

# Draft Housing Allocations Policy

## List of survey questions

Please use these questions to assist you in putting together your responses. This could be to support group feedback, discussion groups or to help you plan your response as an individual.

Please note that when completing an online survey, there may be routing applied to the survey which may mean that you are not asked all the questions that are visible here.

The questions asked in the survey include:

### Your comments on proposed changes relating to qualification and disqualification from the housing register

This includes comments you want to make in the following:

- Having a recent connection to County Durham (rule 2);
- Retention of Band 4 – carrying out an annual check and removing people who are not active and have not bid in the previous 12 months without good reason (rule 7);
- Disqualification issue – unacceptable behaviour/rent arrears (rules 3 and 4);
- Financial cap (not added to the policy rules);
- Removal from the housing register if you have refused two suitable offers (rule 6).
- Any other comments you wish to make about the qualification and disqualification rules 1 to 7 as set out in the draft policy in section 2, pages 7 to 15.

### Your comments on proposed changes relating to housing bands

This includes comments you want to make on the following:

- Banding - overview and the challenge for prioritisation;
- Homeless prevention priority;
- Medical assessment: introduction of three tiers of medical need;
- Higher priority for victims of domestic abuse;
- Making best use of existing housing stock – by downsizing or moving from a specifically adapted home if no longer needed;
- Other banding changes related to housing need;
- Any other comments you wish to make about housing bands as set out in the draft policy in section 4, pages 20 to 29.

### Your comments on the approach to balanced and sustainable communities

This includes comments you want to make on the following:

- Use of Local Lettings Policies in new housing estates;
- Use of direct lets in existing communities;
- Any other comments you wish to make about balanced and sustainable communities as set out in the draft policy in section 5, pages 31 to 34.

## Comments about other aspects of the new policy

This includes comments you want to make on the following:

- The introduction to Durham Key Options, Housing Allocations Policy as set out in section 1, pages 1 to 5;
- Applying for a house as set out in section 3, pages 17 to 19;
- General rules as set out in section 5, pages 31 to 34.

## Submitting a response

Please do not use this information sheet to submit a response. You can formally respond to this project by either:

- Completing the online survey
- Writing out your responses to these questions and posting them to us at the following address: Consultations Team, Durham County Council, Rivergreen Centre, Aykley Heads, Durham, County Durham, DH1 5TS
- Typing out your responses to these questions and emailing them to:  
[letstalkcountydurham@durham.gov.uk](mailto:letstalkcountydurham@durham.gov.uk)