

Anyone over the age of 16 can join the Housing Register (waiting list), except certain people coming into this country from abroad. By law, we are not allowed to register such people on the waiting list. If you need further details on this subject, please contact your nearest housing office. However, although anyone may apply for housing, some groups of people will not normally be offered a tenancy. They are:

- Applicants who have shown unacceptable behaviour serious enough to make them unsuitable to be a tenant of the Council
- Applicants who owe a Council or registered social landlord a debt from a former tenancy
- Applicants under 18 years old, unless the tenancy can be guaranteed and the applicant agrees to floating support being provided.

There are other groups of applicants who will only be offered a tenancy if there are no other suitable applicants.

These groups are:

- Applicants whose current accommodation is adequate for their needs
- Applicants who can afford to buy a suitable property. This category would not include people who need specialist housing (eg sheltered accommodation) and there is nothing suitable for sale in the area of their choice
- Applicants who have neither lived in the district for the last two years nor been on the waiting list for 12 months.

Applicants who live outside South Lakeland unless:

- they previously lived in South Lakeland and are currently living in armed forces accommodation, prison, hospital, rehabilitation centre or similar
- they need to live in South Lakeland to give or receive support to or from a close relative and a minimum of ten medical points have been awarded
- they are working or have a confirmed offer of a permanent full-time job in South Lakeland
- they have previously lived in South Lakeland for most of their lives and left the district less than five years ago