

ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY CONSULTATION PLAN 2023

Rother District Council (RDC) seeks to identify any gaps for inclusion and gather evidence of the potential impact of proposed changes to the Housing Allocations Policy. This includes understanding the strength of feeling on the changes, for existing and potential social housing tenants and local providers of social and affordable housing.

Aims of the consultation

This consultation will give the Members of RDC (the Councillors) further evidence to take into account when making a final decision on the content of the policy.

Who we will consult:

Resident target groups:

- Current and potential housing needs applicants
- Existing social housing tenants

Statutory Partners:

- Local providers of social housing where the Council has nomination rights
- Department Work & Pensions
- Mental Health Services
- ESCC
- Neighbouring local authorities

Voluntary sector partners:

- Local organisations that support vulnerable groups that could be affected by changes to the policies

Internal/other:

- Finance
- Housing Benefit & Council Tax
- Parish / Town Councils
- Customer Services
- Legal Services
- Planning

How we will consult:

GROUP	METHOD	COMMUNICATION
Benefit & Debt Advice Service	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Brighton Housing Trust	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Brighton Housing Trust – East Sussex Floating Support Service	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Change Grow Live (CGL)	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Citizen's Advice Bureau	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Customer Services	Request for comment	Via email, meeting if required
Department of Work & Pensions (DWP)	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
East Sussex County Council Adult Social Care	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
East Sussex County Council Children's Services	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
East Sussex County Council Gypsy & Traveller Liaison	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Finance	Request for comment	Via email, meeting if

GROUP	METHOD	COMMUNICATION
		required
Hastings Advice & Representations Centre (HARC)	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Homelessness / Housing Options Clients	On-line Questionnaire	Link given to applicants during interview
Homelessness Unity Group	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Housing Benefit & Council Tax	Request for comments	Via email, meeting if required
Housing Register Applicants	On-line Questionnaire	Additional paragraph on all letters / emails going to new applicants
Legal Services	Request for comments	Via email, meeting if required
Mental Health Services	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Neighbouring Local Authorities	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Other Interested Residents	On-line Questionnaire	Via MyAlerts with link to Questionnaire
Parish & Town Councils	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Planning and Strategy	Request for comments	Via email, meeting if required
Registered Provider – Management Teams	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Registered Provider Tenants	On-line Questionnaire	Via relevant newsletter
Rother Voluntary Action	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Rough Sleeper Initiative	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
SAFFA (Armed Forces Charity)	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
South East Strategic Partnership for Migration	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Southdown	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Supported Accommodation Single Allocation Providers	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
The Mediation Service	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire
Warming up the Homeless	On-line Questionnaire	Via email with link to Questionnaire

In addition to the above plan, a local press release will be communicated, in order to raise awareness of the ongoing consultation and allow all residents to have their say.

As well as through the on-line questionnaire, all consultees will be given the

opportunity to provide comments on the policy via e-mail or letter. The RDC social media accounts will provide regular reminders regarding the ongoing consultation.

Paper copies of the questionnaire will be available at the Bexhill Town Hall for those unable to take part on-line. Residents will also have access to the Help Point online computers.

Consultation will commence in Spring 2023 for a period of eight weeks.

Following the Consultation: The outcomes of the consultation will be used to formulate a draft Housing Allocations policy to present to Cabinet and full Council for adoption to cover the next five years (2023-28).