

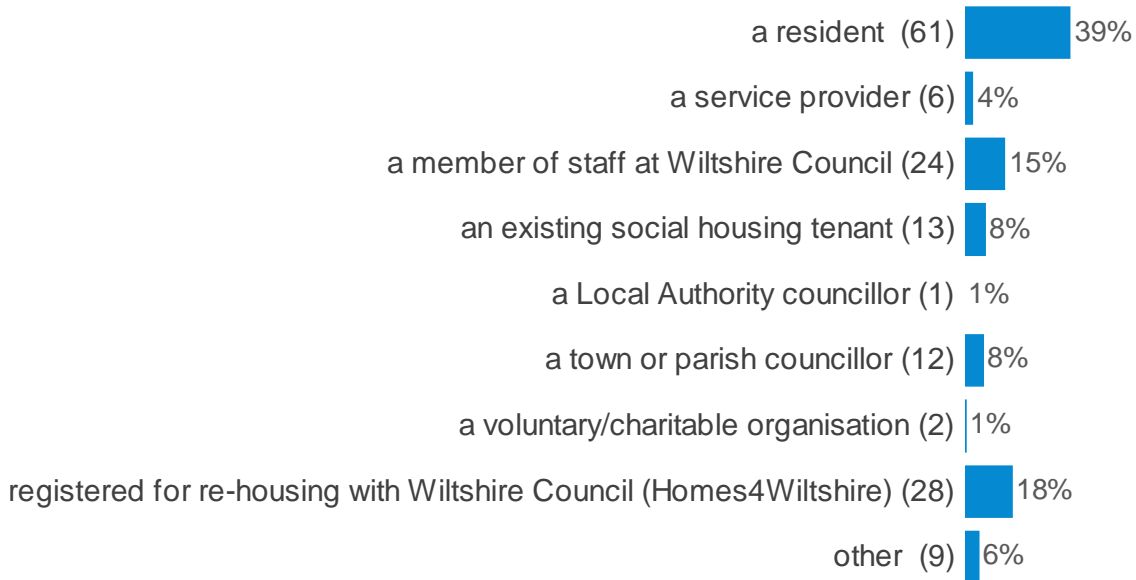
Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

# Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

This report was generated on 13/03/17. Overall 157 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

**Please tick the box that best describes you.I am responding to this questionnaire as:**



**(If other please specify)**

- Wilts resident
- Parish Clerk
- Private rented sector
- Parent carer
- Clerk to Parish Council
- Sofa surfing
- Wiltshire resident responding on behalf of elderly relative wanting to move into the area as i'm NOK
- Prospective Councillor

**If you are responding on the behalf of a service provider, please give the name of the provider below: ( )**

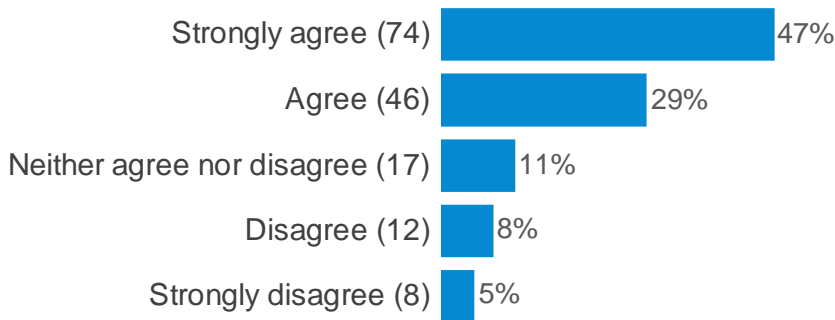
- GreenSquare
- Rethink
- Breakthrough Trowbridge Day centre.
- A2dominion Housing Group

Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**If you are responding on the behalf of an organisation, please give the name of the organisation below: ( )**

Alabare  
Golden lane housing

**Do you agree that the connection criteria requiring the applicants themselves to have lived in the Wiltshire Council area for 2 years should remain as it is unless amended by the government?**



**(If you disagree why is this?)**

- Someone's need does not necessarily depend on where they have lived recently.
- The 'local homes for local people' feels antiquated. Take on the board the Localism Act gives powers to do this, but I don't think this needs to be applied to the nth degree.
- I think if people have had t move from an area to receive supported housing 2 years is too long to have to stay.If they are ready to move on.
- surely people who have lived in an area all their lives should have more chance of becoming a resident than someone who moved in to the area two years ago irrespective of disability or age
- May cause issues with work
- Victims of domestic violence may have fled from another area to Wiltshire.
- Under some circumstances there are times when people are forced to move out of the area that means they should be able to be housed .
- Read this several times and cannot understand thought it was 5 years not 2
- This could debar potential residents from living close to relatives who may wish to care for them, e.g., the elderly
- too vague
- Better things to spend money on
- Dependent people, such as older or disabled people often need to move to be closer to carers, and vice versa. Enabling family caring reduces the burden on WC services rather than increases them.
- If past connection to the area could be taken into account then i agree. My mother moved to Wiltshire in the 1970s and i was born in Marlborough. Over the last 42 years my mother has worked in Salisbury as a nurse, sheltered housing officer, Devizes as a nurse but this dosen't count and i'm NOK!
- If applicants' families have moved to Wiltshire within more than two year's ago then the applicants should be allowed to live near their relatives in Wiltshire.
- It should be longer 3 years

Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**(If you disagree why is this?)**

It is often difficult for someone to provide the documents that are currently required to confirm local connection. There are other more important tasks for Council staff to carry out than checking and rechecking if the appropriate documents have been produced.

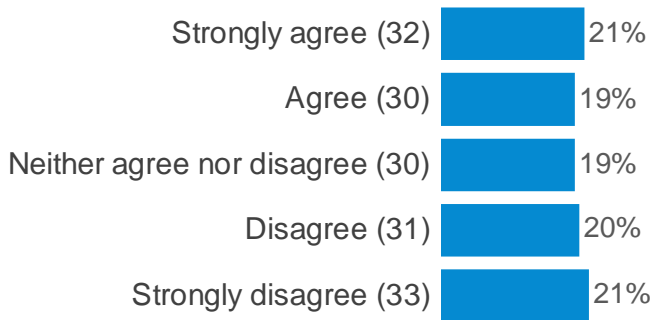
there should be a longer standing connection

The applicants may have family in the area which should be taken into account for allocation.

Wiltshire's policy states the connection must be for the past 2 years which effectively bars Offenders in prison for this period even if they have previously lived in Wilts all their lives. If there is an intention to deal with Offenders under some other provision this is not clearly stated.

It seems reasonable for people to be able to return to rejoin their families.

**Do you agree that we should remove the following connection criteria – applicants who have close family (grand-parents, parents, legal guardian, adult children or brothers and sisters) who have continuously lived in the Council's area for 5 years or longer? NB Please note that this does not affect those who need to move to or within Wiltshire Council’s area to give or receive support which cannot be provided by other means.**



**(If you disagree why is this?)**

it will limit down options for applicants homeless.

Wilts need to be more efficient. To recruit additional staff to adminster this policy would be a waste of tax payers money. There needs to be some flexibility within this policy and this is an ideal place to do this.

If someone has been born and bred in the area then they should always be put before others who have moved into an area in their adults years , again irrespective of disability or age

I need to be in Wilton with my family as I have mental health problems how would I get to where I need if I don't have any connection

Family support is valuable in some family members well being.

This can devide family's and cause lots of upset and distrssinhb

Keeping families together means applicants with children would have access to childcare so they could work

people need to live near their family conne ctions for well being and also for family support

Someone may have had to move out of the area for work, then want to return.

Family matters and if care of the elderly is important then close family units are important

provision of family care

Parents that need to be closed to there Adult Children need this Local Connection.

## Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**(If you disagree why is this?)**

Because we feel it is vital that close family stay near to support older family members and may not have suitable resources to live independently.

Whould there be any merit in terms of staff rescourses to reduce the time period?

Same reasons as above

The local connection allows committees to grow and thrive

Because people need to access private renting if they wish to move to an area as the first option people who do want to stay local to family have their chances reduced if anyone can move to area . This is especially important in rural areas

Family connections and close proximity are the backbone of the english way of life,to put somebody in an area where they do not know anyone is potentially terrifying

Familiar support networks are essential for physical/emotional wellbeing including mental health and may, for example, offer support for those wanting to get back to work, particularly for single parents. Close family connections should be encouraged and may help reduce costs to other services?

To help families local to area

Do we live in the 21st century with the same mind set as the 19th century with a poor law ??

There has to be a criteria. It was the one that allowed me to come back to the area and support and care for my Mum. the competetion for housing was tougn enough 7 years ago. Remocing ti would just open it up to anyone and be more open to fraud.

For rural areas it is very important that young adults can live near their families and are not pushed out of communities due to a lack of housing.

i thank the connection criteria should remain so that local families have the oppportunity of living in sustainable communities that extended family will give them. I

it is reasonable

Families need to be near

Should keep family links going, family can give support when needed

see above

Houses for local people

I think that sometimes you may nerd help from close family

Priority should be given to those who have connections with the area over people who have none at all or who have never lived locally

You need a benchmark.

this is no distinction for criteria in your policy for general housing and older people's requirements so by keeping this in you exclude my mother from moving nearer to me as NOK because we have moved back to the area and under 5 years so you need to rethink this

family nearby can help with additional support

Drop the residence criteria from 5 years to 2 years.

So local people can stay near family and lively hood

In rural areas priority must be given to those with a local connection

This is y I want to live here

Priority should be given to housing local people.

Applicants who have strong family ties in Wiltshire should have priority consideration

It is a support network.

It is the individual person who wishes to live in Wiltshire. Where his family lives should not be relevant.

Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

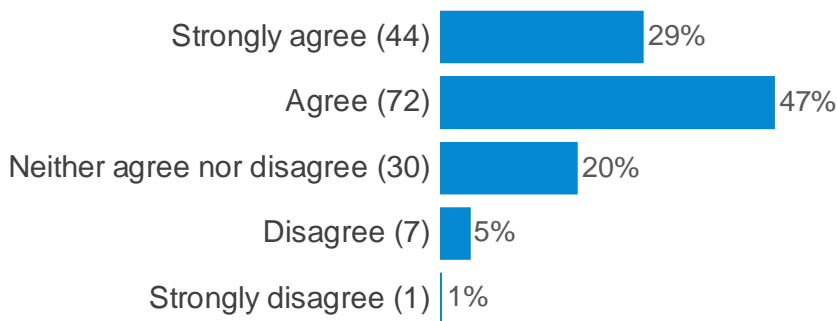
**(If you disagree why is this?)**

Familial connection creates community, allows family support and recognises the importance of belonging to a locality.

This is the single most important criteria for connection. Applicants can simply be asked to specify which family member has been resident and in the vast majority of cases, this can be verified through electoral roll or other easy research.

Family members should be supported to be able to live closer to each other

**Do you agree that due to the Council’s corporate parenting responsibility towards care leavers we should include additional criteria in Band 1, to ensure that they are provided with additional priority for re- housing?**



**(If you disagree why is this?)**

We should work with people in care to support them into independent living- our aspirations for our young people should be more than getting them on the Housing list.

not sure what you mean--extra points for ex-military personnel or for those providing care for them

The system is not currently fair

I think this could be included under the social care criteria in band 2

Do not understand the question

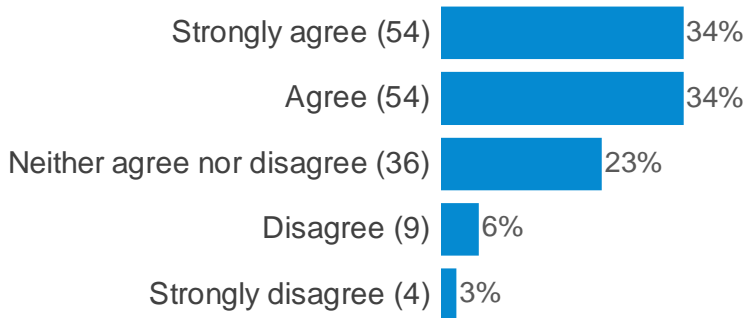
Those eligible should be treated the same

They should be looked at individually and given the same priority as someone needing to move out of their parental home.

because those that are in serverley over crowded properties get passed over for better accommodation.

Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**Do you agree that we should include additional criteria for injured current or former service personnel and their families who cannot meet their own housing need in Band 2 to reinforce our commitment to the Armed Forces?**



**(If you disagree why is this?)**

All people with disabilities should be able to access the support they need. I don't think priorities based on how people become disabled are fair.

The MOD should look after its personnel who have served their country and the housing should be better than that which the local authority provides

Army houses are being built faster than social housing

For service that has been cut short due to serious/life changing injury, potentially? However it should be down to the MOD to provide or highly subsidise their housing needs.

With the numbers of military personnel moving into Wiltshire as part of army rebasing, I am concerned that their needs would be prioritised over those with a stronger local connection.

I believe that the forces should do their best to provide their ex military housing

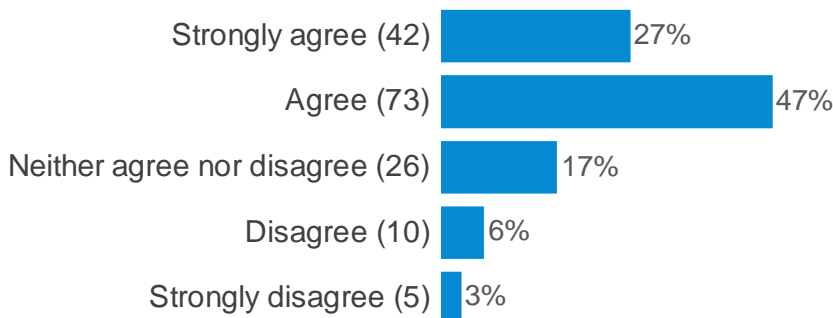
Central Government should provide housing for former service personnel.

I feel the military should bear this burden not local residents

The government and local govt should be investing in affordable rented accommodation to meet demand

Injured yes. Former no. Having left the forces they should be treated like any other person. If they have a genuine homeless need, they would already be a priority.

**Do you agree that applicants with an urgent medical need to move should be awarded Band 2 status and those whose medical need is an emergency remain in Band 1?**



Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**(If you disagree why is this?)**

This is creating more layers and more grey areas.

Depending on how or who decides between urgent and emergency

I think if you have a medical need you should all be treated the same maybe in there own banding

Banding should relate to individuals needs. Talking to them might be the way to find out their needs

Some people are moving to Wiltshire to get NHS medical care that other CCGs do not fund.

unclear again-please show link to bands and their criteria and explain more precisely what medical c

It should remain as Band 1

emergency and urgent medical needs should both be Band 1 priority

How do you determine whether someones medical need is urgent or emergency.....its relative?

Any urgent medical need should be band 1 it's urgent for a reason!

if this is introduced, we must have very clear guidelines for all medical bandings, due to appeals

However, this is related to your own interpretatio, as my daughter has a medical need to be rehoused

GPs should be given an option to request help for those with emergency medical need.

Urgent cases can be as important as emergency therefore should have as high priority

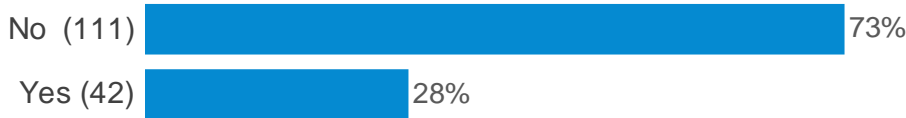
There should be no need, the housing stock should be there

Without knowing the real difference it makes no difference.

Insufficient space to explain reasons.

How is it judged as to what is an emergency & what is not? Who makes the judgement?

**Are there any other groups that are not already covered in the Policy that should be awarded additional preference? ()**



**If you said yes which groups?**

Greater priority for the working poor, who aren't really catered for in this policy.

Special needs

The rules for persons who suffer anxiety, agrophobia with long term Dr's evidence and types of medication and how long on them, someone trying to use this to que jump the against genuine ppl who have been on Medstead and under Dr's for years

Those who are assessed as being in accommodation that is unaffordable to them, should have the option to go on the Housing Register under Hardship band 3

Mentally ill who need support from family and the community

Better help for people with mental health

The elderly should be treated with care and respect.

If the bread winner of a family with a wife and two children works in a village is born in a village and his or her children go to school in that same village but the family has insufficient income or capital to buy a house then they should automatically qualify for the first available council house

Victims of domestic violence

## Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**If you said yes which groups?**

people who have maintained property and not defaulted at all on rents should be given priority, also the right to view a property when downsizing without being penalised if they do not accept the offer as often the new property will not accomodate hard earned fittings.

Older people with health issues ie, people well into their 60's who will no longer be able to afford private rental as their work needs to be cut down ie lower wages

Learning disability groups. They are happy to share generally so doesnt take up seperate property

People who have a housing need. Full stop given more help with the costs of moving is removals and a cash deposit generally be helped more

Local families

Parents of children with additional needs and families with multiple areas of concern

Diabetic teenagers

Families Young children living above 1st floor

Medical disabilities, for safety for a child's' welfare

Learning disability/autism

Those who are slightly disabled due to previous physical injury and who have local connections but have to live at home because there is no housing.

Moving for school or work

People who live in mouldy flats which greensqaure has admitted. It is rising damp.

Current residents who live in properties that are no longer suitable for their medical needs, e.g., mobility or dowstairs bathroom & bedroom

Those who are getting illnesses due to age and jobs who still have to work but find it diffecult to live in thier present homes

families that are classed as homeless with a home should not be seen as not in need ie adults and 2 or more children sharing 1 bedroom are currently placed in band 4 with people who have 1 child but they have a higher need.

Domestic abuse victims and prison leavers and additional vulnerable needs such as mental health

Mental health

Young working people who can contribute to the local economy

Carers moving into houses with people who need care should have priority

Single mothers. (Myself) who are already in accommodation yet the rent exceeds the housing benefit. I know 4 people in Wiltshire. My parents and my sister and husband. Yet I'm at the bottom group for affordable housing and I'm being forced to bid on properties 40+ miles away. I feel isolated.

Working Homeless professionals

your policy does not include in their own right older people for retirement housing, you include them in the general housing criteria which i think is wrong as they have their own needs

Unless covered elsewhere, people with learning difficulties etc.

medical and emergency staff who have worked in Wiltshire for a period of five years or more

I need reminding of the groups that are included.

Single adults living in supported housing who need to move on before 2 years when their funding for supported housing will end. When able to move on in the hope being able to maintain an independent tenancy, the shortage of available housing is very distressing for them.

the over crowded family's should be put into separate category i.e crowded and severely crowded, family's with teenagers and younger siblings of opposite sex share the same room,

members of the armed forces who make the application more than five years after discharge

Low income families with no chance of affording a larger private rented property



## Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**Do you have any other comments to make about the revised Allocations Policy?****If you said yes what would you like to comment on?**

lettings of bungalow that are genral need properties need to age limited. Rent arrear payment plans need to be proportionate. If someone has been evicted with high level arrears £1500 plus paying 6 month worth of minimal payment is not sufficient, it should be half the debt before they are entitled

Local Cllrs need to look outside of Wiltshire. This is too inward focussed - lose some of the local connection rigidness which may be preventing new homes from being built. Think about the longer term and future generations.

The only people who should be prioritised on allocations listing should be Ex Armed Forces wounded or not / Elderley with more than a single connetion to the area / Disabled with more than a single connection to the area / and Young Adults leaving the Care System /

It is good to see that the LC criteria has not been increased to 4 years as this will have a detrimental impact on Housing Options and homelessness.

Local families who have lived in a town,village etc over 100 years should always take priority.

I feel that it may be worth considering affording Band 1 Priority where there would be additional financila costs to the council in terms of expenditure on care provision or adaptatons to their home should they remain where they currently reside.

I have been in band 3 for almost a year I get to number 2 most weeks in the area I need but I never get an offer this I think is unfair that if you get this close to the top more than once or twice you should've been next in line instead of others coming before .

I think the band for over crowding should be moved up as this is a very hard situation to be in especially in my case where I have 3 children sharing not a big room ages 2 6 15 this has a big impact on my daughters learning

yes should b e encouraged to remain close to support and give general well being and pensioners cannot afford to maintain a car to trvel to meet up with their family.

you need to explain everything more clearly and precisely when conducting a survey. This is too wordy and loses meaning/significance.

Employ more staff. Cut the salaries of the Heads of Service.

if reviewing a need to move consider all paperworks given in, ours was dismissed tho asked for by a Wiltshire council worker, due to gemma's back we do need to get out of the 2nd floor flat and be moved to westbury where we can get family support with our daughter.

re OMR-seems to be same as old Bronze banding, each appl should be looked at to see if they can afford OMR or apply for hard to let etc - no point in them being on OMR if no income

I want you to read use on the bedroom use

Why is it that my sister is in a 2 bedroom property with 3 children one Who is 14 and suffers with type 1 diabetic and need her own space has been told she will never get moved. The whole housing system is a joke

if there are areas in england and Wales who are looking for affordable homes and who are not working May they be allowed to be rehomed in other counties other than their original county

You have mentioned banding 1 and 2 for medical reasons, however you do not adhere to this, as my daughter is in very need of your definition and you still put her in Banding 3, as you preseve her needs to not be of great concern and everyday 24/7 we have to keep an adult with her for fear of injury.

## Views on new Housing Allocations Policies

**If you said yes what would you like to comment on?**

Adults with learning disability and autism have had their needs ignored and the needs of families supporting them. Vulnerable but ignored group.

There needs to be a robust allocation system. So much could be done to release homes by taking a robust system. Also needs under usage, absent tenants, anti social behaviour that continually breaks their tenancy. Leading to health issues and more requests for a move

I don't see why houses people are not considered. They will be freeing up a property so should be able to be listed and await moving

Greensquare should look into its current tenets and get them out of mouldy flats residents should NOT have to live in the extremely mouldy flats in dogridge. I am with greensquare and have lived in this extremely mouldy flat for nearly 5 years you should be moving us out to sort the rising damp.

As someone who has given up their own home to care for their elderly parent people like me should be better taken into consideration on housing when that parent dies

It says that siblings of different sex between 10 and 15 years only need 1 bedroom? How can you expect a 15 year old boy to share with his 13 year old sister. I find that very very unfair.

The policy needs simplifying, it is far too complicated to see where you stand with the policy, being a member of the public needing to use the service

I understand that EU policy dictates many of the 'group' included, this will presumably change following Brexit if you wish. I feel that the policy to give local people precedence is essential.

People with mental health needs often do not appear as an emergency however their chronic conditions often warrant priority banding

Consider the fact some people at the bottom of the pile have feelings. I'm bidding on places I wouldn't want to live by choice miles away from anyone I know, I'm bidding because I'm desperate and not one property has appeared close to my town. Yet 100 of houses are being built.

Single working men need priority as well

I just think that you should take into consideration with regard to the elderly a different criteria for them wanting to retire back to the area especially if people have had a previous connection and if their next of kin lives already in the area. It is wrong to include them under general housing.

Why are you housing young families and single men with full time employment in bungalows built for the elderly.

Quite clearly, additional staff are required in the North area where the highest number of social housing tenants wish and need to live. It would also seem that staff without Officer expertise are the main point of contact.

With the cessation of Housing Benefit for young people it is likely to result in more homeless young people living on the streets. There needs to be recognition of this and plans made at county level to cope with that scenario.

I think that many residents are not aware of the proposal to remove familial links from the policy. This was highlighted as a significant part of the policy when it was first introduced. I think the proposed change should be much more widely publicised and consulted on.

Disable Families (Adult & Children) with medical problems should be awarded band 2 not band 3. I was awarded band 3 which is unfair because I am mentally & physically disabled and my two children are also disabled. Also I am getting harassed in my area. Also I am suffering from lung cancer.

It's a good document overall

Please re-evaluate the maximum occupancy policy i.e. Two children with a 4 year or over age gap regardless of gender a child should NOT be classed as "half " a person