

Lettings Booklet



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How Do We Let Our Properties?

1. Our Objectives

The outcome of the lettings process is to ensure that we maximise applicants choice, help sustain communities and ensure that those in greatest need have access to a reasonable preference of property locations and types.

2. Stock Profile and Re-Lets in 2020/21

To help you make an informed choice about where you wish to be considered for re-housing the tables below details the number of properties broken down by area, street, size and relets during the financial year 2020/21. The majority of our stock is tenement properties in Elderpark. When completing the application form tick the streets you wish to consider. If you would like further information please contact the housing department.

Streets	1 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	2 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	3 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	4 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	5 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	6Apts	Lets 2020/21
Craigton Rd	3	1	35	3	36	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Crossloan Rd	0	0	47	5	52	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
Elder St	0	0	4	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	5	0
Elderpark St	2	1	65	7	140	13	15	2	0	0	0	0
Fairfield Gdns	0	0	7	0	3	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
Fairfield Pl	0	0	1	0	5	2	12	1	0	0	0	0
Fairfield St	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Garmouth Gdns	0	0	15	0	5	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Garmouth Plc	0	0	0	0	12	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Garmouth St	0	0	9	3	9	0	15	0	10	0	0	0
Golspie St	0	0	7	7	20	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
Govan Rd	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	1	0	0	0	0
Greenfield St	0	0	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harhill St	0	0	4	0	14	1	13	0	0	0	2	0
Harmony Row	0	0	14	9	25	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Langlands Path	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Langlands Rd	32	3	25	2	37	5	3	0	0	0	0	0
Nethan St	0	0	2	2	9	9	4	4	0	0	0	0
Nimmo Drive	0	0	27	2	11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Uist St	4	1	91	9	91	8	13	1	0	0	0	0

Elderpark Area

Cessnock Area

Streets	1 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	2 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	3 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	4 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	5 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	6Apts	Lets. 2020/21
Brand Street	0	0	7	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harley Street	0	0	6	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

Ibrox Area

Streets	1 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	2 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	3 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	4 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	5 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	6Apts	Lets. 2020/21
Brighton Pl	0	0	14	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Briton St	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clynder St	0	0	55	4	20	2	12	1	0	0	0	0
Hinshelwood Dr	0	0	2	0	5	0	6	0	1	0	0	0
Rhynie Drive	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	13	0	4	0
Skene Rd	0	0	9	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Summertown Rd	0	0	12	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Kinning Park Area

Streets	1 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	2 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	3 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	4 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	5 Apts.	Lets. 2020/21	6Apts	Lets. 2020/21
Cornwall St	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lambhill St	0	0	2	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Scotland St	1	0	19	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Elderpark Housing has 11 6apartments and 26 5apartments, none of which became available to let in 2020/21

3. The Allocation Process

What Property Size do you qualify for?

The Association determines what size of property you will be considered for. Our occupancy standards are detailed below:

- Children of the same sex are expected to share a bedroom up to sixteen years
- Children of the opposite sex over eight years old should have separate bedrooms
- No more than two children should normally share a bedroom
- Adults should not share a bedroom with a child
- Single elderly applicants of pension credit age will be considered for a two bedroom property
- Adults with access arrangements will be considered for a two bedroom property

4. How We Let Our Properties

Priority	Category of Application and Percentage of Lets
1 st	Transfer Waiting List 17% of lets
2 nd	Statutory Homeless 40% of lets
3 rd	Waiting List A
	Homeless (as assessed by Elderpark) 20%
	Waiting List B 80%

We let these properties in descending order as follows:

Firstly a quota of 17% of lets go to Elderpark Housing Association tenants

40% of our lets to 'Statutory' homeless applicants referred to us by Glasgow City Council, subject to suitable accommodation

It terms of waiting list applicants the waiting list is broken into two groups:

- A Homeless people as assess by Elderpark Housing will receive 20% of the remaining lets
- **B** Waiting list applicants will receive 80% of the remaining lets. These applicants are prioritised in terms of housing needs indicators detailed below. The onus is on the applicant to provide the necessary information before points can be awarded.

The percentages outlined in the quotas are not absolute figures which must be attained. Rather, they show how we hope to ensure a balance in our overall annual lettings to each group.

5. Housing Need Points

Waiting List A	Points
Homelessness as Assessed by Elderpark Housing	
You are treated as threatened with homelessness or if you are	
likely to become homeless and can provide supporting	
documentation. For example, you have received a written notice	40
to leave, you are a lodger and have been asked to leave or your	40
home is due to be re-possessed. Or you are living in a hostel,	
living in a moveable structure or leaving long term hospital care	
Waiting List B	Points
Insecure tenure	
You have a short assured tenancy	
Your relationship has broken down and you need to move	15
You have financial problems and are struggling to pay your	
mortgage	
Insecure tenure	

You live with family and friends	10		
Housing Below Tolerable Standard			
To fail the standard a house must be lacking in basic amenities or	20		
be in an extremely poor condition. Documentary evidence can	30		
be obtained from the City Council			
Poor Energy Efficiency & Dampness			
Dampness			
Within reason there is an onus on the applicant to provide	10		
evidence of the above such as providing an Energy Performance	10		
Certificate			
Sharing Amenities			
Applicant sharing kitchen/cooking facilities with another	n		
household	2		
Applicant sharing a living room with another household	2		
Applicant sharing W.C. Shower/Bath with another household	2		
Medical Factors			
Where current accommodation is unsuitable because of a	Eccontial 25		
medical condition.	Essential 25		
You must complete a medical self-assessment form and we may	Advisable 15		
ask for confirmation from a medical specialist			
Abuse, Harassment, Discrimination or Victimisation			
If yes, please provide evidence from appropriate agencies such as			
Social Work, The West of Scotland Racial Equality Council, Social			
Registered Landlord and or the Police. (Abuse includes domestic	25		
violence, harassment, threatening conduct and any other			
conduct giving rise, or likely to give rise to physical or mental			
injury, fear, alarm or distress)			
Social Grounds			
i.e.to move near someone to give or receive support	8		
To move nearer employment/education/training	8		
Flat Share			
Where two unrelated individuals wish to flat share. N.B you			
would still be regarded as joint tenants and be joint and severally	8		
liable			
Overcrowding/Under Occupation *			
For every first bedroom needed/not needed	8		
For every second and subsequent bedroom needed/not needed	4		
Maximum overcrowding/under occupation points	12		

* Under occupation points apply to social housing tenants only

6. Exceptions

We aim to make the best use of our properties, e.g. an adapted property would be offered to applicants who require such adaptions.

Out with the points based system the Association may let a property to try and resolve a management issue. This is known as a 'sensitive' let.

If the person is vulnerable and may not be able to sustain their tenancy their application could be overlooked until appropriate support is in place.

7. What Happens To Your Application Form

Before we can process your application we need the following information:

Your name and address, national insurance number, date of birth, household composition, proof of your identity and proof of address within the last 3 months.

We encourage people to call into the office to complete the form. You can receive advice on the prospects of being re-housed in your chosen area and also information about other housing options which may interest you.

In acknowledging your application form we will confirm what points you have been awarded, the size of the property you will be considered for and the category of your application.

Before we offer you a property we may contact you to carry out a pre-tenancy interview and verify your details. We also need details of previous residencies and a reference if appropriate from you current or previous landlord. The purpose of this is to confirm your housing circumstances and advise of agencies that may be useful in helping you with your tenancy obligations.

Applicants will be advised at sign up stage that the portion of rent due for that month must be paid, with the exception of people on Housing Benefit and Universal Credit. If no payment is made the offer may be withdrawn. UC claimants must update their journal at the sign up otherwise keys will be withheld.

8. Applicants Suspended from Receiving Offers

Applicants may be suspended from receiving offers in order to protect the interests of the Association, existing tenants and in some cases the applicant. Where we receive information that an application should be suspended, the applicant will be notified right away. They will be advised how long the suspension will last or be given clear information about what action they need to take in order for the suspension to be lifted. Applicants will

be advised that they can appeal any decision using out internal appeal procedures. The reasons for suspension are as follows:

Tenancy Related Debt

If an applicant owes a tenancy related debt in excess of one month's rent their application will normally be suspended until such time as they verify that they have kept to an agreement to pay off their debt and they have been adhering to that arrangement for three months or more. When deciding to suspend an application we will take into account the reason for the debt and if it is likely to recur.

Abuses of the Allocations Process by Applicants

Where the applicant has deliberately distorted the information provided in order to gain advantage the Association may suspend an application for up to one year

Anti-social Behaviour

Serious anti-social behaviour including racial harassment, drug dealing, noise pollution, vandalism and acting in a violent and threatening manner which has been confirmed by an official source. Each case will be considered on its own merits and an appropriate length of suspension determined.

Voluntary Suspension

An applicant may advise that they do not wish to be considered for an offer for a period of time. These suspensions will be recorded as voluntary suspension on our system and reactivated in accordance with their wishes.

Offers of Accommodation

We aim to maximise choice by giving you information on the likelihood of being re-housed in your preferred location. This also means you will not be penalised for refusing offers. Should you refuse an offer please provide a reason so that we can better match your requirements to available properties.

Failure to respond to Communications

We hope you can understand that to manage the waiting list effectively we need up to date information. This means that should you fail to respond to communications regarding additional information or in relation to an offer of housing we will invite you to review your application. The procedure will follow that for the waiting list review and failure to confirm your desire to remain on the list will result in your application being cancelled.

9. Why Would Your Application Be Cancelled?

An application will be cancelled from the list under the following circumstances:

- When an applicant has been re-housed
- When an applicant did not reply to our waiting list review
- When an applicant has requested that the application is taken off the list. (In such circumstances we will ask for this to be confirmed in writing)
- When an applicant dies

10. How Do You Appeal?

If an applicant is dissatisfied regarding any decision made during the allocation process, they have the right to appeal. For example, the applicant may be of the opinion that the points awarded do not reflect the circumstances accurately, or that their application should not be suspended. The appeal goes to the Housing Manager; if the applicant is not satisfied it is passed to the Director of Housing and Customer Services. The applicant may be required to provide evidence to support their appeal.

11. Complaints

Appeals must be distinguished from complaints for which a separate procedure exists. For example, complaints could involve applicants not receiving offers of housing that they are entitled to, or our failure to provide services in line with our customer service standards.

Details of how to complain are contained in a separate leaflet entitled 'Complaints Booklet' which can be obtained at our main office or via the website: <u>www.elderpark.org</u>. The complaints procedure details the timescale the Association has to resolve different types of complaints. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint after the Association has completed its investigation or to seek other independent advice you can contact the:

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman 4 Melville Street Edinburgh, EH3 7NS Telephone 0870 011 5378 Email: <u>enquiries@scottishombudsman.org.uk</u>

Data Protection

On 25 May 2018, the most significant piece of European data protection legislation to be introduced in over 20 years will come into force. The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) replaces the 1995 EU Data Protection Directive. The GDPR strengthens the rights that individuals have regarding personal data relating to them and seeks to unify data protection laws across Europe, regardless of where that data is processed.

All information provided within this application will be treated in confidence and comply with the GDPR. The Association will process the information contained in this application form and any other relevant information we obtain in connection with the application in a number of ways.

Our lawful basis for processing is for the purposes of your application for housing. We take the protection of your privacy seriously and will never hand your data over to any third parties unless we have to for legal reasons. By becoming a member, or accessing our services, you accept these terms and by signing this application form you give consent to process the information in the above way.

Full details are included in our Privacy Policy, copies of which are available on request.

12. Homelessness

If you are homeless or threatened with homelessness you should contact the local South Casework Team who will assess your housing situation and advise you on your housing options.

South Community Homelessness Service Rowanpark Ardlaw Street Govan Glasgow G51 32X Tel: 0141 276 8201 Opening Times: 8.45am – 4.45pm Monday to Thursday 8.45am – 3.55pm on Fridays. Out of hours homelessness Service: Tel: 0800 838 502

13. Other Housing Associations in the Area

Glasgow Housing	Govan Housing Association	Linthouse Housing
Association	35 McKechnie Srteet	Association
1 Dava Street (local office)	Glasgow	1 Cressy Street
Glasgow	G51 3AQ	Glasgow
G51 2BF	Tel: 0141 440 0308	G51 4RB
Tel: 0141 274 8720		Tel: 0141 445 4418

14. Homeless Accommodation

Shared Living	Salvation Army	Quarriers Stopover
472 Ballater Street	Hope House	(16-24 yr old)
Glasgow G5 0QW	14 Clyde Street	189 Pollokshaws Road
Tel: 0141 4186994	Glasgow	Glasgow

sharedliving@simonscotland.org	G1 5HN	G41 1PS
	Tel: 0141 552 0537	Tel: 0141 420 3121
Talbot Association	Turning Point Scotland	
Kingston Halls	Link Up	
Direct Access Hostel	112 Commerce Street	
344 Paisley Road	Glasgow	
Glasgow	G5 8DW	
G5 8RE	Tel: 0141 420 1929	
Tel: 0141 418 0955		

15. Housing Advice

Govan Law Centre	Glasgow Women's	Glasgow Centre for	Shelter Glasgow
Orkney Street	Aid	Inclusive Living	Advice 1 st Floor Suite
Enterprise Centre	4 th Floor	115-127 Brook	2
Glasgow	30 Bell Street	Street	Breckenridge House
G51 3LB	Glasgow	Glasgow	274 Sauchiehall
Tel 0141 445 3756	G1 1LG	G40 3AP	Street
	Tel: 0141 553 2022	Tel: 0141 550 4455	Glasgow
			G2 3EH
			Tel: 0808 800 4444

16. Your Views on the Letting Process

Please detach this form and return it to our office

Was the application form easy to complete?	Yes	No
Any Comments		

Were you satisfied with the level of written information?	Yes	No
Any Comments		

Were you satisfied with the information when interviewed?	Yes	No
Any Comments		

Do you feel that the Association should allocate houses by focus	sing on:	
Advertising houses to let and giving people closing dates to respond	Yes	No
First offer goes to the person at the top of the housing list	Yes	No
Any Comments		
Name		
Address		

A full copy of the Allocations Policy is available at the office