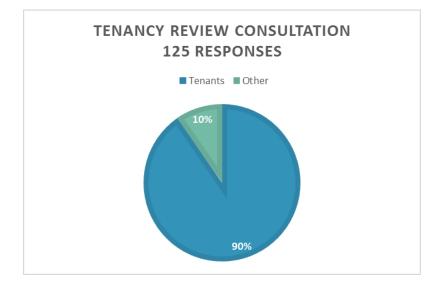
Tenancy Review Consultation Report

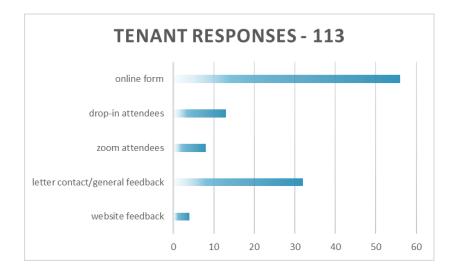
Consultation took place 4 April - 29 May 2022

Overview

125 Responses to the consultation were received during the consultation period. Of these 113 responses came from tenants. The other 12 responses came from Councillors, other housing providers, or colleagues from other statutory organisations.



Most of the tenant response came from the online form. The other ways in which tenants could respond was beneficial to deal with enquiries, give space to ask questions and discuss any concerns.



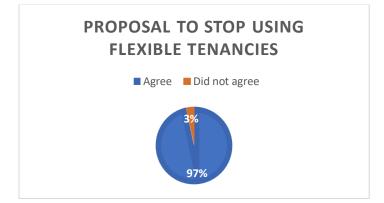
Overall, most responses were positive across all response types and for both parts of the consultation.

Part 1 – Flexible Tenancies

97% of all respondents agreed with our proposals to stop issuing flexible tenancies. Only three respondents disagreed, who identified to be tenants.

One reason given was that it is more difficult to manage bad tenant behaviour if they are secure tenants. Flexible tenancies are not designed to be a tool to manage tenant behaviour and the Council have other tools at their disposal to use in these circumstances.

The other reason cited was because it was felt that this will revert back to a failing system causing a lack of properties in the rented sector. Our review of flexible tenancies carried out prior to this consultation did not show any evidence that flexible tenancies have freed up any housing stock.



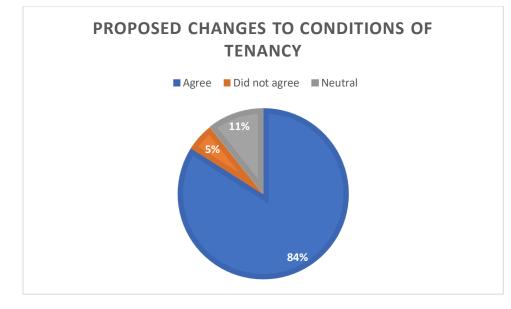
It was clear throughout the consultation process that our proposals to stop issuing flexible tenancies was favoured by most. We also discovered the level of anxiety currently felt by flexible tenants. In some cases this anxiety had led tenants to consider buying their properties to provide more security to their families.

Data taken from online form on why respondents felt we should stop using flexible tenancies showed security was important.



Part 2 – Conditions of tenancy

84% of all respondents agreed with our proposed changes to conditions of tenancy. Only 5% (4) did not agree and 11% (8) had a neutral response. A number of concerns came from tenants who were upset how much paper was used to communicate these changes with them but these have been removed from the results, as well as other general enquiries.



Across all responses 13 unique points were raised. Of these six were directly related to the proposed changes. The remaining five were not directly related to the proposed changes but are related to conditions of tenancy (mostly).

All responses have been carefully considered. In relation to concerns raised that are directly linked to proposed changes in most cases it is felt that the proposed wording is the most appropriate to take forward and will continue to be used.

One response has led us to include additional information on circumstances in which the definition 'Assignment' may be used. We are waiting for further direction from our solicitor on the exact wording to insert and where in the conditions is most appropriate.

Despite not being directly related to a proposal one response did highlight an area that did not reflect current practices so has been revised for clarity. This is wording around gas checks and our solicitor has provided more suitable wording.

Due to the amount of response that was not directly related we will be publishing a formal response document on the website to provide clarity to tenants. We will also review webpages related to the topics tenants raised concerns with to see if there are any improvements required. We are also proposing to send all tenants a copy of the new tenancy agreement.