OVERVIEW HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY



5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These principles should guide all stages of the implementation and processes of the steps to home ownership.

Fairness

Allocation of units will be determined solely on the extent to which the criteria have been met and therefore will be free from discrimination

Example in process: Work with support, community and advocacy groups to help individuals with application process. E.g. those with limited English skills

Transparency

Applicants will receive feedback on their application. It will be clear in the process which level of personnel are making decisions throughout

Example in process: If and when any part of the process changes, to make every effort to ensure all applicants are made aware of this change and reasons for the change.

Simplicity

The ability to demonstrate the meeting of the allocation criteria will be made as simple as possible.

Example in process: Benchmark our application process against others to ensure it is as succinct and simple as possible

Legality

Allocations made in accordance with the Disability and Discriminations Act & the Race Equality Act. Process adheres to GDPR 2018. Financial transactions and services offered in accordance with FCA.

Example in process: Seek support and guidance from legal experts on the policy and the more detailed process when documented.

Scalability

The policy and applications process must be such that it can be applied to a large number of applicants and can be replicated on various London CLT sites.

Example in process: Ensure resource is in place to implement the policy

5 STEPS TO HOME OWNERSHIP

These steps have been developed using the guiding principles to ensure that London CLT homes are allocated in a fair way that alligns with the values of London CLT.

5 CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION

A set of criteria determined by the community for allocating homes.

Information provided here is based on results of a survey completed by London CLT members in 2017/18 prior to allocating London CLT first homes

Criteria Weighting % by section

Scoring Summary by section

Membership

STEP 1 - Become a London CLT member

This shows support for London CLT and involvement in the process.

Eligibility Test

STEP 2 - Pass an eligibility test

This is a pre cursor to the formal application. By being transparent about what will be expected in the next steps and also using a simple format, the eligibility test aims to save people time when considering whether to apply for a London CLT

Online Assessment

STEP 3 - Complete a form-based assessment

This step ensures all key criteria are met (as determined in the criteria for allocation).

Each application will be scored according to how well they meet the criteria.

Evidence of criteria will be requested at this stage. E.g. Proof of living conditions.

Interview

STEP 4 - Attend a meeting with an independent panel

The panel includes board members and third party reps.

Top scoring applicants will be invited for an interview to verify their application.

The number of applications invited for an interview will match actual housing availability

Offer & Sale

STEP 5 - Receive offer and proceed with sale

Preferences matched as fairly as possible. E.g. Disabled and access requirements prioritised over 'nice to have' requests

Undertake training on responsible home ownership

Terms signed, external advisors engaged to complete sale

Housing Need

Key Criteria: More suitable (than current) accommodation required

Summary: Questions determine need based on current situation inc. overcrowding, lack of privacy, affordability, distance from community, impact on disability, security and other.

Example Question: How does the size of your current home impact you?

Connection

Key Criteria: Minimum of five years' connection to **Lewisham**.

Summary: Questions determine connection based on whether they are a resident, cumulative time lived in area, connection to area through family, work, community group etc to the area.

Example Question: State the length of your residency in the area.

3 Questions // 15 points

Finance

Key Criteria: Priced out of the open and intermediate housing market and able to afford a London CLT home.

Summary: Questions determine both financial need and eligibility from income to saving and debt status.

Example Question: State your regular monthly income.

Involvement

Key Criteria: Belonging to and participation in the local community

Summary: Question determines applicant's past, present and future involvement in the community (excluding London CLT involvement).

Example Question: Describe how you are linked to the local community. (Past, Present & Future)

Supportive

Key Criteria: Supportive of London CLT

Summary: Questions determine if the applicants values align with London CLT's.

Example Question: How important is providing affordable housing to buy in London? (choose between very important and not important at all)

30%

7 Questions // 35 points

25%

7 Questions // 15 points

20%

1 Question // 20 points

15%

10%

3 Questions // 20 points