

Item 12 - Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy

The attached report was considered by the Housing and Health Advisory Committee on 9 February 2021. The relevant Minute extract is below.

Housing and Health Advisory Committee (9 February 2021, Minute 68)

The Private Sector Housing Manager presented the report which set out in Appendix A the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy. Members were advised that following the introduction of the Housing Act 2004, local authorities must take enforcement action to deal with properties with any Category 1 and 2 Hazards, as assessed under the Housing, Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) and could charge for any housing enforcement action which was a key change.

Members were advised that informal resolution would always be the starting place to help them comply with the regulatory requirements, however charges could be made under 7 types of enforcement actions under the Act. Members were also advised that some of the policies included as appendices had been previously approved but were included for a completeness.

Members discussed the policy and asked questions of clarification. The Committee was advised that if the level of harm was deemed to be categorised as Level 4 then this would result in prosecution action being started. It was also noted that there was a typographical error on page 21 of the agenda pack which should read rogue rather than rouge.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet to recommend to Council that the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy as set out in Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

