

Nomination Agreement – Veterans Housing Scotland and Midlothian Council

Report by Derek Oliver, Chief Officer Place

Report for Decision

1 Recommendations

Cabinet are recommended to:

- a) Agree to the proposed nomination agreement with Veterans Housing Scotland

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement to enter into a new Nomination Agreement with Veterans Housing Scotland and Midlothian Council to provide 2 Council properties specifically for veterans on an annual basis.

Date 13 June 2022

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3 Background/Main Body of Report

- 3.1** Midlothian Council has a statutory responsibility to anyone threatened with or experiencing homelessness, including households experiencing domestic abuse. The Council's Housing Allocation Policy current target is to let 60% of all Council lets to homeless waiting list applicants.
- 3.2** A Nomination Agreement is attached for consideration (Appendix C). It is proposed 2 Midlothian Council properties would be allocated each year to households on a permanent basis using a Scottish Secure Tenancy Agreement. These households will then be supported in that property by Veterans Housing Scotland and Midlothian staff. The proposal will increase housing options for veteran households who may potentially be experiencing homelessness.
- 3.3** Midlothian Council and Veterans Housing Scotland will review the operation of this agreement annually.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There is no direct financial cost to Midlothian Council, other than staff time required to develop, monitor and review the Nomination Agreement.

Midlothian Council lets approximately 400 properties per annum. The proposed Nomination Agreement would not significantly deplete this resource.

4.2 Digital

No negative impacts.

4.3 Risk

There are no significant identifiable risk associated with this project. Similar nomination arrangements have operated successfully with other local authority housing providers for a number of years.

Midlothian Council will ensure the properties subject to the proposed Nomination Agreement will be allocated on a sensitive basis.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to take account of the needs of equality groups.

4.4 Additional Report Implications (See Appendix A)

See Appendix A

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – Background information/Links

Appendix C – Nomination Agreement

Appendix D - EQIA