

POLICY ON SMOKING IN COMMUNAL AREAS

Report of the Head of Housing Management and Housing Options

1. SUMMARY

This report explains that we have developed a policy on smoking in communal areas, following complaints by residents. The policy explains that smoking in communal areas is not allowed and outlines the action Derby Homes will take to deal with it.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Operational Board approves the policy on Smoking in Communal Areas.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Derby Homes implemented a No Smoking Policy from Monday 1 August 2005. From this date, employees have not been allowed to smoke in any Derby Homes offices or premises, including all premises where our employees work, even if Derby Homes does not own the premises.

3.2 All Communal Areas must also be smoke free to comply with the Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006. Communal areas include, but not limited to:

- Common rooms
- Stairwells
- Corridors
- Lifts
- Any common parts which are shared

All forms of smoking are banned within these areas. This means anything that can be smoked, including cigarettes, pipes (including water pipes such as shisha and hookah pipes), cigars and herbal cigarettes, and it also applies to electronic cigarettes (also known as e-cigarettes) and “vaping”.

3.3 There have been recent examples of tenants and leaseholders complaining that others residents have been smoking in communal areas. This matter was raised at the Leaseholder Forum and it was requested that a policy be developed to address this.

3.4 Any incidents of smoking by tenants or visitors in communal areas should be reported to Derby Homes. It is important to remember that the purpose of the Smoke Free Regulations is to promote good health and in the first instance Derby

Homes should consider offering advice or assistance to take up a smoking cessation course.

If there are repeated incidents of smoking in communal areas it will be treated as a breach of this policy and enforcement action may be taken. The action taken will depend on the circumstances of the case but, in general, if the issue is persistent or poses a health and/or safety risk to residents or staff then it will be treated as anti- social behaviour. The matter will then be progressed through Derby Homes antisocial behaviour procedure.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Derby Homes No Smoking Policy and and this Policy on smoking in communal areas has a positive impact on the work and living environment for staff and residents.

5. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Derby Homes No Smoking Policy and and this Policy on smoking in communal areas has a positive impact on the health and safety of staff and residents

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Consultation
Financial and Business Plan
Legal and Confidentiality
Council
Personnel
Equalities Impact Assessment
Risk
Policy Review

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

Murray Chapman/ Housing Services Manager / 01332 888 593/murray.chapman @derbyhomes.org

Background Information: None

Supporting Information: None