

# Tenure Policy

## 1.0 Policy Summary

Stonewater will ensure that all customers receive the correct occupancy agreement (Tenancy Agreement, Licence or Lease).

## 2.0 Policy Objectives

Stonewater aims to give customers the greatest security of tenure appropriate to their circumstances. We will grant tenancies which comply with the Regulatory Framework published by the Homes and Communities Agency and with our duties under the Equality Act 2010.

We will provide clear and full information to customers about the occupancy agreement before they sign. That information will be made available in an alternative format (for example, a different language) if appropriate.

## 3.0 Policy Details

3.1 The policy applies to every development and home owned (outright or leased) by Stonewater unless a lease states otherwise. The choice of which occupancy agreement to use is left to the discretion of Stonewater. However any decisions must be made within the context of this policy, which reflects housing law and best practice.

3.2 This policy does not apply to properties owned by another landlord but managed by Stonewater.

3.3 The full range and type of occupancy agreements used by Stonewater are detailed in the procedure and guidance notes that accompany this policy.

## 4.0 Key Outcomes

4.1 Stonewater will select the most appropriate form of occupancy agreement for our homes that:

- Ensures that tenancies granted are consistent, transparent and fair
- Assist the mobility of our customers
- Respond to the changing needs of our customers
- Ensure Stonewater complies with all legal and regulatory requirements
- Make the best use of our housing stock

- Ensure we co operate with local authority partners in meeting local housing need

## 5.0 Equality and Diversity

We will apply this policy consistently and fairly and will not discriminate against any person on grounds of their race, colour, ethnic or national origins, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, age or any other matter that may cause a person to be treated with injustice.

## 6.0 Version

Version	Date	Description
0.1		Created
1.0	6.1.15	Approved by board
2.0	22.11.16	Reviewed by Housing Committee and confirmed as remaining fit for purpose.