

## APPENDIX B

### Housing Allocation Scheme 2013 – 2018 - Consultation 'free text' responses.

Some personal details have been redacted. Comments are reproduced in the order they were received.

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I believe the criteria of being resident in Slough for 5 years is too low; I believe this should be 10 or 15 years to stop benefit tourism.

I am also concerned that these new criteria will be taken as just another document to be fraudulently created by some less scrupulous applicants and there needs to be a proper fraud prevention assessment done on all these criteria as recent newspaper reports suggest the council is far too reliant on the public for information to detect fraud.

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The new rules do not go far enough.

Applicants and everyone in the application need to have lived in Slough for five years minimum (unless aged under five of course)

They should be made to show a history of working and not just for 12 months.

Parents who have produced too many children that they cannot afford/house them should not be housed by the council on grounds of overcrowding.

Deliberately overcrowded homes should be made to rent privately.

Serving or disabled members of HM Forces should be housed before anyone else

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I think one suitable offer is too limited (Q 4) but don't propose a completely open-ended offer either. I would suggest up to three suitable offers could be declined before becoming ineligible.

Q6 splitting an area the size of Slough into three preference areas seems at first glance to be acceptable, but mobility issues should be considered carefully. For example a short school run for a car owner may be acceptable, but the same distance for someone without vehicle access can prove very difficult to manage, considering the bottle necks that exist across pinch points such as roads over the railway.

Q7 I disagree that being in employment for 12 months should add priority if it means those who are unemployed are disadvantaged - if anything it is unemployed people that should gain priority for low-cost housing.

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Social housing should be seen and considered by everybody (the council, the tenants and the other residents) a privilege and not a right. Therefore only deserving people should be granted this privilege. These are individuals who represent no source of trouble of any kind and are respectful of the properties they are given as well as of their neighbours and of other people's or public properties.

If anybody in social housing commits an act of disrespect towards their property or properties or people in the neighbourhood (vandalism, noise pollution or anti-social behaviour in general), they should be evicted from the property quickly and lose such privilege.

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What is the Council and Housing Associations doing to provide more shared accommodation (HMOs, not self-contained bedsits or flats) for single people?

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Single people under the age of 35 and claiming benefit are no longer eligible for council/HA flats of their own, quite rightly in my view, but this policy assumes that there is sufficient provision of HMO accommodation to meet their needs. Most HMOs provided by private sector landlords are already taken by "young professional" or employed tenants, and there can be strong competition for the limited supply, especially as more and more Councils are imposing licensing and registration schemes on landlords and issuing Article 4 directions to place strict controls or even block the creation of new HMOs.

There is no mention of the needs of single people in the preference scheme proposals (besides children leaving care homes), or any indication that the Council or HAs recognise there is a problem with supply of HMOs or intend to adapt any housing as HMOs. Yet this is precisely the category of housing most vulnerable to exploitation by the tiny proportion of poor landlords. Slough was notoriously identified in the press recently as a centre for "beds in sheds", with recent immigrants, the homeless and low-paid young working people apparently being the most affected.

I therefore feel that Slough needs to do more than simply change its allocations policy for social housing, but also look to change its housing mix to create more single-person and shared housing units.

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To make sure that those who have been living in Slough for 5 years have done so legally (not in a shed). Want evidence of council tax bill/payment. I currently volunteer and work. However the projects are every so often. Would this not be considered volunteering?

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I think the new scheme is brilliant recognising the good hard working people in the community who would like to stay and live in the town. I hope it comes into effect sooner rather than later.

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1. Why are elderly and disabled people not considered as a priority group or their particular needs considered?

2. Who makes the decisions about the fairness of council decisions?

3 Why is there no independent appeals system to ensure fairness?

4 Should people in need have choice removed from them? Don't they have the right to live in the community that they want to?

5. Why are the special circumstances of people which may be taken into account not spelled out in a transparent way so people can see if it is meeting the reasonable expectations of the Slough people?

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The new principle of Local Housing For local People, Rewarding those who are good tenants and those who contribute to the community are to be welcomed. The devil is as ever in the detail. Removal of choice in almost ever area. Failure to address the outstanding problems of elderly peoples priority housing. A wide rang of people and member of slough families or carers loose their housing right but have to rely on the discretion of council officers when there is no independent appeals system.

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Would it change anything with the current waiting list?

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People who are on a lower wages and struggling with saving for deposits for mortgage's & private rents being very expensive in the area. I would hope it would help people like me and my partner, who work but are on a lower income

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I am a thirty five year old manager excellent, credit, council tax payer yet I can not afford the rents in the local area as a single person. I have been on the list since 2009 and an upstanding member of the community; why is a professional such as myself cast aside and continually stepping back in line...all other areas have preference.

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I believe a tax payer with good job yet struggling should have as much consideration as foreign homeless, unemployed.my place in the que should not be jumped over by others just because I am a sensible, tax paying, law abiding single person.do I have to wait until I can no longer afford to live.

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Since I put in my application I have received no indication that it had been addressed, until I received the letter regarding this survey. Therefore I have no knowledge of which Band I am in. Now I know I can go to the offices or call but I am working and have no time to do this.

There are plenty of working people like myself who are not running to the Council for everything they need and all they are asking for is some support in being placed somewhere they can call home! It is particularly discouraging when you see and hear how people have been placed in homes just because they are pregnant or have been in the borough for two minutes. Now I know that comment sounds very disparaging but its fact!

It took me over seven years to fill out my application form because I was so angry when I went to the Council offices in person to find out about accommodation, when I was technically homeless. I was informed in a matter of fact way "Can't help, won't help, only if I'm pregnant"!!!!

I believe people who have been in long continuous employment and are willing to pay full rental cost should be given a fair advantage.

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I am a full time key worker in Slough and have been for over 5 years. I rent privately and get no government benefits. I have applied as a single person for housing. I applied 3 months ago and have heard nothing. I am now moving in with a stranger to their spare room and have had to dispose of all my furniture and other possessions as I have no storage for this. I cannot afford to live with the increase in private rents. If the system was fairer for single working people who contribute to the community I may have been offered a place to live. In two weeks I will be homeless, female and nearing 50 years of age. This isn't a fair system at present in my opinion.

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Why are you not doing that people born and living in Slough take priority?

Why not use the old Slough library as living accommodation when it ceases to be the library. The 3rd floor could be turned into single men bedsits, the 2nd floor could be for single woman and the 1st and ground floors could be for family accommodation - would make good use of the building and you would only need to put a nice façade on the outside to make it look more appealing.

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Young people are being put off from joining the list because they are told that they have low priority because they are single - that is not fair.

If they were born and live in Slough all there lives, they should be entitled to have accommodation within a reasonable length of time - some of the houses that are being built could actually be turned into a shared house with bedsits so that instead of having one family rehoused, you could rehouse 3 or more single persons.

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I saw a comment that people with bad money management would have more difficulty than others, I think as long as they pay their rent and bills, what they do with the rest of there money should not be looked at. As long as they are in employment and pay all their bills they should still be eligible.

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The whole system really frustrates me due to people's morals and how the system is used to their advantage. For example, my parents moved to the Caribbean and therefore I had to live between my grandparents and my uni halls for three years with no help (including any benefits). At this same time, someone I am aware of was living in a council funded flat with their son and has further been given a two bedroom house with a garden. This person is in education granted, however it is obvious they enjoy the benefits of funded housing and others because I am yet to see them carry out a full time job! Meanwhile I and my partner rent privately and if we went through an estate agent we would not be able to even afford the same flat we live in now along with all of the bills, plus the two cars we have to afford to run so that we can work full time.

Essentially, people who have not worked and are in 'education' receive a funded two bedroom house whereas me and my partner who work full time struggle to afford a one bedroom flat with no help from any one else. Very frustrating! I am not stating here that I would like to be funded, because I am motivated by being independent of all assistance and doing things the correct way, rather than taking advantage of schemes that are meant for other people in genuine need.

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How long does it take to be offered a house?

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There are certain area's in slough that are a hot spot for drugs, prostitution and violence, I feel that some of the changes being made will leave families with children vulnerable. The reason being they will have very little choice in the area they raise their families in. This is an infringement of basic human rights, and I feel that the government needs to review these changes as it will be very damaging to family lives and young families being raised. I have found his very disturbing, considering I am on the waiting list with my husband and children.

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Does this include families that are overcrowded? Like 1 adult and 3 kids in 1 room

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I'd like it to be for overcrowded families not just people who have worked

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I think a lot more help towards generally hard working people should be considered instead of people that haven't worked a day in there life. It disgusts me how hard working citizens such as me have no chance but we work hard for the life we are trying to live unlike people who just sign on and sit about. They are given help as soon as they contact the council.

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Most of the changes seems unfair to me, especially towards people who are on a waiting list for a long time.

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In my point of view the priority should be given to these who can't afford to rent a private accommodation and are over 40 or with kids.

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Council houses are known to be long term homes; can the same be said for housing association properties?

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I think some points in this need scheme need to addressed cuz they're not right.

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People who are already on housing resister. They will be in the new scheme or there status will be unchanged?

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Only those who have lived in Slough for three years should be eligible.

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What with people who lived in Slough less than 5 years and are existing waiting for a council accommodation?

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I think for new applicant time 5 years is ok but for existing applicant can't act back.

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It would be nice to know where you are on the list & a rough guide to how long you may have to wait for a property.

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How this scheme can help people who are already waiting for response for their allocation?

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I think it's good and it's a quicker way to identify people who are more in a need of house.

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I feel that that this proposed criteria will be much more fair than in the past and will help people like myself who simply want to be housed and do not expect the council to pay for half the rent as they are able to pay themselves.

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Very good

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I think that current council tenants living in flats or maisonettes (with no rent arrears or anti social behaviour etc) should be given priority if they wish to move into a house if they have been in the current flat/maisonette for a certain time - maybe 2 years. As this will free up the flat/maisonette for new applicants that are waiting for properties. I think that this is a fairer way to allocate properties rather than new applicants being given houses when existing tenants are waiting for houses.

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I think that people who work hard on low earnings deserve social housing and would respect the properties more

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Question 7 has no reference to people who have retired, but have worked all their life.

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I cannot understand why people of a dubious nature are housed in areas, which have a record of trouble free tenancy. For example people on council

list taking priority over people awaiting housing, on housing association lists. Are these people not vetted, before being housed in trouble free areas?

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I think the so-called additional preference was long over due, I think it is fair that individuals who have always live in this borough should be given priority for accommodation within it borders. Furthermore, working or doing any meaningful voluntary work is also very important preference because it makes a lot of sense that those who work are able to pay rent and contribute positively to our borough. Moreover, I'm also glad that the new scheme place members or individuals who have served in the arm forces as priority for the allocation scheme. Somehow, it seems to me that this new scheme might really target people and individuals who have live in this town for a substantial period of time and are contributing somehow to its development and progress, I think it is a very good skim as it might help those who really need help and not those who view the system as a right for which there are no responsibility attached.

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Do not believe you should be ineligible if you are not overcrowded as the private sector does not provide such long term assurances for family

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Can a single parent who works full time with one child be entitled to a 2 bedroom property?

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I think you may need to take into consideration the size of people's property looking at the new scheme I would not be entitled to a 2 bedroom property but the current size of my 1 bedroom flat is not adequate for us both I work full time he goes to full time nursery and I feel cheated when so many people I know have the same number of children none of them work but are all in a 2 bed property I feel that parents that go into the mother and baby unit jump the queue if a 2 bed property comes available people who have been on the list and who are already on the list should get priority and the others should go in the one bedroom. I feel the whole allocation scheme supports the people who don't support themselves if I didn't work and was on benefits I feel I would be treated a bit different.

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People still need to considered if they are out of work or single parents also don't change policy regarding what age two children of the different sex can no longer share a bedroom as this will exempt families from gaining a new property

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Will people already on the register lose their position?

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People, who are unfit to work, train or volunteer shouldn't be discriminated against.

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Will NHS staff be seen as a "positive contribution to the community"? As I myself work for the NHS & have been on the housing list for 5 years now.

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I believe the following statement in question 4:

"The council will make one suitable offer of accommodation within Slough. If the applicant turns this down, they will be ineligible to apply again"

This is completely unjust! Me and my partner have been on the list for 5 years now, waiting patiently for a place. To wait this long and then feel pressured or forced into accepting the first place offered would be morally wrong. Instead, in circumstances of individuals waiting a long period of time this should allow more flexibility and reward.

Lastly question 6: Splitting the boroughs into just 3 areas doesn't allow for

more choice at all. Currently you can specify accurate areas of a town to allow good choice. To restrict to 3 areas would put yourselves in a situation where you would have a lot of unhappy tenants, especially if you go ahead with forcing them into accepting the first accommodation offered. Further, this may even increase tenants reapplying to get back on the list.

I do agree with some of the restrictions and believe it was well overdue, however you need to rethink your strategy with some of the points I have raised.

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for myself I had found it very helpful while my cousin was living with as I'm asthmatic and diabetic, over the last 2 years I've had to go to hospital with chest infection, we' have ask if we could be housed together as I'm his prime carer as well, he suffer with Alzheimer's has 3 pro laps discs and also have other health issue and he needs my care 24 hours and 7 days a week and has no one else, costing him a fortune to refurbish his flat why have you put him into a one bedroom flat on his own?

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Most welcome-... proposal to those contributing positively to Slough.

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Well recommended

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I think this scheme is very good.its help who ever need the house ...

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This is some new for me but I think that application is good

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Well, it says on your website that people only wait 5 years maximum I have been waiting for 7 years for a council house I have a good track housing record and I also work! I need a place to live near my house because of my children's schools and I do not have a car. So you can imagine I don't have a lot of money to spend.

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As I have been on the list for many years already, would this mean I would keep my place or start at the bottom?

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I think that there are some good points in this new scheme focusing on people who are generally wanting a settled home, buy not allowing people who abuse the system and previous properties this will mean people who are trying harder will get housed quicker hopefully.

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People who have been waiting nearly six years but have not been made any offer's, so when this scheme comes into force and they do not meet the criteria, are their names just gone be removed from the waiting list? So all the time they have spent waiting patiently will be for Nothing!

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Will it help to get a home early?

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I am living in 2 bedroom flat with 3 children and my husband at least we should have a priority.

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Do all previous applicants need to reapply when the new system start?

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The criteria to be used for allocation are fair.

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The scheme looks good and should help people.

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I total agree with the proposed housing allocation scheme.

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I think just fail rent can not be used as most are because of the housing benefit mix up.

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I think it's unfair

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I think your idea is excellent. Both me and my wife work full time, we pay our rent, childcare, we don't claim benefits and at the end of the month don't have enough money to rent privately or to save up for a mortgage. We are stuck in council bed sit- one bedroom, bathroom and kitchen with our 10 months old son. We ve been waiting for a bigger place for 3 years. I feel really angry when I see all those junkies and teenage single mothers getting one, 2 bedrooms houses and flats. I feel that WE, as a normal married couple with a child have no chance at the moment of getting bigger place. Hopefully your changes will bring some positive results.

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I question the change of older person's properties being used to house young people. These properties are often downstairs flats or bungalows which reduces the stock for older people to move into when unable to live in an upstairs property.

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This only relates to new tenants. I am a good tenant who pays rent on time and does not cause any anti-social behaviour issues. Therefore why can't people like myself have more choice as where I live so I don't have to tolerate the anti-social that I am experiencing at the moment..

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Also if I was applying for a council property now at the age of 60 I would be given a downstairs property. Why can't I now have the choice to move into a downstairs property having being a good tenant since moving in to an upstairs flat which was suitable for me then but is not now?

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Just to clarify, if someone is offered a property and they reject the property will they then not be offered any more, you only get to view one property..

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I am concerned about the fact that the borough will be split into 3 areas. How will they be split, for example will you get cippenham haymill and britwell as one area. If that is the case and you are offered a property in britwell, and this is one area you don't want to move to do you then lose out and not get offered anything else.

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I do not think this scheme will work as there are many people who have only recently moved to Slough maybe for work or education and you require them to be here for 5 years.

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I have been on the list for over 10yrs and it seems to me that you will change my band c to another and I go back to the bottom of the list.

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Why penalize someone for single-choice preference when all they want is to be near their own family, easy access in latter day and maybe a garden for their companion eg,dog or cat. I have witnessed unemployed people get housed,early release cons. drunks and drug takers who are getting their rents paid by jussive got to stop as this is not going to help me any seems to me that next year I am 55yrs old so maybe I might get an offer!!!! Who knows?

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I feel that the decision as to whether someone gets housing or not should be on an individual case basis. That is, people should be interviewed and all necessary information/documentation should be gathered then. This also applies to situations where people's circumstances change.. eg. the loss of work, illness including mental health problems.

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Part of your application preference is those in full time employment within slough, is this correct?



Also will those who work within the social care sector but not necessary at a hospital, be given preference or be part of the preference?

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Personally I've been on the waiting list since 2009/10 but still have no idea where i am with this. Just by communicating with possible tenants every 6-12mths would be beneficial to all around.

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And anyone who works in business should know that communication is the key!

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Some people have a council house and don't live there. They live in different house and coming only to collect the post. Its not fair because there are a lot of people who really need the council property. That happens for example in Chalvey area. I don't know why council ignore it.

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I have been on the register for 5 years so When will I know if I am NOW eligible? Or is this "consultation" a polite way off telling people there off the register?

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I feel people who have been in permanent employment for at least 2 years is more than enough proof that they are capable of paying rent and are responsible enough to have a house.

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People with a low income will struggle to ever own their own home, I thought this is what the housing register was all about helping people who are trying in life not pushing them aside for people of benefits just because they decided to have 8 kids in a 2 bedroom house? I can't understand why these people are made a priority when there are hard working people out there who actually want to better themselves not feed off government money?

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Some of these questions seem to exclude penisioners who still have children going to school; was that the intention?

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Mostly, I agree with the suggestions, but, since I am a retired person with children going to school, I don't want to be excluded from the register

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my mother and my self live together my mother is diabetic and also has renal failure and no longer walks so is hoisted all the time

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I wonder why only couples with kids are given priority , most of people are using their kids and that s not fair.

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I would like to be contacted once in a while to know the status of my whereabouts on the housing list. I do understand that there probably isn't enough time for the council to do this, however it would restore the hope that one day I might be offered social housing

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What about housing for over 60 aged people.

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what priority will this scheme give those tenants have who lived in slough for more than five years but have never been afforded any offer ever while immigrants who have just recently arrived in the country have been housed straight away?

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people who are young & wants to get further education, and struggling with the accommodation, they should get priority to accommodate. e.g myself i live in slough since march 2006 started school in Slough and Eton then i went to Uxbridge college done BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA & BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN ICT PRACTITIONER. after that i wanted to get into University but unfortunately i couldn't go because i didn't had a permanent place to live

in and study in peace. i wish i had my own flat so i could have peace of mind to do further education and study in peace. because i been living in a private rent share flat, which i dont think anyone who really want to study can do his best in a share house. its been a year that i am working full time now i am still living in share flat. hope i get a permanent place so i could go university.

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why do uk citazens not get first choice on a place to live?

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why do people get a que jump who are not from the uk ?

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any1 who has lived the uk all there lives should have first priority in there area with all different situations should be entitled fairly. giving teenagers places causes pregnancys partys bad social behaviour and problems i am a 28 year old man i have worked and recently fell ill and want 2 live alone why should i be placed at the back end of the list i should be before alot of people.

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I am happy that you have change the criteria for people on waiting list. Finally normal hard working people who have lived and worked in slough more than five years has got the chance to get a social house.

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Some people may be in accommodation already but require a move on grounds of medical reason in your policies you dont mention the fact that you will get that persons property back on your books?

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will I be able to be accepted has a council tenants with 4 children has a housewife and been in slough for around 5/6 years

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happy with the scheme and hope to be accepted has soon has possible.

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After private renting for 6 years in an unsuitable area and having the purple that live upstairs awake all night as they don't work I'm please the rules may change as this may give me the change of getting a house

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I am aged 60 years and been told I am on a shorter list specifically for older people. As yet I haven't been informed of anything with regards my place on the list or current availability of property. Can this be rectified so that I and other tenants in this age group are more readily informed?

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When will it all take affect and will there be a new form to fill out?

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What are you doing about over 50's & 60's who can live independantly on their own. I was born in Slough and have lived around the area all my life.

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You should be making more effort to house the over 50's and 60's. Not just sheltered accommodation but 1 bedroom flats or houses for people in this age group who are still working full time and have all their facalties!!

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My Questions are as follows.

If an outsider comes to this Town and is Housed then go on to have even more Children will they be given 2 properties paid by Housing benefit to accommodate 11 children like the man down the road [REDACTED]. ?

What are the council doing to get the children back with the Parents that live in Care of Social Services in Slough if they are not in any danger ?

Are the Council/Social Services, supporting the Parents of the looked after Children and what evidence can you provide showing this.

What further education are you supplying to the people who come from this

Town and may of not completed there Education in school to qualifie for housing will it also be run by an English speaking Charity's and what is there funding allocation ?

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It is about time the people of this Town originally born here were given priority over outsiders with housing needs and Education.

There are thousands on the Housing register side stepped because the outsiders, keep having children what are the Council going to do about this situation as having more Children pushes the closer to the Top of the waiting list and other Families are put at the bottom creating Que Jumping on the grounds of overcrowding.

What are the council doing in getting the outsiders back to work to make the Housing Benefit/Income support bill lower.

How many Social housing properties are being built this year in Slough.

will the Council reinstate rent officers.

Will the Council be sending out housing Managers to check houses and back gardens and communal areas more regular than every ten years.

What is the council doing about subletting can they provide any evidence of what they have done to stop it .

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People need more variety of housing in more safe areas.families need properties in non violent areas.

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The new scheme is goodfor those people who have been waitng on the housing register for more than 5 years.

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this scheme is better than the last one but i wish the waiting time is less to get alot of people of the register and into social housing

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I am concerned that those who have been on the waiting list for a long time, their application now may well be at threat. You need to consider as many aspects of life as possible, as mothers with young children and those at school wont have time to contribute to the community or other aspects of this new scheme.

Prioritising Slough residents, who have lived and contributed through employment with their taxes, should be prioritised.

Greater measured should be placed to prevent fraudulent claims so those that need housing are catered for.

Also, the need for an additional bedroom is a very common driver for applying for housing, so how can you possibly eliminated such applicants? Where there are e.g. four children in a single bedroom, 2 girls and two boys, an additional bedroom is essential and would make a huge difference.

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Will this new scheme affect famillies who are on the tenancy deposit sceme for a long time?

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I think this is a good idea! With the other scheme you had to go to the council to find out where you are on the housing list, i hope that this will reduce the waiting list and that adults with children will be given priority!

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Can I get council house quickly after I participated in the questionnaire and/or government scheme?

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if all ready on list an been on it over 4 yrs. how will u make the change over of waiting list time as the old scheme runs on a date of application system??? i believe this system has not been beneficial for people on waiting list and glad the system is all going to change. ive been on the list over 4 yrs ive gone up not down and am at same point i was at in 2011 :(

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should make it simpler for people who been in slough for over ten years and have children.

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the people who are already in waiting list for more then 4 years, this scheme will also help them?i m a single mother with 2 kids and I have applied for house for more then 4 years and I need house because I live in flat and I need more space but can't change house because no one offer their property on dss,i looked so many properties but can't get any on dss,do you think this scheme can help me to get house faster? [REDACTED]

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this seems a fairer way to appoint housing

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will this decrease the waiting time for council homes.....have been on waiting list for years since i was 18 yrs old i am now 30 in full time employment.... but because i has no criminal record or drug ,alcohol addiction or mental health issues he is not entitled as yet oh yes and born and bred in slough

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People who are in constant arrears of Council Tax should removed from Council housing.

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At this time I am not sure how (and if) this scheme helps me to be offered a house quicker than before. I understand the changes but is it really efficient and fair for the applicants?

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I am a single mum with three children (two boys and one girl). I have been struggling to find a suitable size of a property for my children and myself. I can never afford to find a decent house which is just enough for four of us. I have been waiting to be offered since 2007 and I hope this new scheme helps me find a decent house for my family as I have been a good tenant with no debt arrears, I hardly complain to the landlord as long as he looks after the property properly.

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Will pensioners and thus their age be taken into account with the above suggestions - I.e will we be penalised for not having worked in the previous 12 months?

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Will I be contacted as I have not had any contact from the council since I have been on the register, I think I have been forgotten about. Will this happen with the new scheme?

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Waiting for more than 4 years for someone who has already lived in slough for over 30 years is not right.

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I have lived and worked in slough for over 35 years and have had my education in slough. I currently live in one bedroom with my wife and two

children and have waited over 4 years on the housing list . Something here is not right.

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I pretty much agree with the scheme i think its fair

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I have been on the council waiting list for over five years and am still waiting, Over this time I have seen peolpe from all walks of life abuse the sytem. The saddest part is that theyhave all managed to get properties.I think the new proposals are a better as they will be fairer and encourage people to actively better there lives.

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will this scheme help me get housed?

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people who are to ill to work and need help for the first time ever from the council needs to be housed quicker rather than immigrants being housed that come into the country.

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Really need an urgent council house please and what ever have planned in this form is perfect like it.

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We strongly agree to the scheme as this will ensure families who have lived and contributed to sloughs growth are given primary needs.

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The scheme doesnt help people in my position ie working in slough (education), private renting, joint income of 30,000 with children get into housing association or council. Private rent takes large amount of income.

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Note: selected band D but never been told?

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I feel most of the homeless residents fit into the criteria were you will not help them. I feel the problem is these other people coming from different boroughs who are allocated housing in slough. You need to kick all these people who come from abroad, and getting brand new houses, when we have enough homeless people on the street, sleeping in parks. Most of the people on my street are from other boroughs with 5,6,7 children, get them back in there own borough's or get them onto training courses from 9am - 5pm... I feel Housing Associations are useless as them let people sublet, single mothers who have husbands, who were are receiving full benefits. Make the Housing Associations full their fingers out and start investigating all their residents who have partners and family living with them.... Its a total joke

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Will everyone already on the housing list need to reapply?

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I think the new scheme sounds great. It seems to benefit those in most need and those who contribute to the area.

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I am not allowed (by my believe) to take a mortgage. The only way is to have a saving and buy in cash.

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Would this schema consider such as issue?

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I am currently on a transfer list because in short i'm in a 2bed with my kids a 16yr boy 18yr girl and 23yr boy and I am also dissabled (wheelchair), the property I am in is not suitable to our health and wellbeing. I am confused as to why I cannot be moved as a priority because I see reports that because of the so called bedroom tax there is a shortage of 2 bed houses so why can I not move to a 3 or 4 bed sooner.

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Your Housing policies are not very clear and I am being treated unfairly I seriously am thinking of going further (MP, Mayor and all Media outlets) with

my situation.

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I like the idea how you offer the house, that you reduced it to one offer. I think for those who really need their place, one offer would be enough.

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is there bidding system like locata

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nationals from the EU putting pressure on the system

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priority should be for British citizen

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When will this start

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How will it affect if your already on the list for example I am between 6-12 in my chosen areas it's been 5 years will this new scheme penalize me if it comes into force?

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SBC have been far too lenient with overseas citizens

Not caring for those who have lived in slough all their life and have contributed

Fairly to the system by means if education, work, paying taxes etc

Why do we pay taxes and work full time and put so much in to the community

If we are to gain nothing when we need you the most.

More new builds needed in upton lea and Wexham where there is a lack of

Houses available esp 2-3 bed flats

Stop people who are frm other boroughs or have nothing to do

With slough getting council houses and prioritize those who have been

Contributing for last 10 years at least to slough 5 is not enough. I have lived in slough

34 years from birth and been working 19 years I have been waiting since

2008 and had barely 2 offers which we're not in suitable location that's all

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Priority given to people born in Slough area so that extended families may remain close.

No priority given to single mothers.

No priority given to families with multiple children.

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Applicants who are willing to accept an offer of housing anywhere in the

borough will automatically have more choices and opportunity open to them

however they should not be given higher priority than anyone else in the list.

They may not wish to be housed in certain areas as it may not suit their needs

or may increase their cost of living. Also three areas to chose from is

insufficnet as Slough is highly populated with many areas/wards.

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You did not mention anything about 16-18 year olds who leave school and get

pregnant but seem to always get a council property and always seem priority

even though they have never contributed to this countries tax system?

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I like the way this is now in favour of people who want to get on in life who

may find it hard to buy/privately rent, people who work and contribute to the

tax system. In recent years it seems that to get a council property you needed

to be out of work or be young and pregnant. I feel ha people who have

contributed to the tax system for a certain time would always be priority.

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I think there are flaws that need to be addressed in the inequality of the rents that are paid by housing association tenants and council tenants. In a HA you have to pay a lot more rent than someone who lives in a council property which is not justified because ultimately they are both social housing. This makes moving in an exchange situation very unattractive for example someone in a two bed HA pays more rent than those who live in a three bed council house so when you are on homeswapper etc the exchange is not encouraging because your being asked to pay more for less living space.

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What happens to people who are currently on the waiting list? Do the rule changes apply to them also or is it only new applicants. Also, I think it is offensive to offer someone over the age of 50 a studio or bedsit, especially given that sometimes people have not put themselves in an unfortunate position of being in need of social housing.

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Why are SBC so concerned about young people being made more independent - they have not put anything into the system and therefore do not rightfully deserve to be rewarded with housing being taken away from someone for example who has either lost their job or sustained some injury or illness that prevents them from continuing in a career or any work.

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1. Is the waiting list going to move much quicker?

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2. Is a family of 6+ applicable for a 4 bedroom house?

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I think there are people in Slough that have been waiting for more than 2 years for a Council House and have not heard anything from the Council. I think the waiting list should be moving much quicker because some people are living in extreme circumstances that require the moving of a house.

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priority should be given if persons have been in slough a long time or if from generations from slough first

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I have seen that Former and Serving members of the armed forces will get priority. I am a serving member of the emergency services (Police) covering Slough. Will I get any priority for that.

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Is this scheme only open to UK passport holders? T

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No one who is not a UK passport holder should be allowed to join the scheme. The council should put British people's housing needs first and foremost.

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What happens to tenants who are awaiting a transfer, will a new criteria be introduced?

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I agree with some of the scheme, but have concerns about those tenants that remain on transfer waiting lists to be rehoused into suitable accommodation. Is there going to be a new scheme implemented to meet their needs.

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The only thing that concerns me is for people like myself. A single mother, working part-time living with Epilepsy in private renting. I'm currently 1 month in arrears due to rent increase last year, will this hinder my chance of getting a council property? There have been no other issues. I'm in this position as I simply can't afford to live in my home any longer and this is a massive worry for myself and my 3 year old son. I do currently have a DHP included within my HB which is a massive help for me.

Yes I've lived in Slough all my life and yes I'm working but the arrears worries me.

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I think the scheme is positive.

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What are the plans for provisions for homeless, ex-offenders and those with long standing arrears they are working to pay off. (It seems to me that if someone is trying to sort themselves out this new proposed plan will not take that into account at all.)

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The aggression towards council staff clause is ludicrous. Unless someone is convicted for such an offence it should not be taken into account. This is a completely objective thing and means that different council staff members are free to interpret what constitutes aggressive behaviour. In addition, unfortunately (and I work in a similar environment) housing officers are dealing with people who are often under extreme stress and difficult living arrangements. When they feel that no-one can help them I believe it is completely unreasonable to cut off any future chance they have for housing if they become upset.

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I think it is very positive that changes are being made to the way housing is allocated to support those who have lived in Slough for a long period and make a positive contribution. It is also positive that poor behaviour by families that causes misery to many of their neighbours will no longer be rewarded with a secure tenancy.

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I think that high priority people are being overlooked so far so I would like to see a change in that.

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Feel you should not be taken off the list if you refuse the first house you are offered

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It is right to have a scheme that takes into account a prospective tenant's commitment to Slough, their integrity and honesty towards their housing needs and their ability to pay the rent, otherwise it adds to the burden of Slough Council and denies genuine applicants their place.

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I think the 42k income is set too low, with the price of living, rents etc it should be raised to about 50k, again it seems to be people who are on an average wage are being penalised again, 42k is not a big income when we pay for everything, don't get tax credits or any other benefits and especially how hard it is to get on the housing/mortgage ladder. Me and my partner are great contributors to the community, me as a community support worker and my partner being employed by the local college.

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What if you have a disabled child in your family. What is the priority?

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I would like you to be more involved in some of these cases with disabled children.

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If in band C will you still be eligible to be housed?

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I agree with helping working people but don't agree that if they are already in 'adequate' accommodation they will not be housed. I believe financial matters should count as the home may be big enough or just the right size, however they may be financially struggling to afford it which could cause people to go back to being unemployed.

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I'm really hoping this new scheme will help myself, my partner and our children



we are good honest people who pay our bills council tax, rent etc

my parnter works full time in slough

we got to the top of the council list in band b for a 4 bedroom property and we was 4th on the list and a lady told me it would be about 12 months wait i was very happy with this, didnt hear anything for sometime so i called up slough council to be told i was now 8th on the list and when i asked why i was told there was people in more need than me, again i left it for sometime and called again and was told i was now 16th on the list and again i was told people in more need than me. i find this very unfair as my partner does not have a great income and we always make sure our council tax and rent etc is paid on time and it not easy as we are in a private rented house which is 1200 pound a month. im stuffing from really bad depression which has caused a massive anxiety disorder for which im on anti depression tablets and talking theapys.

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Will you advised if you believe you should no longer be on the list,?

Will you update to advise where you are on the list and how long approx. you still have left to possible be offered somewhere.

Could you send details out to people on the list regarding part buy part rent schemes.

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It should help shape up our borough and benefit those who make an effort to be positive members of the community. Thank you

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Would like to see young slough residents, that is people born and lived all their lives in Slough, be able to access one bedroomed properties on a waiting list. Most young residents do not earn enough to rent locally.

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why only slough does the applicant wait 7 years to get housing allocation ?

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I think some people have more priority more then others,so it would be great if you offer the houses who need mos. like over crowded, old people and those who have a medical problem.