

## Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing

**AIDS AND ADAPTATIONS POLICY**1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the amended Aids and Adaptations policy

2. Recommendation

**Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the new Aids and Adaptations Policy be approved.**

3. Detail

The Aids and Adaptations Policy sets out the Council's approach to the provision of aids and adaptations to Council owned accommodation. It covers both General Needs and Independent Living tenancies. Homeowners, leaseholders and private sector tenants are not included within the scope of this policy because they are eligible to apply for a Disabled Facilities Grant from the Council if they require financial assistance.

The aims and objectives of the policy are:

- Provide a high quality aids and adaptations service to enable disabled tenants and their immediate families to live safely and independently in their own home.
- Provide an efficient adaptations service making best use of the council housing stock, and the budget available.
- Set out a framework to deal consistently with request for aids and adaptations.
- Ensure that value for money is a key consideration in delivering new adaptations and retaining existing adaptations.
- Assist those in need of adaptations to make informed choices about their housing options, facilitating transfers to more appropriate accommodation where required.
- Raise awareness of the availability of the aids and adaptations service.

The revised Aids and Adaptations Policy is included at appendix 1; the changes are summarised in the table at appendix 2 and an Equality Impact Assessment is attached at appendix 3.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no additional financial implications for the Council with any costs being contained within existing budgets.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

It will be necessary to ensure that the Aids & Adaptations Policy addresses all the legal obligations the Council has as a Landlord under within the parameters of The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, The Housing Act 1985, Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, Equality Act 2010, The Care Act 2014 and The Housing Regulatory Framework, specifically the Home Standard 2015.

6. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

7. Union Comments

Not applicable.

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

Not applicable.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to policy an equality impact assessment is included in the appendix to this report.

10. Background Papers

Nil