

Committee(s): Housing Committee	Date: 12 December 2022
Subject: Oil and Solid Fuel Policy	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Julian Higson, Interim Director of Housing	Public
Report Author/s: Name: Johanna Batchelor-Lamey, Compliance Manager Telephone: 01277 312 500 E-mail: johanna.batchelor-lamey@brentwood.gov.uk	For Decision

Summary

The report sets out the proposals for a new Oil and Solid Fuel Policy to be implemented within the Housing Department. The Policy provides the council with the ability to effectively manage Oil and Solid Fuel in its five tenanted properties. The Policy also meets the Council's statutory requirement to have an Oil and Solid Fuel Policy.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

R1. Approve the Oil and Solid Fuel Policy.

Main Report

Introduction and Background

1. This is a new policy which outlines our approach to managing the risks involved in using existing oil and solid fuel appliances, ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of people living in our properties and their visitors where these appliances are installed. It also sets out the approach to monitoring and carrying out servicing visits to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation.
2. The five Oil and Solid Fuel properties were incorporated within the gas property servicing and maintenance regime and are clearly defined within our Partnering Contract Term Brief.

Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

3. Failure to have the Policy may put tenants at risk if their appliances are not operating correctly and could result in a more in-depth investigation into the Council's Oil and Solid Fuel procedures.

Reasons for Recommendation

4. The Council must ensure it complies with all relevant legislation as a landlord. The policy and supporting procedures show the Council's commitment to fulfilling its duties to protect tenants and their visitors to its properties and physical assets by ensuring servicing and maintenance regimes are in place and comply with OFTEC (Oil Firing Technical Association) and HETAS (Heating Equipment Testing and Approvals Scheme) governing schemes.

Consultation

5. Consultation has taken place with the Tenant Liaison Group (Tenant Talkback). All feedback from the consultation has been incorporated into the draft policies.

References to Corporate Plan

6. Drive continuous improvement of our housing services
7. Delivering an efficient and effective council

Implications

Financial Implications

**Name/Title: Phoebe Barnes, Director of Assets and Investments Tel/Email:
01277 312500/phoebe.barnes@brentwood.gov.uk**

8. There are no direct financial implications, the cost of servicing and maintaining the properties in questions is already captured within the existing budgets.

Legal Implications

**Name & Title: Steve Summers, Strategic Director and Monitoring Officer
Tel & Email: 01277 312500 / steve.summers@brentwood.gov.uk**

9. The policy enables the Council to fulfill its duties as a landlord under the relevant legislation and this policy minimises the its risks.

Economic Implications

**Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Place
Tel/Email: 01277 312610/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk**

10. There are no direct economic implications.