

Title of Report	HOUSING SERVICE PERMISSION TO CONSULT – COMPLIANCE POLICIES	
Presented by	Councillor Andrew Woodman Housing and Property Portfolio Holder PH Briefed <input type="checkbox"/>	
Background Papers	Draft policies for Lift Safety, Gas Safety and Electrical Safety	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: No
Financial Implications	The review of policies, strategies and service documents is good practice and will enhance financial management within the Council. There are no financial implementations as direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Acting Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The policies, strategies and service documents are reviewed to ensure any updates in law or Regulatory requirements are noted so that the Council acts in accorded with them.	
	Signed off by the Interim Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	The review of Housing Policies, Strategies and service documents is regularly reviewed to ensure the Council operates effectively, in line with the appropriate standards.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To seek Cabinet’s approval on the consultation with stakeholders, including tenants as part of the review/development of policies, strategies and documents.	
Reason for Decision	Approval of the scope and content of public consultations where deemed necessary by the Head of Paid Service is reserved to Cabinet.	
Recommendations	THAT CABINET APPROVES PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON THE POLICIES LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 2.1	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council is responsible for ensuring that its policies and strategies are regularly reviewed to ensure any updates in law are noted so that the Council acts in accordance with them.
- 1.2 The Regulator of Social Housing, via the Consumer Standards, promotes housing providers undertake, genuine tenant involvement in key decisions that affect their homes. Consulting tenants on policies, strategies and other documents is how the Housing Service will demonstrate transparency, influence and accountability to its tenants.
- 1.3 The Housing Service has developed three new policies relating to Compliance for review. Cabinet is asked to approve the policies as drafts for wider tenant and stakeholder engagement. The draft policies included with this report. Additional details of the specific policies are set out below in paragraph 2.1 of the report.

2.0 CONSULTATION

2.1 The table below details the areas for consultation during 2026/27:

Ref	Area for Consultation	Consultation Detail
Appendix 1	Electrical Safety Policy	The Electrical Safety Policy is due for review in 2026. To inform the content beyond the legal requirements, tenants will be consulted to ensure the policy is practical, understandable to real concerns particularly around communication and access requirements.
Appendix 2	Gas Safety Policy	The Electrical Safety Policy is due for review in 2026. To inform the content beyond the legal requirements, tenants will be consulted to ensure the policy is practical, understandable to real concerns particularly around communication and access requirements.
Appendix 3	Lift Safety Policy	The Lift Safety Policy is due for review in 2026. To inform the content beyond the legal requirements, tenants will be consulted to ensure the policy is practical, understandable to real concerns particularly around communication and access requirements.

- 2.2 Early informal engagement with Members and key stakeholders is anticipated during the summer period to help shape the direction and priorities of the policies. This will be followed by the presentation of the draft policies to Scrutiny, enabling detailed review, challenge and further refinement. Subject to Scrutiny feedback, the finalised policies would then be brought forward for formal consideration and sign-off by Cabinet later in the autumn. This phased approach ensures that early input is embedded in the development process, supports transparency, and provides Members with meaningful opportunities for input prior to formal decision-making.

2.3 Involved tenants will have the opportunity to participate in a working group meeting to discuss the three draft policies and go through the consultation survey.

2.4 Consultation with tenants and stakeholders will be undertaken during July 2026. Once the consultation period has ended, the responses will be reviewed, and the policies will be finalised. Cabinet approval will be sought to approve the policies following the consultation and review.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The review of policies, strategies and service documents is good practice. There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Communities and housing A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	As detailed within the report
Safeguarding:	N/A
Equalities/Diversity:	A variety of consultation methods will be used to maximise engagement opportunities
Customer Impact:	Consulting tenants and other stakeholders ensure their voice is considered as part of the review.
Economic and Social Impact:	N/A
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	N/A
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Tenants and other stakeholders will be consulted following Cabinet approval
Risks:	The purpose of this report is to set out the consultation planned for 2026/7, with particular focus on policies and strategies to ensure the service act in accordance with legislation and Regulatory requirements.
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