

19 MARCH 2024



BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

OFFICER DECISIONS NOTICE

**OFFICER DECISIONS MADE UNDER THE SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS BY
THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING – BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

THIS IS NOT A KEY DECISION

The following decision (s) have been taken by Officer Delegation and will come into effect on 19 March 2024 unless the decision is a key decision and the call-in procedure is activated.

Officer Delegated Decision made on 19th March 2024

Decision

To update the exceptions listed Babergh Empty Homes and Second Homes Premium Policy 2024-25 so they are in line with those recently announced by the Government.

Key Decision: No

Subject to Call In: No

Reason for Decision

The empty homes and second homes premium policy was recently agreed at Council on the 20th February 2024. The Government indicated that there will be some exceptions to both the long-term empty premium and second home premium being charged, but at the time of producing the policy these were not available. However, the policy included the exceptions that had been suggested in the original Government consultation document.

Alongside agreeing the policy, Council also agreed the below recommendation.

That Council delegate authority to the Director of Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing to make technical amendments to the policy to ensure it meets the criteria set by Government and the Council

The Government have now provided more clarity about its intentions in respect of legislating for the exceptions. They are largely in line with the exceptions included in the agreed policy. The only slight change is that the time period for two of the exceptions has increased from 6 months to 12 months.

The policy has been updated to reflect the exceptions stated by the Government.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

Not to update the exceptions within policy in line the Government intentions.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: N/A

Any Dispensation Granted: N/A

Deborah Fenton - DIRECTOR OF HOUSING