

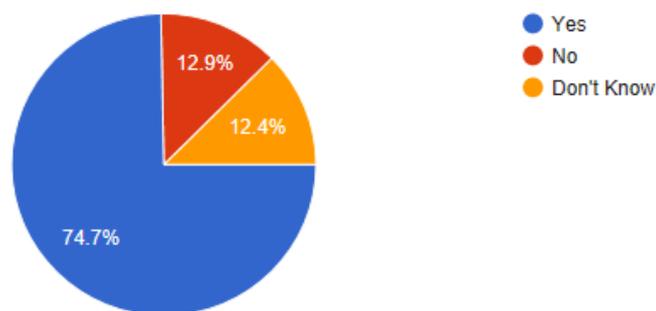
## Consultation responses

### Allocation Policy

#### Proposed Change: Qualification

Do you agree that the qualification criteria as described above should be introduced?

249 responses



However I think there needs to be more help in place for people living in rented accommodation while applying for housing or to be put as more of a priority.

There is so many people on the register that actually doesn't need it so it makes it a lot harder for people even with a high priority getting housing.

I don't agree with this. This is just a way of reducing the amount of applicants, rather than getting on and building more homes.

This is a good idea because it will definitely approve the amount who NEED to be housed like me and people who just pretend they need to be housed.

As long as you also consider the families who are forced to privately rent and are forking out half their monthly income on rent. There is more need than just those who are not working.

I have a occupational visit made no difference

I think you should have been in the area for at least 2years

There should be rules relating to whether the person is local to the town or not. By this I mean increasing the amount of local connection status currently only reserved to Villages. At the moment, someone from Totton can bid and be successful on a bid on a property in Fordingbridge or Ringwood for example. This way, people can stay in the area they are from and where their families reside as opposed to moving people across the district.

I completely disagree, just because we rent privately doesn't mean we can afford it! I've lived in the village my whole life, I work in the village and my daughter goes to school here but yet because people on benefits get priority over us we are spiralling into debt.

Anti- social behaviour is a very big issues, as well as amount of drugs being sold/used on council estates

I have been on the housing list for 8 years. It would make my life so much easier to have a council house that I could call a proper home. I have so many problems at my privately rented house, eg can you ask your daughter not too touch the walls. I would love to have another child but cannot afford to

privately rent a 3 bed property or even a bigger 2 bed house. I have waited in line and believe my time such be soon. I will also be able to pay full rent for the property and have worked hard and if this change happens I will never get a council property and its hard enough now.

I've just waited 7 years and can nearly apply however I was in worse circumstances a few years ago and couldn't apply

The time spent waiting for an allocation should not be ignored. It is not fair that people who simply cannot afford to buy are delayed their right to social housing.

People who are 'adequately housed' in private renting sector should have access to social housing, as private renting prices are at least double the price of the social housing.

Although I am considered to be adequately housed, I am registered blind and need to be near to Family and Friends who can help me with daily living. Having a Guide Dog needs to be considered with the accommodation I am offered, she is nota pet, she is a necessity to my life.

Those in most need should take priority

Too many people are on the list but don't obviously bid for properties, they can't be desperate to move otherwise they would be bidding.

I agree but within your terms there is nothing that suggests low income single parents are supported here

we have a 3 bed house with large garden .we have applied to exchange to [redacted] as our family have all married and moved away.both myself@husband find the stairs difficult our health issues arn:t great,finding it hard to keep house@garden up to standard we would be happy to exchange to give a family a lovely home.

People bidding should also be given priority in order of waiting list and how long they've been waiting.

I think the present allocation policy is fair & the time spent on the register should always be taken into account & the proposed changes would make it unfair

I am struggling with an illness and can't live where I live anymore. I am 54 years old but have no priority so this would really help people like me

I am one part of a couple and also a carer and my partner often needs own room to relax as e has mental health issues.at moment we are in a flat and the neighbour upstairs really disturbs him therefore I need to apply for a two bedroom house as there is rarely one bedroom houses on offer and we also don't need an upstairs neighbour

Everyone should be able to qualify, irrespective of race or gender

there are not many properties to apply for as it is, and I am 55 living in Scotland, who bids on properties in the new forest, so I can come home to my family, why make it harder? to bid, and make changes?

Whilst there is a clear need for qualification criteria, I strongly believe that protection should be given to those applicants already identified as being in housing need to be able to remain on the waiting list, and as such the new rules should only apply to new applicants. In summary, those already on the list prior to any proposed change should retain 'grandfather's rights'.

i do agree, BUT so long as the person/persons doing the assessing are unbias and fair to the assessment as its not unheard of for the assessors to be unfair and over look peoples needs.

I have been on the housing waiting list since 2004 and would like to remain on the housing waiting list for accommodation in the future any further information or help with this will be welcome from the New Forest District Council many thanks (Redacted)

my wife is 60 this year and i will be 59. we are currently in private rented property which including council tax costs us just under £1000 per month. we work long hours to pay for this and at our ages feel we deserve cheaper housing so we can give our bodies a rest and spend more time together. on top of the £1000 per month are all the other usual house hold expenses and it costs over one of our wages just to keep a roof over our heads.

I have been on the Homesearch list for 11 years. I work full time as a single parent of 3 Children and have applied for multiple properties over the years without success due to what I believe is other applicants ability to manipulate the process to secure a property as an urgent case. I have entered a debt management plan with step change debt charity as I will not place my children in a position of being moved into temporary accommodation to meet the criteria of being in urgent need. I would just like the opportunity to secure and pay affordable rent in a town I have lived all my life without financial help from the benefit system. The current system does not encourage individuals to work full time and I would be financially better off working a capped week of 16 hours. I teach my Children that you get

out what you put in and have to work hard for a living. Lymington has become a town for the rich or those happy to manipulate the benefits system. Hard working families are penalised for having a strong work ethic.

I answered No because I believe that if people request help with housing they have a genuine need. My partner and I have lived in private rented accommodation for nearly 8 years recently we have been given notice to leave. As I am pushing 60 years of age I am scared of being made homeless. We do not have the savings like we had to keep paying out for private rental deposits/rents and we would like the security of a secure tenancy.

A housing need should include those who can't afford local market rent but would like to maintain local occupancy.

It is important to recognize that people who have a history of unacceptable behavior could change, given the right opportunities and support, and secure housing is one of the main factors that can affect a persons chances of re-offending. It is also important to consider the savings to the local authority made if applicants are allowed to move to an area to provide care and support to elderly relatives who may not necessarily be immediate family.

I know many people who are in properties that are too small for their families now but maybe don't have the best years on the housing list.

If someone is living in social rented property, i.e housing association, and is under occupying/over occupying, will they meet the criteria to applying to go on the housing list? Not clear in the criteria if they do or not.

There is a great need for people who are private renting to be allocated a council property . Families are struggling and rental prices are increasing each year . I agree there should be a criteria however I feel working , private renting people should fit in to one of these also . There is a fine line between a genuine need and families in rented i believe have a genuine need . For myself I have been on the list nearly ten years yet am moving to one of the lowest bands under people who come from outside the area , who do not work And have no intention of sound so.

Unfair on MANY people that have been on the list for many years to pretty much be kicked off

Anti-social behaviour should not be rewarded. An individual tenant's needs should supercede anyone else', even if it means dropping down the list a few places.

This policy change is for for the benefit of immigrants

[Redacted],

I do agree.I also think that it is unfair to let people come from different areas jump to the front of the list,when local people have waited sometimes up to 8/9years.I think that tennants should also be vetted carefully before being given housing.le putting someone with drug or mental health issues in with the elderly or young families.

I think all that live in the area should have a chance if they are on a low income and cannot afford housing .

Yes because even though the New Forest is an affluent area on the whole there are areas where some will never be able to afford to buy their own home

The housing criteria needs to be reviewed and implemented because it wasn't for me. My allocation from a legal status said the council would only house me into a 3 bed but housed me into a 2 bed 3 yrs ago with no imminent change! A 16yr old boy and a 7 yr old girl. Placed by the council into a 2 bed flat while others around me have been provided a 3 bed house with a need for a 2. Change is good but sticking to the rules would be better.

Allocations should be judged on a case by case basis. • There should be justification for '35 years old' being selected as part of the criteria. • There needs to be an appeals process in place. • The banding for 'exceptional need' should be a decision for more than 1 Officer.

It risks creating a group of homeless people who have behaviour problems and other issues who would be very difficult to work with.

Housing need should be priority, NOT the amount of time spent on the register.

Are you saying here that those that have work aren't entitled and only those in need ie benefits should get subsidised housing? I work but could not afford private rents so my answer would be no.

If there has been a determination of 'unacceptable behaviour' is there a likelihood of health assessment or reference to medical records? The concern is that someone with an undiagnosed mental health condition, which could include P.T.S.D. could be left homeless when their only

perceived physical issue is behavioural, thereby slipping the net and a further decline in that individual's wellbeing.

- The qualifying criteria meets the housing need as oppose to the housing 'want' and therefor targets the supply of housing where it's most needed.
- The policy should be communicated widely to ensure that counsellors, residents and partners fully understand and are clear on the new criteria

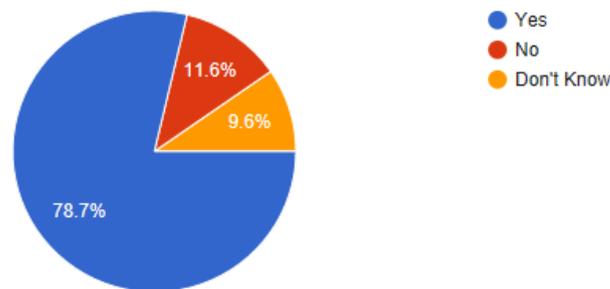
I do not think income should be a non qualifying criteria, it may be that an individual has income but is being made redundant or on a short term contract in which case having reapplied they will go to the bottom of the pile again. It should be about the individuals abaility to gain a mortgage and many can not.

I hope that this will mean a fairer qualification system.

### Proposed Change: Bedroom Need Assessment

Do you agree that it is correct to set bedroom need assessment in this way?

249 responses



Because I have a lot of illnesses and up a lot in pain my husband who is 72 would have to sleep on the softer I have to move closer on medical grounds .

I answer yes but there are many many properties with 2 people living in have another bedroom they don't use. This would be alleviated if tenancies were reviewed after a period of, for example, 5 years. This would mean a better use of existing stock.

Our step daughter stays with us, she comes here when she asks but we do have set days. She's 14 and my daughter 7, they can't share and I wouldn't expect her to sleep on the sofa. You don't think we're entitled to a 3rd bedroom because we don't claim benefits for her!

If the Tennant can afford to pay the full rent then no I don't agree.

I believe that couples are given a choice on 1 or 2 bed properties it is not always possible fir couples to share a bedroom perhaps due to work commitments

There are circumstances like step children that stay but aren't classed as living with you, which I think is wrong that they cannot have their own space in the family home when they stay every weekend and most school holidays.

Because some health needs for example dementia or being in pain because of physical pain mean that a couple would need a bedroom each.

10 year age gap between kids is quite big in terms of development and needing privacy for example 11 year old sharing with 21 year old, don't think this is right

I can on only have a one bed for myself and my partner but because of my illness I sleep in a separate bedroom as I don't sleep and am restless and he works

there are a variety of reasons why a couple may need a 2 bedroom property, will provision be made to deal with individual cases.

as a couple, there are not very often one bedroom houses to apply for so a 2 bedroom house is needed. My partner has had mental health problems and when not well he needs to go in his own space which is why two bedrooms are needed.

10 is too old for different sex children to share a room, the need for personal space starts about 7 yrs old

Applicants who one partner or both are 70 years and older should qualify for 2 bed stock.

I do feel your new proposals are on the right track but feel the assessments need to be applied to existing tenants for example I know two individuals who are in a three bedroom house by themselves who are not in need of a property of that size.

A bedroom should be allocated for each child in the first instance up to three children. More children of same sex share.

No mention of older people needing 2 bedrooms Suggest over 75 s are put on highest priority automatically.

My Daughter is 20 years old which would not qualify her for a bedroom. I would happily pay a bedroom tax to provide a home for my Daughter as long as she needs it. She too works full time but would not afford to live on her own. Making her homeless would never be an option.

Because families can grow

My wife and I cannot sleep in the same room for medical reasons. We need two bedrooms so we do not qualify in terms of this selection process. We are both on pension credit finding the extra money for private rental is difficult.

In the case of down sizing and mutual exchange, e.g. if a person finds that their children are grown and leave home, and they find themselves in a 3 bed house with a one bed need, they may be reluctant to downsize to a one bed property, but be happy to downsize to a 2 bed, therefore releasing a 3 bed to a family with a higher bedroom requirement. If a person was in a 3 bed but only entitled to a 1 and were employed and unaffected by bedroom tax, they would likely choose to remain in their 3 bed unless they be allowed to downsize to a 2 bed.

Someone who needs a personal carer to stay over should be considered for more than one bedroom.

Houses should be monitored depending on personal need . I know a lot of people living in properties they do not need

As single person I would like the option to have my grandchildren to stay over sometimes, just having one bedroom would not allow me to do this.

Overall, yes, but, individual circumstances could be taken into consideration where a single person needs an outside carer. Privacy is still vital. Self-worth can quickly plummet facing long-term illness.

This policy change is for the benefit of immigrants

Some people need a second bedroom for carers

I don't see if someone has 5 /6 children they are given a 3bed house especially if one is a boy and has to share. Or that an elderly person should be restricted to a one bedroom, or studio, as they may need at some stage to have family members stay due to illness.

How is it possible for a Single Applicant to have use of a 2,3,4 bedroom accommodation.?

The council should allocate a property / bedrooms for children who are nearing the age criteria so that the family does not have to move to another property shortly afterwards. We feel there is a need to consider community cohesion and children being settled into local schools when assessing the need for bedrooms.

What would the policy be for disabled tenants who require informal or formal support needing accommodation?

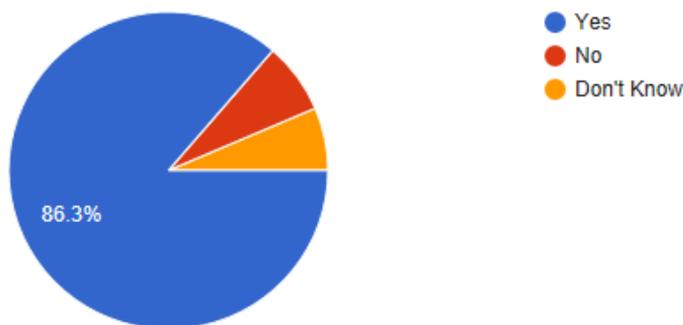
There is no provision for additional bedroom need for disabled/medical purposes.

Question not clear. I find it difficult to understand why at 52 I have to stay in a small bedsit and not progress to a 1 bed flat. Bedsits are ok if you are 18 but we have lived a bit and have bits of furniture and things accumulated. It appears I can't move up the ladder, even in the same building. It is a good place to start but what will enable me to be able to progress?

- Some consideration needs to be taken into the age gap with the opposite sex- for example, if the elder child is closer to 16 years of age, then a larger property would be if be more beneficial in the long term, rather than overcrowding the family.
- A comprehensive transfer process needs to be in place and communicated when families move in so that larger properties can be transferred when the need for the additional bedrooms is no longer there.

Is it correct for the Council to set household membership in this way so that there is effective use of family sized accommodation in the Council's District?

249 responses



See previous answer

Where young adults in the household are away from family home due to studying or serving in HM Forces this should be taken as normally resident in the family home (particularly if young adults have no access to their own housing

What about children that don't live with their mother but still have over night stays? And she has a daughter so sharing isn't an option.

See above

Will there be any investigation into previous tenants that do not meet these specification?

I think the proposed changes would discriminate against applicants who wish to be rehoused with elderly parents who they wish to care for in their old age

SURELY this is something that has to be judge on individual cases. As in there are circumstances in which adult children are unable to live away from parents.

as stated before sometimes a couple need two bedrooms even if they do not have a child

My son is resideing with me, he is over 50 and had a mental brakedown, I will have him staying with me for as long as it takes for him to get better even if it takes years ( which it is ) he is my son and always will be, age has nothing to do with it.

I agree that only housing suitable for that household should be allocated to that person/persons. In addition i feel the housing policy relating to tenants who are already living in properties too big for their needs should be addressed. I am aware of multiple single occupants living in 3 bedroom houses who now have no children or other adults living with them. In some cases these tenants are receiving benefits to pay the rent on the property, therefore not contributing to paying to live at the property costing the council more money. If housing is in such short supply perhaps the council should be ensuring these tenants move into suitable sized properties then freeing up larger properties for family's that need them and who will pay the rent generating more money for the council. This is a huge issue that i think needs to be address that would help with the short supply of housing particularly for family's.

Expecting parents to make their elder children effectively homeless would add to the already strained benefits system.

Family dynamics are especially diverse in the 21st century and the lack of affordable housing in the area means that it is not unusual to find adult children living with their parents past the age of 35, this will be exacerbating by the council downgrading applications of those sharing with friends or relatives to a lower priority. Also often families live with elderly relatives providing care and support, siblings can live together and not be able to afford to live separately, applicants may have relatives with learning disabilities or physical illness who need to remain part of their house hold.

I think grandchildren and immediate family should be included. It is quite common for children, especially in teenagers, to move out of the family home and reside with immediate family members if having problems at home. This should be taken into account.

For the vast majority, yes. Please see above paragraph. \*\*\*My son is my main carer at present, [Redacted], and gets to me when he can. It's highly embarrassing at this point, to share a bed when he visits. It's awkward and privacy goes out the window. I have advanced cancer and would feel dreadful asking a carer staying overnight, to kip on the sofa. I would give up my bed.

This policy change is for the benefit of immigrants

As i just stated an elderly person might need family help in later life,as opposed to going into a home.I dont agree they should live in three bedroom homes.

As they may have a grandparent needing to live with them for a good reason .

It should read 'spouse and/or cohabitant'. The traditional family unit is a thing of the past and the policy should reflect that another family member may live within the household. This could be a grandparent or aunt/uncle, cousin etc. or even a friend who might a) be infirm and need the daily support of that family unit, or b) help with the childcare, particularly likely if it is a single parent household. What basis has the age of 35 for children or dependants been decided on?

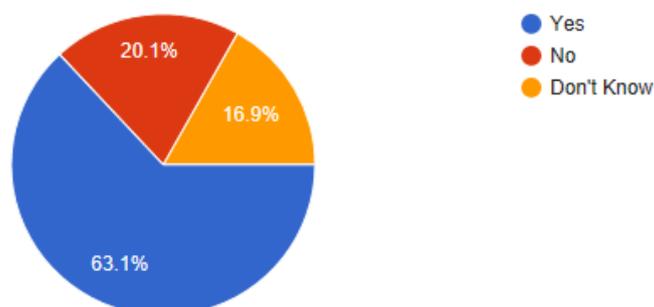
- It depends on what is classed as reasonable- taking into consideration the wider economic environment and housing situation. For example, where a child, who is an adult lives in the family home because he/she is unable to afford to rent or buy a house – then it should be reasonable for the adult child to be accepted as a member of that household – even in a homeless situation

Children, who have medical problems still need to stay in the family home, over 35, my daughters 59

## Proposed Changes: Housing Need Assessment

Is it correct for the Council to allocate scarce social housing, where demand far outweighs the supply, with reference to an applicant's housing need in accordance with the new proposed priority bands?

249 responses



There are blaringly obvious ways to for applicants to cheat under this new banding and this will create an even higher amount of applicants in bands 1 & 2, leaving those in bands 3 & 4 no chance of housing and losing hope. This will encourage people to make their situations worse. I can see at least 2 ways to cheat this new banding. Under this new banding I would be in band 4 but if the circumstances that caused my current housing situation had happened under this new banding system I would have been placed in band 2, possibly even 1 which is not fair especially to households who have already been waiting 5 years plus. I have been on the housing list for 7 years have bid on 25 properties. I am a working single mother and have absolutely no way of resolving my housing situation, if I had I would of done so by now. I think I am close to being successful in property bidding and have desperately checked the website(at 12pm without fail) for suitable available properties every week for the last 7 years but under the new banding I will have absolutely no priority and any hope I have had of ever providing my child with a secure home will disappear for ever.

Because circumstances change and purely using time on the register may not be suitable or relevant Like I said before it isn't fair because there is people that newly join the register needs it's a lot more.

This is wrong. Just because there aren't enough homes, doesn't mean you can just do this. Borrow more from the government unlimited borrowing and build more homes!

I do not think it is fair for people to have to wait years and years for affordable accommodation..

Everyone should be able to bid on the correct sized home so then people have the chance to be picked.

When I was made homeless I was not considered high priority on the housing list and was instead encouraged to privately rent (which I did) I have now been on the list for 6.5 years. It would be incredibly unfair for anyone who had been struggling with the ridiculous cost of privately renting and have been waiting patiently for social housing to then be told houses are going to people who have only been waiting for 1 year or less.

I've been on the list for years but you still allocate the houses to people who are simply having more children to get housing.

I disagree with "Band 4", to class it as no priority indicates that they do not require housing. Isn't everyone entitled to housing in the UK?

Everyone deserves there chance to get a council property. I think the current way is the fairest. Again as I have said previously I have been on the list 7/8 years if this comes into affect I won't be able to get an affordable property.

Only if the allocation is determined on individual lists where 1st come 1st lists are used on a like for like basis. This excludes immigrants of any type or where allocation is forced by departments outside of local control.

People that cannot afford to buy are a priority too and should not be continuously delayed to their right to social housing.

I have been on the list for nearly 6 years now, it would be unfair to wait such a long length of time (other people have waited even many more years than myself) to then be pushed to the back of the queue again.

Housing is need for many reasons. If a people are renting privately the cost of which is far higher it may in many cases bring on financial hardship and help may only be given if notice to leave is given by their current landlord. This is not acceptable for many people who want to be good tenants

In principle I agree but in reality should people moving in to the area be prioritised?

You should prioritise the people who have been waiting on the list the longest who apple for a property rather then give it to someone who hasn't been on the list long. Just because they are in a higher band. It's totally unfair.

The time spent on the housing register should still be taken into account

The proposed bands are harsh and leave little scope for working person's on low income that require secure, safe and affordable accomodation

Some people have been waiting and struggling with private rents and benefit anomalies for years and dont deserve to be denied access to social housing that they still need

time on the list should matter because people of high priority can wait for their allocated house in a temporary housing

I think the current policy is fair & should not be changed to the exclusion of applicants who may be vulnerable & need to be rehoused close to family resulting in longer times on the waiting list

People's circumstances can change suddenly

I am a single parent who currently rents privately. I am on the list as priority. If the new system goes through, not only will I be downgraded in band but I will also lose the 2 years I have been on the register. Not only that, universal credit will make it incredibly difficult for me to rent privately long term. I have been on it for years because of my neighbour situation and to me it is higher priority than what I am for mental health reasons

everybody on the list feels that their need is as great as the next one, it's hard seeing young people with children struggling living in accommodation that is far too small for the lack of finance, and older people like myself having to move from pillar to post in the private sector with lack of funds and all the stress, strokes are not something we relish but do happen at our age because of stress, I know because I've had one and DON'T want any more.

I have been on the waiting list eight years and have not been successful with any of my bids so feel the system is unfair.

The period that an applicant has been on the housing register should also be an assessed housing need condition

Because I've been waiting for three years so far and my time on the register should not be affected. Just like the people already in housing who don't have a need for it are not affected either!

I strongly disagree with this change. I have been on the waiting list for close to 5 years, if these changes came in I think it would be virtually impossible for me and my family to get social housing as we are in private rented accommodation that is suitable for our needs, however overpriced private rent means we live month to month struggling to pay our bills. We are a family who have always worked and receive no financial help. I think this change would be devastating as we really have lived in hope that in the future we will eventually be eligible for social housing and this will take a great weight off our shoulders as we struggle month to month to pay bills due to our overpriced rent. I feel this gives no incentive for hardworking people and feel many who claim 'homelessness' are in fact actually in better positions than people like myself. I believe absolutely that genuine homeless people, elderly and the sick do deserve priority over people like me and my family but there are many who claim they are 'homeless' and in fact are not, do not deserve social housing before hardworking families like mine. The demand outweighs the supply because the system has been taken advantage of by the least hardworking, frauds. The council has also failed to act on keeping up with the supply and in addition by not moving on tenants to suitable sized properties freeing them up for new families. This change would yet again put hardworking ordinary families who are already overlooked by government into even more hardship. This would be a completely unfair thing to do.

Because homelessness is no longer a priority

as stated earlier I think it is also important to realise that people can not carry on working 60 or 70 hours a week as they get older to pay for massively overpriced private lettings and age and income should also play a big part.

I feel that I have been penalised for continuing to pay private rent through hard work although assessed as private rent not being affordable to me. I am due for review of my debt management plan in May this year and will have to apply for bankruptcy as my current financial situation is not sustainable.

If you accept that access to the waiting list is limited to those who qualify, then the fairest means of allocation has to be time waited. The policy of allocation according to time on the register has insulated NFDC from claims that the system can be manipulated by certain applicants (eg no priority for single mothers). Whilst the wait is long, those on the list at least know that the system is fair and cannot be manipulated. The suggested banding would seem to offer a number of ways of increasing one's eligibility.

Personally we have been on the register for 9 years and have still not been offered any accommodation. The length of time someone spends on the register should definitely be taken into account when allocating properties.

But equally those appearing on the register shouldn't have to wait 10 years if they have a genuine reason to be living in the area such as local work or can show localness of more than 10 years previously.

Moving those who are sharing with relatives into a lower priority band will be likely to exacerbate homelessness as more parents who have adult children living with them will ask them to leave, whereas previously they may have supported them to remain at home until a suitable housing option became available. With little hope of this happening in the future, particularly for those who have been

in the priority band for a number of years, family relationships could break down further causing more parents to make their adult children or other relatives that have been living with them until they could be housed, homeless, causing further cost to the local authority. Down grading applications from those who are living in relative poverty because they are working on a low income but are earning just above the housing benefit and UC housing element threshold so are privately renting in insecure, unaffordable housing is unfair because they may have been working and struggling to meet the cost of very high private rent for a number of years, in the knowledge that they were moving closer to being offered social housing, where they would more easily be able to afford the full cost of the rent. Whereas reducing their priority means that they would have to remain in insecure housing with a lower standard of living, which is likely to have an impact on their physical and mental health, particularly if the landlord decides to serve notice. This could affect their employment and be more likely to force them to have to move onto housing benefit or UC at further cost to the tax payer, whereas if they were supported to have secure affordable housing, their health would be likely to improve, meaning that they would have a better chance of remaining in full time employment and be more likely to pay the full rent to the local authority, saving the money from the housing benefit and UC bill being paid to private landlords.

Housing need should be assessed need, not just on time spent on list. My opinion.

I feel it is very unfair to put people living with family or friends in band 4. Just because someone is helping them out shouldn't make the less entitled to be helped.

I myself have been on the list a very long time . And yet am moving down a band . I've lived here all my life and struggle to make the private rent payments . I'm under people who do not work and are from outside which i believe to be unfair. As tenets to private rent we have a genuine need but yet don't seem to get anywhere

People have been waiting and struggling for MANY YEARS wont ever have a look in at propertys any more

If a person/family have been on the register for X amount of years and a less healthy/more needy person comes forward, the most poorly is more worthy, I would say. I would have no problem stepping aside for someone more poorly than me. The system should adjust to the client needs. This means give and take on both sides.

This policy change is for the benefit of immigrants

applicants must be given clear explanations as to the reasons why they have been placed in that particular band

This is a difficult question, but I know people who have been waiting for 9 years, they have applied for housing, then someone arrives from another area and because they have perhaps an extra child, they are bumped in front of a person who has been on the list longer. You will always get someone whose need is greater than the next person.

Not if that means people have been on list for a long time gets moved to the back as that's unfair .

The New Forest has villages which have the need for local connections but there are also some areas that are villages but not treated as so and people from outside the area then get the priority.

There seems to be far too many variables.

This is unfair to those who have been waiting a long time though.

I don't know what the new bands are.

a) Band 2 item b – If this was 'one or more bedrooms' (prioritised from Band 3) it would give much greater flexibility for the next issue, overcrowding (c) b) Band 3 item d and g, both of which the Armed Forces Covenant could apply to – These should be upgraded to Band 1 or 2. It seems a direct contradiction to paragraph 1.3 of the full document. All other criteria within paragraph 1.3 are shown across Bands 1, 2 and 3. We fail to see why these are in the same banding as lacking one bedroom, having a medium level health condition or needs of a key worker/serving forces and/or spouse. It seems quite wrong that having no home is seen as the same priority as having a less than adequate home.

- Accommodation should be weighted on need and not time on the list • It is important that this is widely communicated to ensure residents expectations are managed.

However service personnel must be in every category in line with the covenant they must be treated with respect for the duty they have done for their country. They must be a high priority

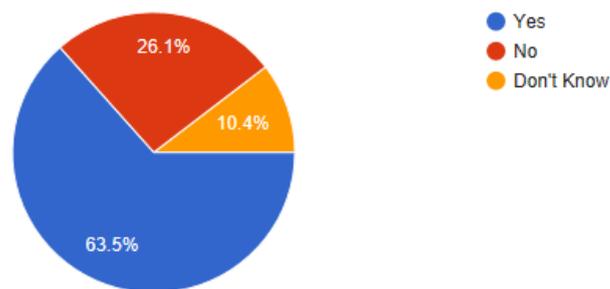
We agree with the new bands, however we think that all those currently on the list that have a need to be housed and have been waiting for years, should still be some of the first to be allocated. We are

current applicants under band Priority and are now concerned that as we are not an urgent banding that we will be overlooked in the new system. We have applied for many properties and have not yet been successful. We are a 5 person family in a relative's house in 2 small bedrooms, with shared facilities. We are very unsure how this will affect our banding under the system. We do feel that the current system has been very unfair and now worried that things will not get any better.

### Proposed Changes: Suspension and Removal

Is it correct for the Council to manage applications on the housing register by suspending or removing applications due to conduct; for example, if an applicant fails to make bids or refuses suitable offers of accommodation?

249 responses



It is not right to suspend someone if they didn't bid as they may not have had suitable property to bid on in the 12 months .

I believe that it is unfair to remove applicants should they not bid on/or refuse properties. I believe this should be assessed case by case and the applicant should be given a chance to explain any reasons that may have resulted in this before making the decision to remove or suspend their application.

RE: Suspension/Removal - there needs to be a clause for anti social / criminal behaviour. It's disturbing that criminals get housing, which is scarce, only for them to continue with their criminal ways. In my area the police are constantly here dealing with one of your residents or another. On a plus, it's already the 23rd of January and I've yet to see any armed police in my neighbourhood!! On a separate issue - how often do you check who is actually living in one of your properties? (and no I don't mean a friend staying for the night, actually living in someone else's property whilst they are staying somewhere else).

With regard to above question on suspension I have been on the list for three years plus and although in high need due to blindness, I haven't applied for housing as I was told I would have to wait a minimum of five years.

I think when someone is offered property they should be able to view the property before they accept it, surely this is only right. Also if someone refuses a property they should be given at least one more choice before being removed from the register as there may be all sorts of reasons why they feel they cannot accept it. I also feel more compassion and help should be shown to elderly people wanting to downsize or move nearer to relatives for support in disability or illness. Also it frees up a bigger property for a family wanting larger accommodation, so everyone wins.

Re Suspension & Removal. Months if not a year or more can pass by without a suitable property (eg A property with bedroom Nos suitable to the applicant's family size in the area or within appropriate travelling distance to place of employment) becoming available and advertised. Therefore to suspend an applicant for failing to apply for a property where a suitable one hasn't been available is not only unfair it is wrong

A suspension after not applying for any properties for 12 months would seem unfair to me. For example in calmere there can be periods of over 12 months where there are no 3 bedroom properties to apply for. I imagine this is the case in other areas as well

Last question suitable to whom? Surely the person on the housing list would know what is suitable for themselves, eg stairs, garden, number of bedrooms, parking, immediate environment, etc,etc,etc.

We do not agree that applicants should be suspended from the housing register if they fail to make bids. Our justification being that some applicants wish to remain and reside in a particular postal code area for personal reasons

you should not be removed for not bidding because that will only result in people bidding for property they do not actually want just so they can stay on the list.

In regards to the question above, I agree that the Council should be able to remove applications from those who decline suitable offers. However, removing applications for failure to make bids when the waiting time is still likely to be significant is unreasonable.

I don't think it's necessarily fair to remove applicants from the homesearch list if they fail to make bids as there is not always something suitable. however agree that applicant's should be given priority due to their individual needs rather than how long they have been on the register.

With regards to suspending applicants who fail to reregister or refuse suitable accommodation - my son is autistic and doesn't always realise how important renewing applications are. This happened last year. So a person's individual circumstances need to be taken into consideration. Also, if someone with a diagnosis such as autism is self employed part time and has equipment needing storage, such as gardening equipment, they may have to refuse several homes because of lack of storage. Again, personal circumstances needs to be considered.

Suspending or removing applications because someone has not made a bid in a 12 month period will not work, because there can be 12 months between suitable properties becoming available. If an a housing register applicant is on the housing register to downsize, but is not able to until their adult children leave home, they would not be able to place bids as if an offer was made they would have to refuse or make their child homeless, but they may have been waiting on the list for many years in the hope that one day they will have been on the list long enough to be re-housed (one their adult child has found suitable accommodation, which will be much less likely under the new policy).

Ref. Failure of bids. I'm am quite poorly, on strong morphine daily. Seldom am I able to log on for the bidding and need help. Poor conduct and refusal of properties must be deemed as slovenly and some would say, arrogant. Clients don't have a right to a property and they must be earned in return for the privilege of renting one. I, for one, are jolly grateful and NFDC has only ever shown me fairness and kindness. The system is in place to assist the most in need under genuine circumstances. It is fair and just and I feel that the takers whom chant ".....but, I deserve it...." the loudest, should be in the most appropriate place in the queue: the back.

As I read the removal/suspension policy it would mean that if I hadn't applied for anything in 12 months I would be removed. I need a 1 bedroomed bungalow or flat & have family connections to Sway. These properties do not come up very often at all so I do not have the opportunity to apply for anything & don't think I am eligible for property in other areas. The new proposals seem very unfair in my circumstances. I am 59 this year.

Most days there are no suitable properties to bid on such as location , - bedroom size or only for over 55's .

My 'Don't know' reply is that if an applicant 'fails to make bids' it may be that housing is not yet needed and if removed from housing register how long would it take to be once again be excepted on the register?

I agree with conduct, but not for not making an application within 12 months, as this can be due to lack of suitable accommodation rather than willingness to apply, especially in regard to 3 and 4 bedroom houses.

We broadly agree, however: • All the rules regarding allocations need to be made clear to applicants who are on the waiting list. • If properties in a certain criteria don't come up within the 12 months (eg 1 bed in Brockenhurst) we feel it is unreasonable to remove the applicant from the waiting list. • Individual needs that may be outside the policy need to be recorded and considered for allocation purposes so that applicant is not removed unreasonably.

a person should be able to view a property before making final choice, may look nice from outside but when looking at inside may not be suitable

## FINAL COMMENTS

I believe NFDC have been secretly adopting this policy since the April 2017 homelessness reduction act came in to force as there has been a marked increase in the number of applicants awarded high and urgent High priority need since this date.

[Redacted],

I am confused as to why the criteria for household members are 'children' up to age 35; surely before this they would be classed as independent?

I have not been considered as a priority, I am suicidal, self harming, not eating properly, have muscle wastage from being in bed for so long, and I've been told I now have autism as well as severe depression and relapsing and using prescription meds to cope. I NEED my own home, and I have not been helped AT ALL.

I think the council also need to take into consideration people that work, who don't rely on benefits to pay their rent and bills etc. We have been on the council list for 7 years now and are still no closer to getting a property. We rent privately and the house we live in is currently full of mould and is making my children ill, but we can't afford another deposit to move into another private rental property so we have to stay. We can afford the council rent, we pay all our bills ourselves and we don't have any benefits handouts yet here we are still waiting!

I disagree with pretty much everyone being placed in the "priority" category, that is ridiculous and negates people who really do need re-housing but you do not regard as high priority. There should be more information published as to how to arrive at "high priority - urgent" or "high priority" and just how long you expect someone to wait for re-housing to somewhere more suitable for their needs.

Properties should be inspected regularly like in the private sector and if left in disrepair and unsanitary dirty conditions the tenant shouldn't be given the option to continue to rent from you. There are hundreds of council houses that are disgusting Gardens overgrown and covered in rubbish and not maintained by the tenant at all and nobody does anything about it. If the tenant doesn't look after the property they do not deserve the opportunity to have one. Just because it's "free" ie benefits pay does not mean you can abuse it when other more deservedly people would take pride in their home and ensure the council properties are well maintained and looked after costing less to yourselves in the long run.

I currently have less than 2 months to vacate my private rented property as my landlord is wanting the property.. I have 2 small children and now have to try and find another affordable home with not a lot of money for the fees that go along with it.. I think its people like me who are suddenly faced with this to be able to bid or be considered high priority but apparently I cannot as I have only been on the waiting list for 3 years.. So I definitely think that needs to be changed.

I feel the application form needs to be updated so that not only do you take into consideration income but also outgoings for many of us we are stuck without money because of outgoings directly related to privately renting. Yet there are non working families taking trips to America because they can afford to whilst living in social housing which is being paid for by the working class.

I have a occupational visit had home visit from nfdc I can't use bath and made no difference

People in financial problems that are in private accommodation and are struggling like we are

As a mother of a 2 yr old son and a 6 month old daughter living in a 1st floor 1 bedroom flat I know change is desperately needed. To class a living room as a luxury when trying to bring up children is absurd. I have not slept in a bed for 6 months. Change needs to happen fast

Sadly, too many people 'play' the system and genuine applicants can be over looked. I currently live in another district under another local authority in a tiny two bedroomed 'old people's' bungalow when we have been assessed as having a three bedroomed need. I also feel the council should detail the property they advertise as vacant, with at least the full address and a picture of the property so the prospective tenant can at least make an informed decision about whether or not they bid. It is unfair to remove people from the list if they fail to bid within 12 months because some areas are considered 'no go' and the tenant takes a chance when bidding. I'm sorry to say there are some areas in the NFDC area that are rough.

Changes will allow me to apply for 2 bedroom instead of 3. main factor will be needs not date of registration.

Those who have remained on the list for a long period of time and have been housed but are waiting to move back into their original home area or nearer to a place of work , should be actively assisted and given priority to move into suitable housing in the area they have requested freeing the property they are in for a family in need

Mutual swaps into villages, should not be allowed for people who do not have a local connection to those villages, these houses should only go to people with proven connections to villages

What I think needs changing is people that don't work to be put in council property then have the rent paid for them as well, while hard working families struggle with their rent! I can't understand the logic in it, young families never working continuously having kids and expecting a home for nothing! Then there's single people in large homes that should be moved to 1 bed properties to free up these homes!

I was a single mother who had been on the list for 6 years and the council said that I could share a bedroom with my little girl until a certain age which I believe to be wrong. However I have now found a partner and can just about to afford private renting. If these changes happen the council won't look twice at us. I would like a second child but cannot afford to give up work because of the amount of rent we are charged and wouldn't be able to live. However if I was given a council property I could reduce my hours to part time and as a family be able to afford to live a comfortable lifestyle and I could have my second child as rent would be cheaper.

As mentioned above I was homeless a few years ago and have been patiently waiting for the last 7 years to be able to apply for a property. I'm concerned now that I might not qualify and won't have the same chance to live in more affordable housing. I currently am living in private accommodation and would be able to stand a chance of saving if had the chance to apply and live in a council property

Health needs should be properly assessed

The criteria for unacceptable conduct should be clearly publicised and adhered to. Who gets to say what unacceptable conduct is?

There are some good and bad changes made to the allocations here; however I would add that increasing the building of more social housing to keep up with the demand is far more important than removing people from the waiting list is.

I can only comment on a personal side. We are good tenants and we work locally. Our combined income is taken on high rent and the usual household bill, we have no additional money to spare. We are unable to get a mortgage at our age and are unable to save for the high deposit need. Our concerns are when we retire we will not be able to afford the high cost to rent privately. If we are unable to rent from NFDC we may become homeless so will be a higher burden on the council.

I find it unfair that house swaps have allowed a single mother in her early 20s with one young daughter to live in a rarely available 3 bed bungalow. This must be through deception about who is living there. These proposals should rectify these types of cases via further scrutiny of who exactly is going to be living in a property. This is not just a single case I have heard about, it seems to be a common occurrence to tell untruths to attain a larger property than is required.

Having been told to use the Homeswapper system, it is extremely hard for me requesting a bungalow, and there being several on the system where people want to swap, but it could not be a direct swap, getting people to respond. As a registered blind person, wishing to move back to my home district where I can get daily help from Family and Friends it becomes very distressing that I can't get help to do this. I believe more help could be available for older and disabled as myself.

Yes it is ok !

An incentive scheme to encourage people to downsize freeing up under occupied properties.

I would like you take into consideration people who are generally struggling and have issues but you don't take seriously. Nobody has once ever been out to review my situation and the struggle I am up against to get in and out of my property on a second floor maisonette with young twins, it's truly shocking you don't seem to help the people who really need your help. However do help those who are waste of spaces!

I am pleased that the council has invested in new policies but I would like to reiterate the need for affordable housing for working individuals with a young family. I am a single, working mother and have been on the waiting list for nearly 10 years. It seems that there is less consideration for this type of parent to provide secure and affordable housing for their family. Renting is particularly expensive for single parents. I would suggest that, perhaps a visit to homes that the tenant considers is in a poor state of repair would be beneficial. My rented accommodation is damp, cold and has black mould but this has never been investigated. How will you determine is the home is such? I would be intetested to hear your response and the results of this survey. Kind regards (redacted)

Whilst it is necessary to control social housing, care must be taken not to penalise persons who cannot afford the majority of private rental properties available, or are in deteriorating properties i.e. caravans or similar circumstances.

Tenants who inhabit properties with more bedrooms than they need should be down sized. A household of 2 adults in a 3 bed house is disgraceful and blocking families who need that space. They should accept a smaller property despite their length of time in that house. Applicants should not be penalised for not applying for every property that comes up.....not all are suitable for schools, workplace or usual domicile.

people should be informed how many people is before them on the waiting list

As a private tenant paying extortionate rent which is taking almost half of my income I would like to see offers to those who can afford the council housing rates and who would respect the housing given to them instead of using it as just a given right and relying on their benefits to pay for said rent. Surely this would help bring more income to the council coffures.

people who were born in the new forest should get priority over outsiders

Given the scarcity of affordable housing in the district, the amount of housing benefit paid to those in private rented accommodation should also be reassessed as it is not in line with current rental prices.

Hard to let properties seen all the time, some repeatedly seen. Make more properties available for under 45's

I do fully appreciate there is a high demand of social/council housing, however I am a single mum with a son who lives in a 2 bedroom house that I can barely afford because although I work part time, the housing benefit allowance I am given barely leaves me with enough money to put food on my table. I do believe that people who are single parents, who are working and still struggling to provide for their family, should not be waiting 7 years for help.

I feel the proposed changes will adversely affect small villages where connections are paramount to village life

This will all definitely happ us

yes im on a hard to let property and i do think u should look at this as im band 2 even though im adequitly housed my medical needs have changed and i feel this should be looked at ten years is a long time i must be close to my family now im getting older and my health is bad now worse in fact

People who have been made redundant can find it very difficult there rent on universal credit

I understand the lack of social housing. I think it would be best placed to leave people as they are and put this in place for new applicants.

What about people that can't find suitable exchange but want to down size? Im sure there is more need of 3bedroom home also for bungalows you have to be 60 is that both or 1.

Being an older person I would like to stay in the village I'm in now as I've made a few friends over the years hear, but houses in this area are few and far between, I've been on the list for 7 years and have only seen ONE house come up in all that time for this village I do occasionally bid for other ones that are not far from hear when they come up, as you get older you don't make friends as easy so the few you've got you want to keep close, other wise you tend to isolate your self indoors, not good.

I feel these new proposed ideas will have a good effect on the housing needs/allocations scheme. I myself have been waiting 5 years in a small 2 bedroom house with 5 people living here at high property. I understand the housing demand is like non other but affording a 3 bed private rental isn't

an option myself and along side so many others so any changes to help decide who really has priority need at a moment in time when it's needed is essential. And any changes like the ones proposed I think will be seen as good/ necessary changes. As I have known someone to be rehoused from a 2 bed to a 3 bed when they didn't really need it at that moment of time eventually yes they would had done so but someone else in much more need could had benefited from the property. I understand the time scale is used for fairness but someone could be in a greater hardship from there current property to someone who has a longer time band so gets the available house, everyone's needs are different and they should be looking into this in much more detail when possible. Many thanks

I apply for all suitable properties that come up, although sometimes there aren't any suitable ones to bid for some months, but I would still like to remain on the new forest housing list, I'm from Hampshire originally, and 55 years old, living a long way from home, and I have also lived in the new forest, I would really appreciate it, if I could remain on the list, so I can eventually move back, closer to my family.

What happens to the people already on this list for a long time, as some people who have been waiting for years, under the new rules won't qualify to be on the waiting list. Will the changes not increase the homeless families?..

1. An applicant who is 70 years or older is likely to need support and attention from family or professionals for longer hours day and or night requiring that support provider to stay in the property during those long hours. It is therefore genuine to say that that support provider stays in the second bedroom. 2. It will be unfair for an applicant who has been on the housing register for 10 years or more to be superseded by someone who has been on the register for lesser number of years but has the same needs. I therefore suggest that the period that someone stays on the housing register should be an additional key need to the new ones proposed.

I feel that the whole band system is ineffective. I personally think a point based system would be more effective

Each child should have their own bedroom over 5 years old to grow and develop independently

Section C Financial assessment starting page 41. We feel this needs to be expanded on to give clear guidance on the financial qualifying criteria as it does not give any details or upper limits household income. Other Allocations policies are specific in this area to ensure consistency and guidance.

I feel the policy that just on average 10%/20% of social housing is offered to people in employment is sickening. This is not encouraging people to work hard in fact exactly the opposite. As I am sure there are many people on the waiting list who are genuinely unable to work likewise there is also a large percentage who simply don't want to work. I think priority should be given to those in work in every case over someone who is choosing not to work. With regards to rural housing I also feel the policy does not work. Example someone who lives in Totton with no local connection to Lyndhurst is not eligible to apply for housing in Lyndhurst. Yet someone who lives in Lyndhurst is eligible to apply for housing in both Totton and Lyndhurst yet they do not need a local connection to Totton. This is pure snobbery. I know many people who have been housed within villages in some cases 3/4 years quicker than the average wait for someone like myself under the current rules. I do not understand how this is a fair policy to give certain people a much greater chance of being housed than others, it simply is not fair. The current policy is not great but I had resigned with the fact that it could take my family 8 years to be housed. If the changes you are suggesting are brought in I do not think my family will ever get housed. This really is disappointing. For whoever is reading this, you are at work, paying tax's and working hard yet you are suggesting a policy that penalizes people like you and me and gives more to the members of society who take everything they can and will never give anything back.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the consultancy further in a public meeting.

I think that the Council need to realise that peoples circumstances change as they get older. When you are in full time employment and have a good income your quite likely to be happy to live in private rental accommodation. However, if your health deteriorates at the same time as your income reduces and your savings dwindle. I believe if you have been living in the area and paying council tax and your need is genuine everyone should have the same equal opportunity at receiving help from the council.

It is right that priority should be given to those in employment.

I think also you should look at the older generation that are in the 3 and 4 bed properties that no longer need them as their children have moved out. That would free up so many houses and also make living more affordable for them for heating etc in a smaller property.

It could be better for the disabled people especially wheelchair users to be allocated houses which meet their needs by the council and not made to bid considering disabled adapted houses are scarce.

I have not yet applied for housing because we have been managing up to date, but (redacted) have just raised our rent to £995/month which is going to be difficult for us. So unless we can earn more money, we may have to start applying to you soon.

This problem wouldn't be so acute if there was more affordable rental houses in the area. It wouldn't necessarily have to be the Council who provided them if landlords could be convinced to bring some of their rents down to a more affordable level. Also the Council could make it harder to own second homes in the area unless they were rented out to local people at affordable levels. When I say affordable I mean affordable to ordinary working people earning less than £40k per household. It's not right to throw people off the register if they haven't bid yet, even after a long time. People are on the register at the moment because they may be able to afford their rent now but know they won't be able to in a few years, yet they know they have to stay on the register or they'll lose their chance to bid for a home. It's not fair if a local person comes off the register then finds it impossible to ever get taken as a serious contender again. There will always be too many people on the list while not enough properties are being built.

Does the council truly follow the rules regarding housing allocations? Or is it the case of one's ability to pass the B&B test with school going kids? May be being a single parent should be boldly stated in these new guidelines. Some, for wanting of a place to lay one's head ought to be exchanged with a good family union (separation or divorce). Let's really examine these rules very well and the ways some applicants follow in order to be considered. Thank you.

What you don't appreciate is that despite the fact I have rented privately as a single parent for six years, it doesn't mean that I am supporting myself okay. My rent is 950 pounds a month and I have to work all the hours god sends to keep this up and I STILL fall into a little bit more debt every month. Where will it end? My car is falling apart and is 25 years old! My kids and I haven't been on holiday for years and years. Why should we have such a substandard quality of life! It's just not bloody fair!!!!

I am in a 2 bedroom ground floor flat which I had to move I to when I was having treatment for cancer. We now have 3 children and 2 adults living here. We lost our years on the housing list when we moved in here as we were told we couldn't have any more children, this wasn't the case and we now have 1 girl and 2 boys. We could be in this property for years to come through no fault of our own because it is all to do with how many years you have been on the list and not about how people may need extra bedrooms for their children. We pay full rent due to working but are in a property which is unfortunately too small for us. This needs to be addressed.

I think the local connection policy should be relaxed to house those in greatest need providing they have resided within the New Forest area over 5 years

I feel that's the housing list is very unfair . More people are joining each year from out of the area and us locals are just continually pushed to the bottom . I private rent and work hard but struggle to met the rent with no help . I've waited my turn of nearly ten years on the list to be told I maybe moving down a band . I feel assessments should be made on people who currently occupy councils houses to check if there are under occupieing and if there details are correct ie if there in couples and not declaring or giving false information . People should be moved to assist there needs .

People who have been on the register for a certain number of years aren't removed in this process Many houses that do come available are either the wrong size or location for many applicants so are never able to apply for propertys. The proposed changes will see alot more people making themselves homeless to get a council house as private rent is so expensive and many familys will be taken off the waiting list

I think that the council should do a survey of the number of occupants in council houses as I think that there are a lot of houses under occupied, i.e. 2 people in 4 bedroomed houses.

Removing time spent on the housing registrar is designed for the benefit of immigrants

People with mental health issues need help to apply for housing

although an applicant can be on the register for some considerable years, they may not necessarily be in real need. As an example an applicant applied for a 1 bedroom bungalow in January 2018. they had been on the register since 2008 and were subsequently offered the tenancy. however several other 1 bed bungalows were also vacant but it appears this applicant did not apply for any of those as the other applicants who were offered the property were registered in 2010 and 2012 for the same road

and priority band. So if the 2008 applicant was in such need of accommodation you would think they would have applied for lots of 1 bed bungalows that have become vacant as they would have been offered a property some years ago.

Age and ability related accommodation ie bungalows should be for whom they were built. Younger age can cope with stairs ie flats and then houses. Also when older people are under occupying a house because families have flown the nest rather than a possibility of paying a bedroom tax could they have a higher consideration to move.

Help those who work and need the housing rather than those that breed for property and choose not to work.

Having attempted to move to your area in June of last year in order to nurse at Lymington hospital my life has been ruined by your housing policy at that time. Being defrauded by a local landlady in Lymington, and fleeing domestic violence here in Yorks, I was left homeless but still in post with the NHS. When I contacted your offices I was advised I was not in need and that I should buy a tent!! As a result I was unable to fulfill my work contract and had to resign. Further to that I had no option but to return to further violence and intimidation. As a consequence 8 months later I am unemployed, my mental health and physical health have deteriorated significantly and am now, living in poverty, receiving support from Victim support and domestic violence counselling agencies. It is my belief that I would not be in this position if it wasn't for the gender discrimination I suffered by the actions of your council

None of the above addresses the underlying problem of not enough social housing!

I am personally living in a private rental at the moment receiving housing benefit for this. As things are things are ok and I feel I don't have the need that someone in a worse situation than I might have so rarely bid thinking I am doing the council and others a favour. However, as happened last year my landlord may put the house up for sale and I would be homeless so I would want to stay on the list so I feel I have an option.....if that makes sense!!

Due to shortage of bungalows for disabled households, the age requirement should be reviewed especially for those that require disabled accommodation but who are under 60 years old. This appears to be a particular problem in Ashley/New Milton. Surely housing need should be priority and not age.

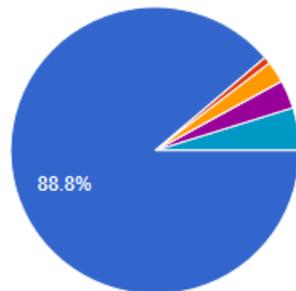
I'd like a clear outline of what it takes to progress. Eg I have a new bidding number but am adequately housed so it would make more sense not to issue a new bidding number if I am always going to be told I'm adequately housed.

none

- It should be clear that getting a council property is an option for those in need and if people want a specific type of home not based on their needs then they should look at private rent
- Some consideration needs to be looked at around clients preferred areas and staying close to family and their support network

### Are you?

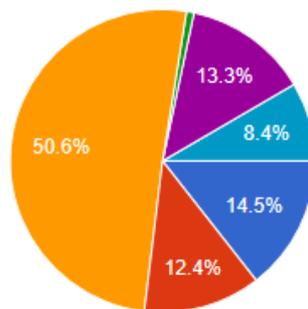
249 responses



- A Homesearch Applicant
- Elected member
- Replying on behalf of an Organisation
- Support Worker
- Not currently on the Homesearch register
- Other

### Are you?

249 responses



- A tenant of NFDC
- A tenant of another social housing landlord
- Private rented tenant
- Of no fixed abode
- Living with friends/family
- Other