



APPENDIX C – Priority criteria for Housing with Ongo Homes

In order to ensure those in greatest housing need are given priority for an allocation of accommodation, we have considered the reasonable preference criteria as detailed within The Housing Act 1996, as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The reasonable preference criteria is equal priority and only 1 category can apply:

- a) People who are homeless or threatened with homelessness
- b) People occupying insanitary or overcrowded housing or otherwise living in unsatisfactory housing conditions
- c) People who need to move on medical or welfare grounds, including grounds relating to disability
- d) People who need to move to a particular locality in the district of the housing authority, where failure to meet that need would cause hardship (to themselves or to others)

We understand and acknowledge that housing need is not always identified through the reasonable preference criteria. As such, we will apply additional criteria to those applicants applying for housing with us through My Move to address the currently unmet housing need of applicants. The additional criteria is equal priority but more than 1 category can apply:

- a) Ongo tenants who have an exemplary tenancy history (i.e. rent account in credit, no outstanding sundry debts, no tenancy breach in the previous 12 months, home is clean and well decorated with no damage; garden is in good condition)
- b) Ongo tenants who are under occupying a family home (who have more bedrooms than they need and want to move)
- c) Applicants or household members that are current or former Armed Forces personnel (including bereaved spouses or civil partners)
- d) Applicants or household members that are currently key workers (NHS workers, emergency services workers, workers within the social services, workers within the teaching / education services and workers within the prison service and the probation service)
- e) Applicants who are currently engaging with Ongo's Employment Support team (no housing can be a barrier to gaining employment)
- f) Applicants who are working
- g) Applicants who can demonstrate a community contribution (e.g. recognised professional volunteers)
- h) Applicants currently living in the Private Rented Sector (PRS) and the current costs of rent are causing financial hardship
- i) Applicants who need to move to be closer to education, employment or training (applicant or household)
- j) Applicants who need to move to be closer to give or receive care/support (incl. childcare)

The applicants who meet the reasonable preference criteria will always be prioritised ahead of those that don't. Equal priority will be given to the additional criteria.