

Who is eligible to join the Housing Waiting List?

Applicants must be aged 16 or over to join the Housing Waiting List. Applicants aged 16 and 17 years old must have an identified trustee who can hold a tenancy on their behalf until the age of 18. Trustees can be a person or an organisation.

Only applicants with a local connection to the Harrogate district will qualify to join the Housing Waiting List. A local connection applies if:

- An applicant currently lives in the district and has done so for at least two years
- An applicant has previously lived in the district for a continuous period of ten years
- An applicant has close family living in the district, who have done so for at least five years, e.g. children, parents, brothers and sisters only
- An applicant has employment in the district. Employment must be for a minimum period of 12 months, at least 16 hours per week, and the main place of work must be within the district

Residence in hospital, prison, residential schools, student accommodation (where it is not their principal home) and Approved Premises under licence do not gain a local connection.

The only exceptions to this are:

- Households accepted as homeless under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, to whom the council has accepted a full duty to house
- Members of the Armed Forces, former members of the Armed Forces who were serving at any time in the five years preceding their application for housing, and bereaved spouses or civil partners who can no longer live in Ministry of Defence accommodation following the death in service of their spouse or partner
- Social housing tenants in England that need to move into the district to take up an offer of employment under the Right to Move Regulations 2015