

DOUGLAS BOROUGH COUNCIL

**DRAFT RESPONSES TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON AMENDMENTS TO ACCESS
AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR GENERAL NEEDS PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING**

Question 1: Do you think there should be a local residency requirement for joining a particular Housing Waiting List?

Response: Yes.

Question 2: Do you support the reduction of the local residency requirement for joining a Housing Waiting List from 5 to 3 years?

Response: No.

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the revised maximum income limits for access to public sector housing?

Response: No comment other than the observation that the maximum income limit for a single person, £30,000, seems high.

Question 4: Do you have any comments on the reduction of allowable savings and assets from £50,000 to £30,000.

Response: No.

Question 5: Do you have any comments on property ownership and access to public sector housing?

Response: No.

Question 6: Do you think that points for time on list should be capped at 20 (equivalent to 5 years) in line with existing sheltered housing criteria?

Response: There should be no cap.

Question 7: Do you think that extra points should be awarded to people who were born in the Island?

Response: An additional five points should be awarded for people born in the Island. Members did however recognise that equality legislation may affect the provision in future.

Question 8: Do you have any comment on the pointing arrangements for residency?

Response: No.

Question 9: Do you think it is appropriate that families with younger children are given priority over families with older and adult children?

Response: Yes.

Question 10: Do you think that points should be awarded for every child in full time residence in the household rather than capping those points at a maximum of three children as is currently the case?

Response: The cap at three children should remain.

Question 11: Please add any comments regarding revised gross income thresholds

Response: None.

Question 12: Do you think that applicants who have £15,000 or more available to them in financial/property assets should be given lower priority on the housing Waiting List than applicants in similar circumstances who do not have these funds?

Yes, the proposed tapered points deduction is reasonable.

Question 13: Do you think it appropriate to increase the award of points to make health and welfare housing need high priority?

Response: Yes.

Question 14: Do you think that the amendments to the Notice to Quit points are appropriate?

Response: Yes.

Question 15: Do you think that it is appropriate to give additional priority to applicants who have been renting in the private rental sector for at least a year?

Response: No.

If you have any further comments on Question 15 you may provide them:

Response: None.