

## PRIORITY BANDS

Priority Bands shall be based on the following assessed needs

### BAND A

	Band A – Emergency Need	Proposal
i	Any member of the Armed Forces, or former Service personnel, or serving or former members of the Reserve Forces who joins the Council's housing register, where they are assessed by the Council's Medical Advisor as suffering from a serious injury, illness or disability which is wholly or partly attributable to their service, where the application is made within 5 years of discharge are given priority above all other applicants within Band A.	No change
ii	Bereaved spouses or civil partners of those serving in the Regular Forces where the bereaved spouse or civil partner has recently ceased, or will cease to be entitled, to reside in Ministry of Defence accommodation following the death of their spouse or civil partner and the death was wholly or partly attributable to their service.	No change
iii	Applicants with an assessed need to move on emergency medical grounds or emergency grounds relating to disability.	Change "urgent "
iv	Applicants with an assessed need to move on emergency welfare grounds.	Change "urgent "
v	On the recommendation of the Council's Medical Advisor applicants with specific accommodation requirements will be given priority for suitable properties as they become available above other applicants in the Band (e.g. adapted or ground floor properties etc) regardless of the date they joined the Band.	Replace
	<del>Home-seekers with mobility problems will be given priority for ground floor flats and bungalows above other home-seekers in this Band [with the exception of Band A (i)], regardless of their waiting time, on recommendation of the Council's Medical Advisor.</del>	
vi	Applicants with a Council or housing association tenancy in the District wanting to move to accommodation with fewer bedrooms than the property they currently occupy.	No change

### BAND B

	Band B – Urgent Need	Proposal
i	Applicants occupying insanitary or overcrowded housing which poses a serious health hazard, or otherwise living in unsatisfactory conditions (in accordance with housing legislation)* but not as a result of the introduction of a further household.	Change of Band from Band A

	Band B – Urgent Need	Proposal
ii	Applicants with an assessed need to move on urgent medical grounds or urgent grounds relating to disability including learning disabilities	New
iii	Applicants with an assessed need to move on urgent welfare grounds.	New
iv	Applicants needing two or more additional bedrooms compared to their current accommodation.	Change of Band from Band A
v	Applicants who can demonstrate they would otherwise be one household, but are having to live apart from other members of their household because of a lack of accommodation, which would lead to statutory overcrowding if they occupied accommodation available to them individually but not for other personal reasons (i.e. family disputes).	No change
vi	Applicants with an assessed need to move to a particular locality within the District where failure to meet that need would cause hardship to themselves or to others.	No change
vii	Applicants who have an agreed fostering or adoption agreement in place with Essex County Council, who need to move to a larger home in order to accommodate a looked after child. Special guardians, holders of a residence order, and family and friend carers who are not foster carers but who have taken on the care of a child because the parents are unable to provide care shall also be included in this category.	New
viii	Applicants accepted by the Council as being statutorily homeless and owed the main housing duty under section 193 of the Housing Act 1996 (as amended).	New
ix	Existing tenants living in sheltered accommodation, who are wishing to move to alternative sheltered accommodation within their own scheme or to another sheltered scheme within the District (including sheltered bungalows).	Change: include “bungalows”
x	Existing tenants of the Council aged over 60 years, living in 1-bedroom Council accommodation wishing to move to sheltered accommodation regardless of their need (including sheltered bungalows).	Change include “bungalows”
xi	<p>living in 2 or 3 bedroom flatted accommodation (including maisonettes) who meet the Local Eligibility Criteria under Paragraph 14 of the Scheme (apart from the Housing Need element), making expressions of interest for</p> <p><del>houses that meet with their housing need, with their registration date being the tenancy commencement date of their current property.</del></p>	Delete

**BAND C**

	Band C – Moderate Need	Proposal
i	Any member of the Armed Forces or former Service personnel or serving or former members of the Reserve Forces who have no housing need, and the application is made within 5 years of discharge.	No change
ii	Spouses and children (including step-children) of existing and former Armed Forces personnel (where the application is made within 5 years of discharge) seeking accommodation in their own right, provided that one of their family members (as defined by Section 113 of the Housing Act 1985) has lived within the District for at least 3 years immediately prior to the date of application.	No change
iii	Applicants with an assessed need to move on moderate medical grounds or moderate grounds relating to disability.	No change
iv	Applicants with an assessed need to move on moderate welfare grounds.	No change
v	Applicants needing one additional bedroom compared to their current accommodation.	Change from Band B
vi	Applicants defined as a household, who are sharing accommodation with another household for a minimum of 2 years, which is resulting in a lack of at least one bedroom.	Change of Band from Band B
vii	Applicants with an assessed need to move to be nearer to their place of work or to take up an offer of permanent employment or an apprenticeship (in accordance with Paragraph 14.3 (f) of this Housing Allocations Scheme).	No change
viii	Applicants placed in interim accommodation by the Council awaiting their homelessness decision under S.184 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended.	No change
ix	Applicants to whom the Council does not owe a full homelessness duty, where there is a requirement under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended to afford reasonable preference on the ground of homelessness.	No change
x	Applicants who are entitled to a reasonable preference under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended and can demonstrate an exceptional need to either leave their current local authority's area or move to the Epping Forest District.	No change