

THE BANDING SCHEME

1 Exceptional Circumstances Band

1.1 This band is for applicants where exceptional circumstances have been identified, this would involve serious life-threatening situations; where there is an over-riding priority on medical or social grounds and in circumstances where it is necessary to enable someone to move to release a very desirable property.

1.2 Additional priority within this band is given, to members of the armed forces over other households within the same band and assessment date.

1.3 Definitions of Exceptional Circumstances

1.3.1 Applicants awaiting accessible or sheltered housing before they can be discharged from hospital.

1.3.2 Applicants whose household includes someone who has been assessed as having an exceptional need to move into an accessible property.

1.3.3 Applicants whose household includes someone with a serious life-threatening medical condition or care need, which is directly linked to unsuitable housing conditions.

1.3.4 Social Housing tenants who wish to move from disabled persons or mobility units which they no longer require.

1.3.5 Any case agreed by the Priority Housing Panel to have an exceptional need to move on welfare or hardship grounds.

2 High Band

2.1 The High Band is for those applicants with an urgent need to move, and have been assessed as high priority.

2.2 Additional priority within this band is given, to members of the armed forces over other households within the same band and assessment date.

2.3 Definitions of an urgent need to move

2.4.1 Social housing tenants who need to move because their home is about to be demolished, redeveloped or subject to major works.

2.4.2 Private Sector tenants living in unsatisfactory housing conditions, that the council's private sector housing team has identified as a serious risk to health and enforcement action is unable to resolve.

- 2.4.3 Gosport Borough Council tenants and tenants of Private Registered Providers within Gosport for whom urgent management transfers¹ have been approved. Such cases will be reviewed on a regular basis and priority will be time limited and may be restricted to certain property types and floor levels.
- 2.4.4 Vulnerable applicants who are ready to move on to independent living and have been nominated by their supported housing provider. This is subject to an agreed quota per year.
- 2.4.5 Applicants who have been assessed as having an urgent need to move to an accessible property.
- 2.4.5 Social Housing tenants who are under occupying a property and wish to move to a smaller property.
- 2.4.6 Applicants living in a Gosport Borough Council property or a Private Registered Provider property in Gosport who are entitled to succeed to a tenancy but cannot remain in their current home as the property is under occupied.
- 2.4.8 Applicants nominated by children's services² who wish to foster or adopt children and whose current accommodation is not large enough. Subject to an agreed quota per year
- 2.4.9 Applicants that are care leavers³ who have been assessed as ready to live independently and have the ability to manage a tenancy.
- 2.4.10 Applicants living in seriously overcrowded accommodation where they lack three or more bedrooms.
- 2.4.11 Applicants, whose household includes someone with a medical condition or a care need, which is directly linked to unsuitable housing conditions, and has been assessed as a high priority.
- 2.4.12 Social housing tenants either living within or outside the Gosport Borough Council local authority boundary, that need to move to be nearer their work, or to take up an offer of work, and where failure to move would cause hardship, and there are no suitable exchanges available.
- 2.4.13 Applicants where a main housing duty is owed under the homelessness legislation and no other housing option is available.
- 2.4.14 Households with dependent children, or vulnerable adults, who are threatened with homelessness and the homelessness cannot be prevented. All households must have a personal housing plan in place and be actively engaging with the plan.

¹ Management transfers are nominations from social landlords only, to resolve serious neighbourhood issues.

² Hampshire Children's Services only

³ Care leavers nominated by Hampshire Children's Services only

3 Medium Bands

- 3.1 This Medium Band is for applicants who have a significant housing need, and have been assessed as medium priority.
- 3.2 Additional priority within this band is given, to members of the armed forces over other households within the same band and assessment date.
- 3.4 Definitions of a significant housing need.**
- 3.4.1 Applicants whose household includes someone who has been assessed as needing to move to an accessible property, and has been assessed as a medium priority.
- 3.4.2 Applicants living in overcrowded accommodation where they lack two bedrooms.
- 3.4.3 Applicants whose household includes someone with a medical condition or a care need, which is directly linked to unsuitable housing conditions, and has been assessed as a medium priority.

4 Low Bands

- 4.1 This band is for applicants who have an identified housing need and have been assessed as having a low priority.
- 4.2 Additional priority within this band is given, to members of the armed forces over other households within the same band and assessment date.
- 4.3 Definitions of an identified housing need**
- 4.3.1 Applicants living in overcrowded accommodation where they lack one bedroom.
- 4.3.2 Applicants whose household includes anyone with a medical condition or a care need, which is directly linked to unsuitable housing conditions, and has been assessed as a low priority.
- 4.3.3 Homeless applicants who have been found intentionally homeless or no main housing duty is owed.
- 4.5.4 Applicants who are threatened with homelessness and the homelessness cannot be prevented. All applicants must have a personal housing plan in place and be actively engaging with the plan.
- 4.5.5 Applicants assessed as needing accessible housing but are currently adequately housed and living with their parents, but are wishing to live independently and no suitable properties to meet their needs are available in the private sector.

