

Statutory Document No. 2023/0109



*Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976*

## **PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING (GENERAL NEEDS) (ALLOCATION) (AMENDMENT) POLICY 2023**

*Approved by Tynwald:*

*Coming into Operation:*

*1 July 2023*

The Department of Infrastructure, having consulted all the local authorities that would be affected by it,<sup>1</sup> adopts the following Policy under paragraph 1A(1)<sup>2</sup> of Schedule 3 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

### **1 Title**

This Policy is the Public Sector Housing (General Needs) (Allocation) (Amendment) Policy 2023.

### **2 Commencement**

If approved by Tynwald, this Policy comes into operation on 1 July 2023.<sup>3</sup>

### **3 Amendment to the Public Sector Housing (General Needs) (Allocation) Policy 2019**

(1) The Public Sector Housing (General Needs) (Allocation) Policy 2019<sup>4</sup> is amended as follows.

(2) For paragraph 5 (review of, and appeal against, decisions made by the Department) substitute —

#### **5 Review of decisions made by the Department**

(1) This paragraph applies to any decision (“**the relevant decision**”) made by the Department as to —


(a) whether or not an applicant is to be accepted for inclusion on the Department’s housing waiting list;

<sup>1</sup> As required by paragraph 1A(2) of Schedule 3 to the Act.

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 1A was inserted by Schedule 3 to the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011.

<sup>3</sup> Under paragraph 1A(3) of Schedule 3 to the Act, this Policy shall not come into operation until it is approved by Tynwald.

<sup>4</sup> SD 2019/0075.

- (b) the number of points which an applicant has in accordance with Part 2 of the Schedule; or
  - (c) whether or not an applicant is selected for allocation of a property.
- (2) If the applicant is dissatisfied with the relevant decision, the applicant may request that the Department review its decision.
- (3) A request for a review must —
- (a) state the grounds on which the review is requested; and
  - (b) be made in writing within one month of the date of notification of the relevant decision.
- (4) The Department must —
- (a) review the relevant decision in a timely manner; and
  - (b) notify the applicant of the outcome of that review.
- (5) Any decision made by the Department following the review is final. .
- (3) In the Schedule (allocation of general needs public sector housing) —
- (a) for the table in paragraph 3 of Part 1, substitute —



Number of dependent children	Maximum gross annual income	
	Single applicant	Joint applicant
None	£34,500	£38,000
1 child	£40,000	£43,500
2 children	£43,500	£47,000
3 or more children	£47,000	£50,500



- (b) for row 5 of the table in paragraph 2 of Part 2, substitute —



**5. Gross annual income**

- (a) including, where applicable, combined income and taxable benefits of joint applicants;
- (b) for the purposes of assessing income in the table below, child benefit is to be disregarded;

	Single applicant	Joint applicant	Points
No dependent children	£20,500 and under	£24,000 and under	10 points
	£20,501 to £24,000	£24,001 to £27,500	8 points
	£24,001 to £27,500	£27,501 to £31,000	5 points
	£27,501 to £30,000	£31,001 to £33,501	2 points
	£30,001 and over	£33,501 and over	0 points
	Single applicant	Joint applicant	Points
With dependent children	£23,500 and under	£27,000 and under	10 points
	£23,501 to £28,500	£24,001 to £32,000	8 points
	£28,501 to £33,500	£32,001 to £37,000	5 points

£33,501 to £38,500	£37,001 to £42,000	2 points
£38,501 and over	£42,001 and over	0 points

(c) in this criterion, “child benefit” means a benefit under Part 9 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992<sup>5</sup> (of Parliament), as it has effect in the Island.<sup>6</sup>

22.

**MADE**

**C C THOMAS**  
*Minister for Infrastructure*

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<sup>5</sup> 1992 c.4

<sup>6</sup> See SD 505/94.

***EXPLANATORY NOTE******(This note is not part of the Policy)***

This Policy amends the Public Sector Housing (General Needs) (Allocation) Policy 2019 [SD 2019/0075] to increase the maximum gross income thresholds and the gross annual income pointing scale thresholds by between 14-15%, to ensure that more people are able to access public sector housing in response to the current cost of living crisis.

This Policy also amends paragraph 5 to remove the option to appeal against decisions made by the Department and establish that any decision made by the Department following a review is final.