

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety**SANCTUARY POLICY****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for a revised Sanctuary Policy.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the revised Sanctuary Policy be approved.

3. Detail

The Sanctuary Scheme Policy sets out the approach that Broxtowe Borough Council takes when a referral for assistance from the Sanctuary Scheme is received. This has been updated following the change of responsibility for the management and delivery of the Sanctuary Scheme from Housing to Communities.

A wholesale countywide review of the operation of Sanctuary Schemes by the Domestic Abuse Accommodation Subgroup to align schemes countywide and prevent a postcode lottery has also been carried out and any changes to policy recommended have been included.

The Policy and the Sanctuary Scheme as a whole is designed to support survivors of domestic abuse to remain in their own homes if they do not wish to move and to do so in a safe and sustainable way through target hardening of the property.

The Policy provides a framework for how requests will be processed and the steps that the Council should take when processing a request. The Sanctuary Scheme applies to owner occupiers, Council tenants and tenanted properties, rented properties in the private sector and those that belong to registered providers.

For the purpose of the policy, any works that are done under the Sanctuary Scheme are;

- An addition or enhancement to what was in place at the property before the referral was made.
- Carried out using the Sanctuary procedure and following a referral for assistance from the scheme.
- Will have been assessed by a trained officer as being suitable and appropriate.

A copy of the Sanctuary Scheme Policy can be found at **APPENDIX 1**.

A copy of the policy change table can be found at **APPENDIX 2**.

The Sanctuary Referral Form can be found at **APPENDIX 3**.

A copy of the Sanctuary Assessment Form can be found at **APPENDIX 4**.

A copy of the policy equalities impact assessment can be found at **APPENDIX 5**.

Domestic Abuse and Sanctuary Scheme data can be found at **APPENDIX 6**.

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

This policy has been through pre-scrutiny at the Policy Overview Working Group meeting of 8 February 2024.

6. Financial Implications

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

There are no financial implications for the Council with the cost of the Sanctuary Scheme being funded externally.

7. Legal Implications

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

The legal comments are contained within the report.

8. Human Resources Implications

There were no comments from the Human Resources Manager.

9. Union Comments

There were no union comments.

10. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are contained within the report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to policy an equality impact assessment is included at **APPENDIX 5**.

13. Background Papers

Nil.