



Application for Housing Policy

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Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the application for housing process. This relates to new application for housing and does not include nominations for existing properties/void rooms.

Policy Statement

Empower Housing Association (EHA) specialises in providing housing for adults with disabilities enabling them to live within their community independently.

EHA work in partnership with Commissioners, Social Services, Care Providers, and families to source the right home for our tenants. The homes provided by EHA are all bespoke independent supported living accommodation. With our person-centred approach in mind, we aim to work closely with our tenants to provide and deliver high quality housing and service.

The application process for all new schemes is via a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) which helps us to establish:

- The level of housing support required
- That the potential tenant(s) qualify for Specialist Supported Housing
- The property requirements and specification including location, requirement for sleep-in provision
- The impact, if any, the move will have on other key stakeholders
- The level of risk associated with the move, and how we can adapt our approach to mitigate this risk for both the tenants and us as Landlord
- How we can best deliver the most suitable housing solution

As a starting point, all applications must have:

- Passported Benefits to allow them to apply for Housing Benefit to cover the payment of their rent and service charges

- The ability to meet the rental and service charge payments should their income be above the allowance required in order to achieve housing benefit
- A demonstratable need for supported accommodation. Where necessary, evidence may be required of an applicant's entitlement to a funded support package.

We will not exclude from consideration any application on the grounds of degree or type of disability, current living situation, age, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Responsibility

The designated office responsible for implementation and monitoring of this policy will be the Chief Executive.

Equality and Diversity

We are committed to respecting diversity in all aspects of our work, and we will not tolerate any form of discrimination.