

HOUSING REGISTER AND NOMINATION POLICY CONSULTATION 2024

Consultation Report

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Background and introduction	3
1.2	Methods.....	3
1.3	Response	4
2	Respondent data.....	5
3	Results.....	7
3.1	Proposed policy	7
3.2	Areas needing more clarity	9
3.3	General Comments	9
4	Appendices	10
	Appendix A: Questionnaire	10

Table of Charts

Chart 1: Clarification on eligibility	7
Chart 2: Detail on nominations	8
Chart 3: Assessment and Banding for applications	8
Chart 4: Fair and Equitable	9

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Breakdown of respondents.....	4
Figure 2: Age ranges.....	5

1 Introduction

1.1 Background and introduction

West Lindsey District Council are currently in the process of updating the Housing Register and Nomination Policy. This policy is the allocation scheme (as required by the Housing Act 1996, as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002 and Localism Act 2011) for West Lindsey District Council and it sets out the framework within which West Lindsey District Council operates in the assessment of housing need on the common housing register and the nomination from that register to social rented properties.

The current policy was last updated in 2020 and since then there has been an increase in people accessing the housing register but less properties are being advertised. To add to this situation we also feel there is a need to clarify some areas within the policy.

A major part of the revised policy includes amending the local connection criteria in line with homelessness legislation. This means that out of date elements such as an assisted persons list has been removed and clarification given on many areas which as awarding of medical bandings, nomination of s106 units and the timing of when properties are advertised.

To help with this policy we have also developed a Customer Charter which works in line with our current Homelessness Customer Charter. This Charter includes our service standards of which customers can expect on topics such as response times for all methods of communication and the process for when someone applies to be on the housing register.

This report summarises the views of residents that took part in this consultation. Views were gathered from West Lindsey residents, Parish Councillors and West Lindsey District Council Councillors through either a direct invite, events, through social media or by visiting the website. Social Housing Providers also were invited to take part but non took up this offer.

1.2 Methods

To undertake this work we used multiple routes to consult with our stakeholders. The consultation was undertaken using an online survey which was advertised through our Citizen Panel, social media, 3 WLDC newsletters, a press release and our website. On top of this a workshop was held with our Councillors.

The consultation was open for 6 weeks

This approach is in line with the principles detailed in the Consultation and Engagement Strategy

A copy of the survey distributed can be found at Appendix A.

1.3 Response

The survey had 31 responses received excluding the discussions within the Member workshop. The breakdown of these responses are:

	Received back
Residents	29
WL District Councillors	1
Town/Parish Councillors	1
Registered Providers	0
Total	31

Figure 1: Breakdown of respondents

2 Respondent data

Respondents were asked at the end of the survey to answer some equality questions. Whilst not mandatory, 28 respondents did give a response, and these have been broken down into gender, age, disability, ethnicity, faith/religion and sexuality.

Gender

Out of the 28 who took part, 39% of those are Female and 61% are Male and 0% were transgender, non-binary, other or preferred not to say.

Age

To take part in the consultation it is requested that they need to be 16 or over. Age data is available for the 6121 members who took part in this question and the ages are grouped as:

Age range	Percent
16-25	0%
26-35	0%
36-45	3%
46-55	7%
56-65	28%
66-75	34%
76+	28%
Prefer not to say	0%

Figure 2: Age ranges

Disability

Out of those who took part, 17% of those classify themselves as having a long term illness, health problems or a disability which limits their daily activities and 83% do not.

Ethnicity

All of the respondents class themselves as White British, Irish or other.

Religion/Faith/Belief

Which the Christian religion came up with the majority of responses with 64%, the no religion option had 36%.

Sexuality

All of the responses came from heterosexual respondents.

3 Results

3.1 Proposed policy

As part of this consultation we asked a number of questions to find out whether the new proposed policy meets the needs of those who do and may in the future use it.

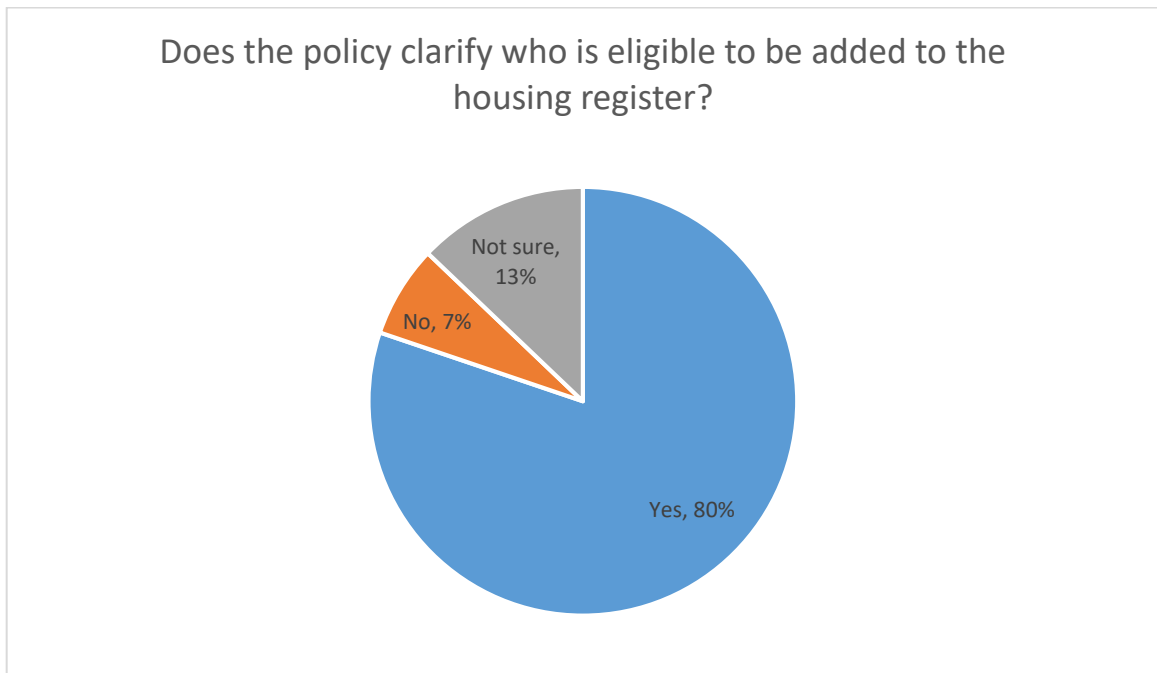


Chart 1: Clarification on eligibility

The first question was around whether the respondents feel the new revised policy clarifies who is eligible to be added to the Housing Register. The findings show that just over four fifths of the respondents feel that this is the case as seen in chart 1.

To follow on from this we asked whether the respondents feel the proposed policy explains in enough detail how the properties are nominated. From the respondents 84% felt that there was enough detail to explain how those are on the list get nominated properties as seen in chart 2.

The policy explains in enough detail how properties are nominated

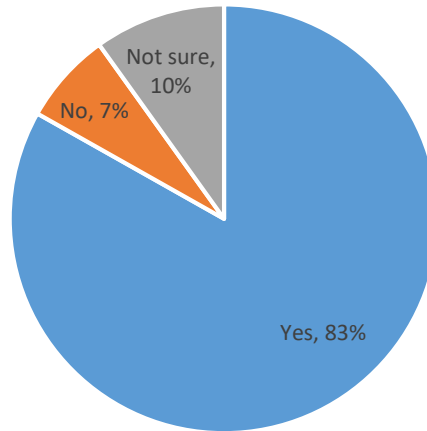


Chart 2: Detail on nominations

The third question asked if residents feel the policy outlines in enough detail how an application to join the housing register would be assessed and banded. 83% of those who took part felt that this was the case as seen in chart 3.

Does the policy outline how an application will be assessed and banded?

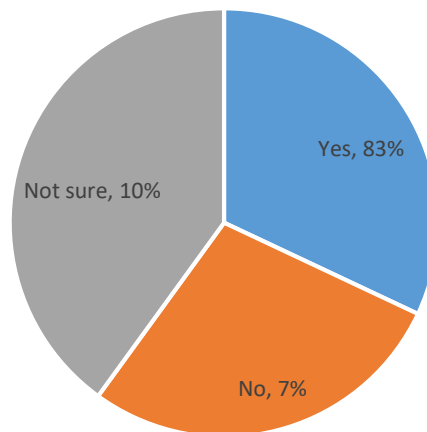


Chart 3: Assessment and Banding for applications

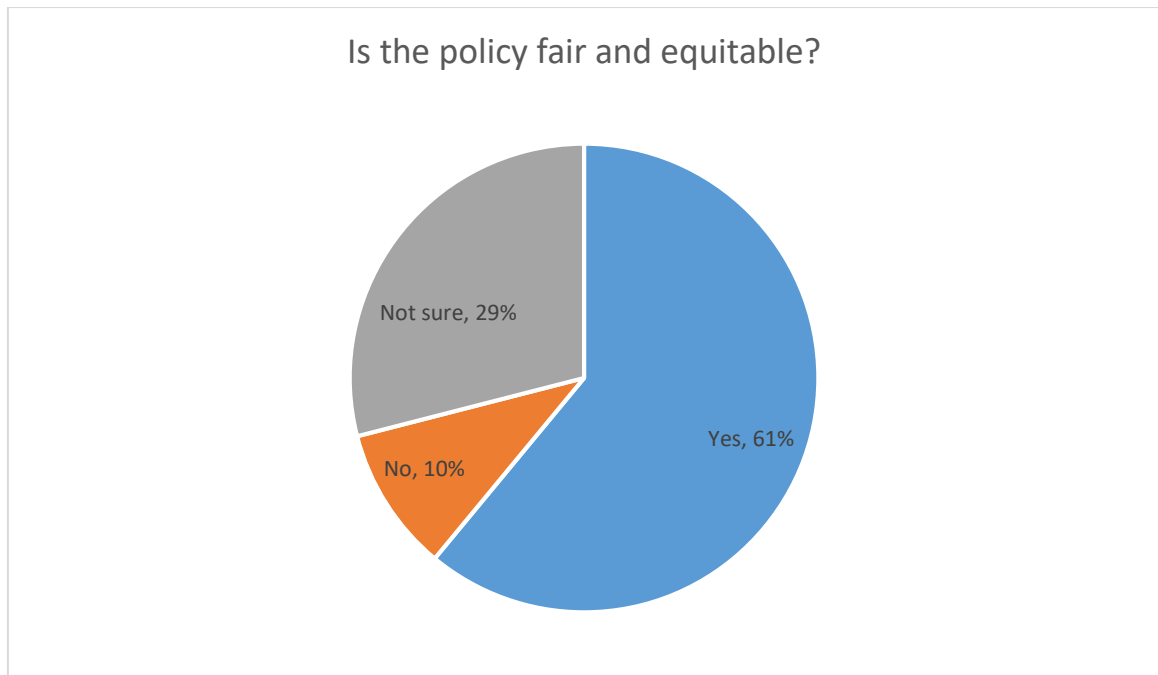


Chart 4: Fair and Equitable

Finally all respondents were asked if the policy felt fair and equitable for those wanting to apply for social housing within West Lindsey. 61% felt that it did, however 29% wasn't sure.

3.2 Areas needing more clarity

During the analysis of this consultation, the comments have been summarised but the main comments on areas needing more clarity are:

- Eligibility for members of the armed services and veterans
- Who is eligible and why
- How duration of time living in the area may count towards assessment
- Appendix B is not clear on eligibility relating to banding.

3.3 General Comments

During the analysis of this consultation, the comments have been summarised, but the main comments received are:

- It is very long and some jargon included.
- Can there be a jargon free summary with key points.

4 Appendices

Appendix A: Questionnaire



Housing Register and Nomination Policy Consultation 2024

West Lindsey District Council has developed a new draft Housing Register and Nomination Policy to replace the existing policy which was developed in 2020. The Policy sets out the framework within which we operate the assessment of housing need on the common housing register and how nominations are made from that register to social rented properties.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

- Please read each question carefully. In most cases you will only have to tick one box but please read the questions carefully as sometimes you will need to tick more than one box, or write in a response.
- Once you have finished please take a minute to check you have answered all the questions that you should have answered.
- If you have any questions about this survey please contact the Engagement Team on engagement@west-lindsey.gov.uk.

1. Please confirm if you are completing this questionnaire as a:

- Resident
- Parish/Town Council
- Social Housing Provider
- District Councillor

Other (please specify):

2. After reading the policy does it clarify who is eligible to be added to the housing register?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

3. Do you believe the policy explains in enough detail how the properties would be nominated to those on the housing register?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

4. Do you feel the policy outlines how an application to the housing register will be assessed and banded?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

5. Do you feel this policy is fair and equitable for those applying for social housing within West Lindsey?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

6. Are there any areas within this policy which you feel requires more clarity?

7. Any comments relating to the Draft Housing Nomination and Register Policy:

Equalities questionnaire

By answering the equalities questions you will help us to understand how different groups of people from different areas feel about the budget consultation. All responses are anonymised and you do not have to answer these to take part in the budget consultation.

8. Are you willing to answer these questions?

- Yes
- No

9. Are you?
- Male
 - Female
 - Transgender
 - Non-Binary
 - Any other gender
 - Prefer not to say
10. Do you have any long term illness, health problems or disability which limits your daily activities or the work that you do?
- Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to say
11. What age are you?
- 16-25
 - 26-35
 - 36-45
 - 46-55
 - 56-65
 - 66-75
 - 76 or over
 - Prefer not to say
12. Which of these ethnic groups do you consider you belong?
- White
 - Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
 - Asian or Asian British
 - Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
 - Any other ethnic group
 - Prefer not to say
13. Which of the following best describes your faith/religion/belief?
- No religion
 - Christian (all denominations)
 - Muslim
 - Buddhist
 - Sikh
 - Hindu
 - Jewish
 - Any other religion/faith/belief
 - Prefer not to say

14. Which of the following statements best describes your sexuality?

- Heterosexual/Straight
- Lesbian/Gay
- Bisexual
- Any other sexual orientation
- Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking part in this consultation. Please click submit and then you will be taken to our website. Once this happens your response will have been submitted.

If you would like a copy of this in large, clear print, audio, Braille or in another language, please call 01427 676676 email customer.services@west-lindsey.gov.uk

За повече информация на телефон 01427 676676

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欲了解更多信息，请致电 01427 676676



West Lindsey District Council
Guildhall, Marshall's Yard
Gainsborough
Lincolnshire, DN21 2NA