

Furniture Supply Long Term Housing Policy

Version date: February 2017
Review date: February 2020
Policy owner: Director Housing and Homelessness

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent, clear, fair and equitable approach to the supply of furniture in Unison long term properties.

The policy will provide direction to staff on the provision of items of furniture to tenants of Unison.

Scope

This policy applies to all Unison staff placing tenants in Unison properties.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Staff are responsible for understanding and being aware of the content of the policy
- Managers and Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring the policy is followed.

Principles

Unison is primarily a social landlord with responsibility for provision of long term housing. This policy does not apply to Unison provision of transitional housing.

Tenants housed by Unison should be ready to live independently in long term housing. Living independently includes being able to provide their own furniture.

This policy further acknowledges that there will be some vulnerable tenants, particularly single tenants, coming from living arrangements (boarding houses, rooming houses etc) who are ready for independent living but who may not have had the opportunity to accumulate personal furniture items.

Application

1. Rooming House properties will be routinely furnished with a bar fridge, a single bed, a dining table and two chairs.
2. Unison will also furnish communal areas in rooming houses.

Furniture Supply Long Term Housing Policy

3. Unison will provide a fridge where it is a requirement of the property design that only certain types/sizes/models are acceptable. This will be determined by asset management at the commissioning of any new property.
4. Unison will provide furniture in some properties that are tied to specific initiatives as specified in interagency housing and support agreements (e.g. Ladder Geelong).
5. Unison will replace furniture in properties where it was supplied when tenants moved in. When tenants of properties that were furnished move out, all furniture will be removed and donated to charity.
6. When tenants who live in properties that were furnished by Unison transfer to another property, the new property will not be furnished.
7. Where tenants in self contained properties demonstrate difficulty in furnishing their property Unison staff should refer them to material aid agencies or their support worker(s).
8. Unison might provide some items of furniture in exceptional circumstances. This must only occur with the approval of the relevant Manager.

Review of policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years as delegated by the responsible Director.