

## LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT TO HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2024-29

Proposed by: Councillor Stuart King

Seconded by: Councillor Chrishni Reshekaron

### Introduction

This council notes with alarm that homelessness has risen in Croydon as it has across London and commits itself to taking urgent action to address all forms of homelessness in our borough.

### Amendments to Homelessness Strategy & Delivery Plan 2024-29

#### 1) Priority 1, Section 1.2

1.2 Service standards [NEW]	Ensure that all temporary accommodation (TA) is safe for residents by introducing, enforcing and reporting against clear property standards across all TA types	Head of Temporary Accommodation & Support	Mar 2025
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#### 2) Priority 1, Section 1.3

1.3 Data quality and performance management	Provide benchmark information to assess the effectiveness of service delivery.	Head of Service – Housing Needs	<del>Mar 2026</del> Mar 2025
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#### 3) Priority 1, Section 1.5

1.5 Ensure equitable service provision	Carry out regular equality impact assessments to identify areas of service improvement.	Change Manager	<del>Mar 2026</del> Mar 2025
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#### 4) Priority 3, Section 3.2

3.2 Temporary Accommodation Placements Policy	Develop and agree a Temporary Accommodation Placements Policy which sets out the Council's approach in placing homeless households in various locations, and ensure a draft TA Placements Policy is published in October 2024 ahead of final approval at cabinet in March 2025.	Change Manager and head of Temporary Accommodation & Support	<del>Mar 2026</del> Mar 2025
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5) Priority 3, Section 3.2

<p>3.2 Temporary Accommodation Placements Policy [NEW]</p>	<p>Notwithstanding the severe accommodation shortages the council faces and its need to comply with its statutory homeless duty, the TA Placement Policy approved by the Executive will include a commitment that placements by the council into split accommodation will be rare and brief, and will not exceed a period of 14 nights.</p> <p>A new KPI will be added to the Mayor's Business Plan KPIs that reports the number of split households placed in EA/TA and the number of households that have been split for longer than the 14 night target.</p>	<p>Change Manager and head of Temporary Accommodation &amp; Support</p>	<p>Oct 2024</p> <p>Sep 2024</p>
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**Summary**

These amendments aim to promote better standards in temporary and emergency accommodation in Croydon, in particular where those placed by Croydon Council are households with one or more children.

These amendments also address Members' concerns regarding the pace of delivery associated with some of the actions in the Delivery Plan; in some cases the deadline by which an action should be completed has been brought forward by 12 months.

Finally, these amendments also address the rising number of cases where family households are being split up into separate accommodation when the council places them into temporary or emergency accommodation. This is a practice we consider is not only wrong, but damaging to families.