in their properties. For tenants, there are clauses in the tenancy agreement that set out the need for tenants to request permission to keep pets and also how the Council will manage the tenancy in this respect. The policy provides a framework for the types of pets that are permissible by the Council and what additional measures or enquiries that tenants are required to undertake for the request to be approved.

The policy also provides clarification on what measures the Council will take should a pet be kept without permission and what actions that the Council will take should pets become a nuisance and their continued ownership becomes an issue at the property or in the community.

The updates policy includes more information to support officers to consider the companionship and support that pets can offer. It also clarifies the approach in Independent Living schemes.

An equalities impact assessment is attached as appendix 1. A Table showing a summary of the revisions is attached as appendix 2. The policy is attached as appendix 3.

4. Financial implications

The changes to the Pets Policy should have a positive impact on the allocation of Independent Living properties, so should reduce void rent loss.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the updated Pets Policy be approved.**

Background papers

Nil