

REPORT OF: HOUSING, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES MANAGER

TO: EXECUTIVE

DATES: 23rd NOVEMBER 2017

Contact Details: Wayne Forrest
Tel. No: 01282 661044
E-mail: wayne.forrest@pendle.gov.uk

**DRAFT HOMELESSNESS CODE OF GUIDANCE – OPPORTUNITY TO
RESPOND TO CONSULTATION**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Executive permission to submit proposed responses to consultation questions set in relation to proposals by Government.

RECOMMENDATION

Executive is recommended to agree to the response to consultation being forwarded as the Council's response to the proposals by Government.

REASON

To ensure the Council is able to submit its views to Government regarding the proposed draft Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities.

ISSUE

As part of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, which will commence in April 2018, the Government is revising the existing statutory Code of Guidance. This Draft Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities (Appendix 1) will provide updated guidance to local authorities on how they should exercise their homelessness functions and apply the legislation in practice. A consultation on the document has been launched on 16th October 2017 and will last until 11th December 2017.

Proposed response to Consultation

A consultation paper (Appendix 2) has been issued and proposed responses to the questions set are contained in Appendix 3.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

Financial

The proposed Code of Guidance incorporates a number of legislative changes which will come into being through the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017. It is anticipated that New Burdens funding which is attached to the delivery of the new legislation will meet any financial costs arising.

Legal

In accordance with section 182(1) of the 1996 Housing Act, housing authorities ('the Council') are required to have due regard to statutory guidance in exercising their functions related to homelessness and prevention of homelessness.

Risk Management

Failure to adhere to the finalised Code of Guidance would risk legal challenge. Such a scenario would risk the Council's reputation and have potentially damaging cost implications.

Health and Safety

There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.

Sustainability

There are no sustainability issues arising from the contents of this report.

Community Safety

There are no known community safety issues arising from the contents of this report.

Equality and Diversity

There are no known equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities

Appendix 2 – Consultation Paper

Appendix 3 – Proposed response to consultation