# Priority Assessment

Homes are allocated on a waiting list. Those who have the earliest date are allocated first.

Applications are assessed by date of application and time is added depending on the customer’s priority.

Only one additional date enhancement will be awarded which will be based on the applicant’s highest level of need.

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| **2 years added**   * Statutory homeless; * Under occupation; * Overcrowding (2+bedrooms); * Regeneration; * Life at risk - serious anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, hate crime (supported by Police); * High medical1; * Armed Forces2.   1 reasonable offer before having one year removed, then two offers remain in the 1 year added category | **1 year added**   * Unsatisfactory housing conditions3; * Welfare / hardship4; * Overcrowding (1 bedroom); * Relationship breakdown5; * Low paid work / voluntary work / higher education / employment related training within L19, L24, L256; * Medical7; * Low level nuisance8. |
| **6 months added**   * Local connection within L19, L24, L25; * Good previous tenancy behaviour. | **Date of application**   * No assessed need. |

**Example – application date 1st January 2014**

**If the customer is considered homeless – application date becomes 1st January 2012**

**If the customer is considered to have a disability – application date becomes 1st January 2013**

**If the customer lives in the immediate local area – application date becomes 1st July 2013**

**Priority Assessment Key**

1 - This includes life threatening illness or sudden disability.

2 - Priority given where application is made within five years of discharge from Armed Forces. Priority also provided to bereaved partners of members of the Armed Forces leaving Services Family Accommodation following the death of their partner. Also includes serving or former Armed Forces Members moving because of a serious injury, medical condition sustained through service.

3 - Examples include lacking bathroom, kitchen or inside toilet facilities, lack of adequate heating, hot water, electricity, shared facilities, disrepair, children living in flats above ground floor.

4 -Welfare includes care leavers requiring a secure base, those that require care or support. This would include foster carers, those approved to adopt or being assessed for adoption. It also includes those that have taken on care of a child where evidence shows the child is with the applicant on a full time basis. Hardship includes those that need to move to receive care, to access specialised medical treatment or to take up employment, education or training opportunity. Hardship also includes owner occupiers who are subject to pending repossession (proof of sale will be required and equity levels reviewed).

5 – Where no other tenancy is held.

6 - Employment related training must be for a period of 6 months or longer. Voluntary work does not include those that are volunteering for involvement or Board Membership with SLH.

7 - Includes people who need to move because of their disability or access needs supported by an Occupational Therapist or Doctor through a written recommendation (physical and learning disability).

8 – Low level nuisance includes those wanting to move due to being a victim of nuisance or anti-social behaviour which is not life at risk and which is supported by evidence from other agencies.

## Bedroom standard

SLH has adopted the Government’s bedroom standard to minimise the impact of the under occupancy rule on new applicants:

* Children of both sexes under 10 are expected to share a bedroom. If they currently do not share and they remain in separate rooms, one of their rooms will be considered as a spare bedroom.
* Children of the same gender under 16 are expected to share a bedroom.
* Couples and adults are entitled to have bedrooms of their own.
* If a bedroom (with or without furniture) is kept free for when a child comes to stay with a parent that they do not normally live with, this room will be considered as a spare bedroom.
* Only one parent, even where they share access to the child, can claim full occupancy for those children.

SLH will consider under occupying homes to applicants who are working and are able to meet the full rent.