



## City of Westminster

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **Notice in respect of the revocation of part of the Westminster City Council Designation of an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2021**

**This notice is published in accordance with Sections 56 to 60 of the Housing Act 2004 and Regulation 10 of the Licensing and Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Other Houses (Miscellaneous Provisions) (England) Regulations 2006.**

Westminster City Council (“the Council”) in exercise of their powers under section 60 of the Housing Act 2004 (“the Act”) gives notice that it has revoked part of the Westminster City Council Designation of an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2021 (the 2021 Designation).

1. The revocation will be effective from 1 October 2021. The revocation relates to all Houses in Multiple Occupation ("HMOs") in the City of Westminster to which s.257 of the Act applies (“s.257 HMO’s”).
2. The 2021 Designation has been revoked in part for in summary the following reasons:
  - (a) The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on Westminster’s economy. As people are changing the way they live and work, falling rents may risk rented accommodation falling into further disrepair and living conditions worsening, placing our most vulnerable tenants at further risk.
  - (b) The Council’s focus will be on protecting the most vulnerable HMO residents, namely residents in s.254 HMOs, which are not required to be licensed under mandatory licensing. Residents in these s.254 HMOs are more likely to be living in substandard conditions and often exposed to cold rooms, damp and severe overcrowding.

The 2021 Designation has been revoked in part by Westminster City Council, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP; telephone: 0207 641 6161; email: [HMO@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:HMO@westminster.gov.uk).

A copy of the revocation may be viewed at [www.westminster.gov.uk/houses-multiple-occupation](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/houses-multiple-occupation), or inspected at the Council’s offices at City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP; telephone: 0207 641 6161; email: [HMO@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:HMO@westminster.gov.uk). If the Council offices are closed to the public due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic, the designation will be emailed out to any member of the public who requests it by emailing [HMO@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:HMO@westminster.gov.uk).

Any landlord, managing agent or other person in control of or managing an HMO or any tenant within the Borough may seek advice as to whether their property is affected by the 2021 Designation from the Council’s website, [www.westminster.gov.uk/houses-multiple-occupation](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/houses-multiple-occupation), by telephoning 0207 641 6161 during normal office hours, which are: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, or by emailing [HMO@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:HMO@westminster.gov.uk).