

## Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference****E3622****Co-living Position Statement**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	<b>Cllr Matt McCabe, Cabinet Member for Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development</b>
<b>The Issue</b>	Co-living is a relatively new model of housing with no standard definition in national policy. The Council does not have a policy relating to co-living schemes in the adopted B&NES Local Plan. It is acknowledged that there is currently the potential for an inconsistent approach to Co-Living planning applications without formal, visible guidance on the issue. Therefore, we have produced an interim Position Statement which will clarify the Local Plan policies the Council will consider when assessing planning applications for co-living proposals, and how they will be applied. This document will provide some guidance until a specific policy is adopted in the emerging local plan. It is not its role to seek additional policy asks but to clearly set out the Council's expectations.
<b>Decision Date</b>	10th June 2025
<b>The decision</b>	The Cabinet Member agrees that the Co-living Position Statement is approved.
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	The Position Statement will help to ensure a consistent approach to assessing co-living proposals. It also clearly sets out the Council's expectations and planning policy requirements for applicants and promoters.
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	The review and preparation of the Co-living Position Statement has been undertaken by the Planning Policy Team and the costs of its preparation and public consultation have been covered within the existing salary budget. The approval of the Position Statement is not anticipated to increase resource requirements in relation to the determination of planning applications.
<b>Issues considered</b>	Social Inclusion; Sustainability; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Human Rights; Other Legal Considerations
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Parish Council; Town Council; Staff; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Charter Trustees of Bath; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	A formal consultation was undertaken for four weeks on the Draft Co-living Position Statement, between 4th February and 4th March 2025.  The consultation was published on the Council's website and was advertised via a press release and social media.

<b>Other options considered</b>	The alternative to preparing a Position Statement would be to consider planning applications for co-living solely on an individual case by case basis as has been the approach up until now. However, the Position Statement will help to ensure a consistent approach to assessing co-living proposals. It also clearly sets out the Council's expectations and planning policy requirements for applicants and promoters.
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:</b>	None
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	None

<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	Cllr Matt McCabe
<b>Date of Signature</b>	10/06/2025

**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**