

| Allocation Policy Section | Suggested Change | Reason for Change |
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| Suggested Change 5.10 Medical Assessments | <p>To give the Council additional discretion around properties that it believes are not suitable for applicants because of medical reasons.</p> <p><i>If the Council has evidence or has witnessed that the property is unsuitable for medical reasons, the offer of the property will be withdrawn. This includes offers that are unreasonable for the reasons of health and safety, such as those in an Independent Living where the only method of escape is by using a lift.</i></p> | <p>To ensure that applicants are not placed in accommodation which they may struggle to leave in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>Circumstances like this have been identified as of concern by the Health and Safety and Independent Living sections.</p> |
| Suggested Change 5.11 Banding | <p>To enable applicants that have multiple reasons within the same band to be prioritised over those who only have one. These factors must be independent from each other.</p> <p><i>If an applicant's circumstances reflect more than one of the situations in the same band, the situation in the highest band will be used. No additional priority is given if circumstances reflect more than one situation. However, if an applicant's circumstances reflect two distinctly different characteristics in the band, that have no relation or impact to each other, the applicant will be awarded one band</i></p> | <p>Applicants that for example could not climb stairs and were overcrowded severely would previously not be prioritised over an applicant that had just one of these factors in their household.</p> <p>The change is intended to make the scheme fairer.</p> |

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| | <i>higher.</i> | |
| Suggested Change 5.11 Banding | <p>The Independent Living Stock Options process has brought about some necessary changes to assist applicants. Within Band 1, the following will apply</p> <p><i>Applicants who are affected by a scheme that is being de-designated and wish to be rehoused in Independent Living accommodation and the current accommodation is being demolished or re-purposed for a purpose that is no longer permanent social housing accommodation.</i></p> | To enable applicants affected by the policy change to be moved more quickly and be eligible for high banding through the Homesearch scheme |
| Suggested Change 5.11 Banding | <p>The Independent Living Stock Options process has brought about some necessary changes to assist applicants. Within Band 2, the following will apply</p> <p><i>Applicants who are affected by a scheme that is being de-designated and wish to be rehoused in Independent Living accommodation, but the current accommodation is remaining as permanent tenanted accommodation.</i></p> | To enable applicants affected by the policy change to be moved more quickly and be eligible for high banding through the Homesearch scheme |
| Suggested Change 5.11 Banding | <p>More flexibility for applicants who may soon be homeless within Band 3.</p> <p><i>The banding will also be awarded to those applicants who are classed as part of “early interventions” within the homelessness process. This applies when an applicant is</i></p> | Currently, they may only be Band 4 if the approach the Council and are not threatened with homelessness in 56 days, but are likely to become homeless. Applicants with these circumstances will now be awarded Band 3. |

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| | <i>not threatened with homelessness within 56 days but is likely to be threatened with homelessness in the near future.</i> | |
| Suggested Change 5.19 Direct Allocations | <p>Change to the suggested application of direct allocations</p> <p><i>Property Acquisitions – in exceptional circumstances a property may be acquired to meet the need of an applicant on the waiting list for whom the Council does not currently own a suitable property or a suitable property is unlikely to become available through the homeseach scheme. In this circumstance approval for a direct let of the property will be approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of the Housing Committee at the point of final approval to purchase.</i></p> | This reflects the changes agreed in the Housing Acquisitions Policy approved by the Housing Committee. |
| Suggested Change 5.23 Review of Urgent Applications | <p>Suggested change to application review clause to clarify that applicants must be bidding on suitable accommodation</p> <p><i>If an applicant is not placed a bid for 12 weeks and suitable properties have become available for them to bid on within that time, the application will be reviewed to see if further intervention for the team is necessary to assist or whether a review of the banding is appropriate.</i></p> | To ensure and clarity for applicants that those are seen as urgent, in bands 1 and 2, are bidding on suitable properties, as their circumstances have been assessed as urgent |