



Key changes to the draft Housing Allocations Policy that might affect you

We've listed below a summary of the key changes proposed to Nottingham City Council Housing Allocations Policy.

You can see the full changes at www.nottinghamhomelink.org.uk/consultation

Bandings

Everyone on the housing register is put into a band. The band is your priority on the housing register, according to your circumstances.

Band A: Medical and urgent management grounds

Band B: Homeless households, overcrowding and hostel residents

Band C: Singles and couples in shared accommodation

Band D: Over 55s accommodation (Housing Associations may lower the age threshold)

Victoria Centre Housing Register: Singles and couples in employment, training or in receipt of Personal Independence Payment (PiP)

Former homeless applicants in a Private Rented Sector Tenancy

It is proposed this category (Band B – category 2), that has been in place since 2020, be removed from the housing register to effectively manage the housing register and applicant expectations. Due to the high demand for social housing, no applicants that have been in this band have secured a home from this category.

Former homeless applicants as a result of domestic abuse in a private rented sector tenancy

It is proposed this category (Band B – category 3), that has been in place since 2020, be removed from the housing register to effectively manage the housing register and applicant expectations. Due to the high demand for social housing, no applicants that have been in this band have secured a home from this category.

Families bidding on flats and maisonettes

Nottingham City Council has high demand for social housing and waiting times for houses that can easily exceed three years. Given the high waiting times and the number of households in temporary accommodation, it is only fair that all housing options are open to applicants, like they are in the private rented sector or any other tenure.

It is proposed therefore that families will now have the opportunity to bid on one bed flats with a study and two bed flats and maisonettes.

Local Area Preference

The current policy allows applicants, who can evidence they have a housing need to stay in a particular area of the city, an additional waiting time of 12 months within their respective band.

It is proposed this be removed and an additional waiting time of 12 months will be given to households who have approached [Housing Solutions](#) and been statutorily assessed by them



as homeless, but have worked with the [Housing Solutions](#) to sustain their existing accommodation temporarily.

For example, an applicant may be lodging with friends or relatives and has been asked to leave the accommodation. Following negotiations, should that applicant be able to stay at the accommodation temporarily, all housing options will be explored to find accommodation alongside a waiting time award of 12 months.

Families living in high-rise or low-rise flats with no access to a private garden

Families living in high-rise or low-rise flats will no longer be given the opportunity to join the housing register to bid for a house. This decision will not stop applicants with a medical need, those overcrowded or those with another defined housing need, according to the Housing Allocations Policy, from applying to join the housing register.

Victoria Centre Housing Register

It is proposed to close the Victoria Centre housing register and applicants will be removed from the housing register. Properties that come available at the Victoria Centre will be allocated to households from the general housing register.