

## Appendix 2

### Temporary Accommodation Charging Statement 2011

Where the Council owes a duty under S188 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended, to provide temporary accommodation pending completion of its enquiries and its decision as to what duty, if any, is owed to the applicant under Part 7 of the Act, the Council will arrange accommodation for the applicant and his/her household in the following order dependent upon the availability and suitability of accommodation options, and at all times minimising the impact of related cost to the Council.

- Hostel/Refuge Accommodation
- Unit 1/2 family accommodation
- B&B accommodation

The Council acknowledges that the Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) (England) Order 2003 provides that B&B accommodation is not suitable accommodation for families with children and households that include a pregnant woman unless there is no alternative accommodation available and then only for a maximum of six weeks. The Council will therefore avoid the use of B&B accommodation for families wherever possible.

When arranging temporary accommodation for a homeless applicant, the applicant is advised that this accommodation is not free. There is a cost to the applicant and to the Council dependent upon the type of accommodation arranged and the household's financial circumstances.

All applicants are assisted in completing applications for Housing Benefit where they are likely to be eligible based upon their household income.

To ensure applicants are treated fairly it has historically been the practice of this authority and others to make a reasonable charge (as opposed to the full cost) for Bed and Breakfast accommodation when other accommodation types are not available. To ensure this charge is fair and reasonable and does not disadvantage particular household types, this will be based upon the equivalent charge of occupying Unit 1 or 2 which are available at affordable rent levels.

The Service Manager will exercise discretion relating to the charging statement in respect of B&B charges where this is likely to cause extreme hardship to the applicant.

<b>Temporary Accommodation 2011/12</b>	<b>Daily Charge (rent element)</b>	<b>Weekly Rent Element</b>	<b>Weekly Service Charge</b>
Unit 1	£10.49	73.64	62.96
Unit 2	£ 9.92	69.66	71.42
B&B Proposed charge per night	£10.21	-----	-----

Note: A Service charge is payable in addition to the Rent for Units 1 and 2 reflecting costs related to managing this accommodation.