

## **Briefing Note: Temporary Accommodation Notification Duty (TAND) for households with children.**

The Temporary Accommodation Notification Duty (TAND) introduces a consent-based process for notifying relevant education and health professionals when households with dependent children are placed in interim or temporary accommodation. The aim is to ensure that professionals are aware of changes in housing circumstances and can identify and provide appropriate support at an early stage.

### **1. Purpose of TAND**

Children living in temporary accommodation can experience disrupted education, poorer health outcomes, reduced school attendance and increased safeguarding risks. TAND seeks to improve outcomes through earlier intervention and stronger partnership working.

Under TAND, local authorities will notify relevant schools, GP practices and Health Visiting Teams when consent has been provided by the household.

### **2. Consent**

TAND operates as a consent-based notification process. Officers should explain the purpose of information sharing, the potential benefits to the household and which organisations will receive the information. Consent should be recorded appropriately and revisited where a household remains in temporary accommodation and consent was initially declined.

### **3. Responsibilities**

The introduction of TAND does not alter existing homelessness duties or accommodation suitability requirements. Instead, it complements existing statutory responsibilities by supporting timely information sharing between housing, education and health services. Housing Services remain responsible for homelessness duties, temporary accommodation placements and housing support. Schools, GP practices and Health Visiting Teams use notifications to provide support through existing professional roles.

TAND notifications may enable partner agencies to identify health, education, wellbeing or safeguarding needs through their existing assessment and support processes.

#### Housing Services Responsibilities

- Identify eligible households and explain the purpose of TAND.
- Gather School, GP and Health Visitor information and maintain contact details for notification purposes.
- Obtain informed consent – revisiting after 4-6 weeks where consent has been refused.
- Issue notifications promptly following accommodation placement, no later than 14 days.
- Maintain records and reporting.
- Maintain partnership links with Health and Education.

TAND does not create new statutory duties for Schools, GP practices or Health Visiting Teams. Instead, it provides those services with earlier awareness of a family's housing

circumstances, enabling them to utilise their existing professional responsibilities, safeguarding duties and support pathways more effectively.

#### Education Services

Education settings should use notifications to consider whether additional educational, pastoral or practical support may be required, helping to minimise the impact of homelessness on attendance, wellbeing and educational outcomes.

#### GP Practices

GP Practices should use notifications to support continuity of healthcare, identify emerging health needs and ensure families remain connected to appropriate health services during periods of housing instability.

#### Health Visiting Services

Health Visiting Teams should use notifications to identify and respond to health, developmental and safeguarding needs for young children and families living in temporary accommodation.

### **4. Safeguarding Requirements**

TAND supports earlier identification of safeguarding concerns through improved communication between Housing, Education and Health professionals. Where safeguarding concerns arise, existing safeguarding procedures should be followed.

#### Safeguarding Responsibilities

- Support development of TAND procedures.
- Advise upon safeguarding concerns identified through notifications.
- Assist with partnership arrangements.
- Support staff training.
- Provide escalation routes where significant concerns arise.
- Monitor themes emerging from notifications.

### **5. Implementation Timeline for Community Advice & Support**

| Action                                                                             | Target Date                     | Update                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Map current processes against new statutory requirements.</b>                   | 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 | Completed                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Identify gaps in identification, notification and partnership arrangements.</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2026    | Further meeting arranged for 17 Sept 26                                                                                        |
| <b>Establish a TAND Implementation Group</b>                                       | 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 | Completed                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Improve partnership working with GPs, schools and other education settings</b>  | 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2026   | The Safeguarding Team are supporting with this. A directory of schools has been developed to support the notification process. |
| <b>Produce a Process Map for front line staff</b>                                  | 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2026   |                                                                                                                                |

**6. Data Reporting and Oversight**

TAND does not create specific reporting requirements. However, the Council will monitor the implementation of TAND, including notification volumes, consent rates, partnership engagement and emerging themes to support service improvement.

**7. Final View**

TAND aims to improve outcomes for children living in temporary accommodation through early information sharing and stronger partnership working. Whilst Housing Services are responsible for obtaining consent and issuing notifications, the effectiveness of TAND will depend upon coordinated working between Housing, Education, Health and Safeguarding partners.