

Appendix 2 to 27 September 2017 Cabinet Report (Single Housing Allocations Policy)

Proposed changes to Allocations Policy

	Proposed change	Policy change rationale	Volume of cases affected/ Impact/ Costs/ Savings
1	All future lettings to Spelthorne properties to be made to those on Spelthorne's housing register only. All cross partner allocations to stop.	To enable adoption of separate allocations policy without risk of legal challenge	Although 30 % of properties were pooled only 6.8% of final lets involved a cross-borough move therefore limited impact from loss of this provision
2	Adoption of reduced priority for most transfer tenants	To give fairer access to social housing vacancies to those who are not already social housing tenants To avoid duplication of services to transfer tenants (who may achieve a transfer via their landlord or Mutual Exchange.)	Some unpopularity likely with 'Transfer' tenants.
3	Ensure that possible exceptions to 'Worker' status can be considered within the scheme to avoid discrimination and allow consideration of other community contributions	Legislative compliancy <i>R (H and others) v Ealing LBC [2016] EWHC 841 (Admin)</i>	Likely to affect a small number of applicants who are not able to work but make another valuable community contribution More complicated assessment process
4	Amendment to qualification criteria to ensure that applicants who have a housing	Legislative compliancy - HA, R (HA) v Ealing LBC [2015] EWHC 2375	Likely to mean an additional 5% of applicants now qualify

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	need preference need are not excluded from the register		
5	Provision for reduced priority to be given to reasonable preference cases who would otherwise fail qualification criteria	In response to HA, R (HA) v Ealing , to ensure that reasonable preference need cases without a local connection are given lesser priority than cases with a local connection	More complicated assessment process