



Northumberland Homefinder

LETTINGS POLICY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The existing Northumberland Councils and Housing Associations are offering their homes to rent in a new way.

They have all:

- worked together to develop a common housing policy that explains how your housing application qualifies for a higher or lower priority (from 1 through to a 4 banding)
- agreed that their housing will be available through Northumberland Homefinder from April 2009

Please read the leaflet 'Consultation on the Northumberland Homefinder Allocation Scheme and Banding Policy' before completing the questionnaire. If you wish to find out further details the full draft allocations policy is available on each of the Council's websites.

Through **Northumberland Homefinder**, landlords (usually Councils and Housing Associations) will advertise their available properties. Applicants are then asked to express an interest in (or 'bid' for) the properties in which they would like to live.

Before the Council or Housing Association makes an offer of housing, the common housing policy is used to prioritise customers' bids and to decide which customer's housing need most closely matches the property itself.

BY COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE YOU WILL HELP DEVELOP
THE ALLOCATIONS POLICY AND THE
NORTHUMBERLAND HOMEFINDER SCHEME.

ONCE YOU HAVE COMPLETED IT, PLEASE RETURN EITHER VIA THE WEBSITE,

Or

E-MAIL: Chris.scott@milecastlehousing.co.uk

POST TO:

Milecastle Housing,

Chris Scott, Tenancy Service Manager,

Milecastle Housing Limited, Beaufront Park, Anick Road,

Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 4TU

Or you can hand it in to any local authority office for the attention of the above. Thank you.



LETTINGS POLICY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1: LETTINGS POLICY

1. Do you agree with the objectives of the lettings policy?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No view
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

If 'strongly disagree' please give further details below

Section 2: ASSESSMENT OF NEED

Under the new Allocations Policy, customers' needs will be assessed and they will be awarded one of four bands rather than points. Band 1 will indicate the highest assessed need and band 4 the lowest (usually awarded where people are already adequately housed). See page 5 of the leaflet Consultation on Northumberland Homefinder Scheme Guide and Banding Policy).

2. a Are there any housing needs that you feel have not been addressed?

Yes No

If yes, please give details below

2. b Are any of the housing needs placed in too high a band?

Yes No

If yes, please give details below

Section 2: ASSESSMENT OF NEED

2. c Are any of the housing needs placed in too low a band?

Yes No

If yes, please give details below

2. d How many bands do you think there should be?

- 3
- 4
- 5
- No view

Do you have any other comments on the Lettings Policy?





LETTINGS POLICY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 3: THE NORTHUMBERLAND HOMEFINDER SCHEME

3. a Where should properties be advertised? (please select as many as you wish)

- At the Council's offices
- On a website (internet)
- Advertising flyer
- Supermarkets
- Library
- Other

Other (please specify)

3. b How often would you like to see properties advertised?

- Weekly
- Every 2 weeks
- More than 2 weeks
- I don't have one

3. c What method of bidding for properties should be available?
(please select as many as you wish)

- Telephone
- In person at Council
- Digital TV
- Website (internet)
- Postal coupon
- Other

Other (please specify)

3. d How many properties do you think applicants should be allowed to bid
per advertising cycle?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Section 3: THE NORTHUMBERLAND HOMEFINDER SCHEME

3. e Please tell us your views on the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No View	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The new CBL scheme is easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The new system will be simpler and easier to understand than the existing system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The new system gives priority to people who are in most need of housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Receiving feedback will help me make more choices about my housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. f Is it clear how the Northumberland Homefinder scheme will operate in Northumberland?

- Very clear
- Quite clear
- Not very clear
- Not clear at all

We have called the scheme Homefinder at the moment other names chosen throughout the country are: Home-choice, Locate a home. Choose a home, B with US etc

Can you suggest an alternative name?





LETTINGS POLICY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 4: ABOUT YOU

To help us better understand the information you have provided, we would be grateful if you could provide us with some details about yourself. This information will be kept confidential and will not be used for other purposes.

4. a You do not have to answer the questions if you choose not to.

Are you?

- An existing member
- Housing provider
- An existing tenant
- An applicant on the waiting list
- Other

Other Please Specify

4. b Please specify which local authority you have a connection with:

- Alnwick
- Berwick- Upon- Tweed
- Blyth Valley
- Castle Morpeth
- Tynedale
- Wansbeck

4. c Which age group do you fall in to?

- 16-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61-70
- 71 or over

Section 4: ABOUT YOU

4. d How would you describe your ethnicity?

White

- British
- Irish
- Gypsy/Roma
- Traveller of Irish Heritage
- White Other

Mixed

- White + Black Caribbean
- White + Black African
- White + Asian
- Mixed other

Asian or Asian British

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Asian Other

Black or Black British

- Caribbean
- African
- Black other

Chinese or other ethnic group

Chinese

Other (please specify)

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this Questionnaire.
Your views will be taken into account when finalising the
Allocations Policy and the Northumberland Homefinder Scheme.**



