

Question on Notice

No. 19

Asked on Tuesday, 23 February 2021

MS S BOLTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to reports of multi bedroom social housing accommodating sole occupants—

Will the Minister advise when a reassessment of long-term clients in subsidised housing will be implemented as part of urgently sourcing accommodation for families facing homelessness?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

In managing a large property portfolio, the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy takes its responsibility as a landlord seriously and as a frontline human services agency, adopts a pro-active and person-centred approach to public housing tenancy management and portfolio management.

The department's under-occupancy policy seeks to address any under-utilisation of public housing properties balanced with a person-centred approach.

The department actively engages with households as their circumstances change to understand their holistic needs, and to provide support, information, and assistance to the household. This may include review of the size and type of housing and support required, the location and consideration of housing options to address their housing needs.

Where appropriate, the department will facilitate a household to move to more appropriately sized properties through a transfer; helping to maximise the department's portfolio and assist another household into a property that meets their needs.

This work is undertaken on an ongoing basis.