

Recommendation to Cabinet

03 March 2026

From People and Health Overview Committee on 2 February 2026

Dorset Council Housing Allocations Policy 2026 – 2031

For Recommendation to Council

Cabinet Member:

Cllr G Taylor, Health and Housing

Local Councillor(s):

All

Senior Leadership Team:

J Price, Executive Director of People - Adults

Report Author and job title: Sarah How, Service Manager for Housing Register and Lettings

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

1. That the Housing Allocations Policy 2026 – 2031 be recommended to Full Council for approval.
2. To consider recommendations for amendments, for inclusion in the Housing Allocations Policy.

Amendments proposed by the People and Health Overview Committee:

- a) To replace 'any English local authority' with 'any UK local authority' in section 4.14 – moving to Dorset for work or an apprenticeship.
- b) To replace 'a minimum of two years' with 'a minimum of five years' in section 4.12 – association with close family.
- c) To amend section 4.15 to add 'or assets' after 'having £16,000 or more of savings'.

- d) To make an amendment to section 4.15 to provide information on ownership of a property through a company or shares.

The amendment to section 4.15 under recommendation 2d would replace the first bullet point with the following text:

- *applicants who own, or part own, or have any legal or beneficial interest in a residential property in the UK or abroad, whether occupied by them or let to others. This includes applicants who hold such an interest directly or indirectly, including through a company, partnership, trust, or other legal entity, where the applicant has control of, or a material interest in, that entity and it owns residential property, or*

Update on resources to note

Cabinet is asked to note that a one-off allocation of corporate resources has been approved to fund temporary posts for a 12-month period, providing additional capacity to support reassessment of applications while maintaining business as usual.

Appendices

Dorset Council Housing Allocation Policy 2026 – 2031 report to the People and Health Overview Committee, which included the following appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Draft Dorset Council Housing Allocation Policy
- Appendix 2 – Consultation response
- Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Background papers

[Agenda and draft minutes of the People & Health Overview Committee held on 2 February 2026](#)