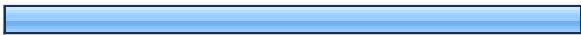



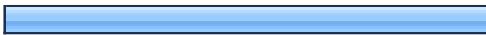

**1. GROUND FLOOR PROPERTY. At the moment, we allocate our ground floor property to the applicant in most housing need, whether they have any health or mobility issues or not. However, there are applicants who have health and mobility issues that would benefit from being in this kind of property. Would it be better to offer suitable ground floor property to applicants with health issues before anyone else?**

	Yes	No	Rating Count
The Council should offer suitable ground floor property to applicants with health issues before anyone else.	<b>93.1% (1,291)</b>	6.9% (96)	1,387
Please make any additional comments here			309
<b>answered question</b>			<b>1,387</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>25</b>

**2. AREAS OF CHOICE.** At the moment, when people are applying for housing, we ask them to select two areas within a main town to maximise their opportunity for housing. The Council no longer has housing in some villages and levels of council housing are low in other areas, particularly larger properties. We are proposing to remove these restrictions and allow an applicant to select as many or as few areas for housing as they wish. We will tell applicants about how many houses are available and what the turnover is like in their chosen areas in order that they can make an informed choice. We will review the areas of choice of applicants who have been given homeless priority after 12 months to make sure that they are getting as many opportunities for housing as possible. Do you feel that this is the right approach?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		93.2%	1,280
No		6.8%	93
Please make any additional comment here			200
<b>answered question</b>			<b>1,373</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>39</b>



**3. NUMBER OF OFFERS** The Council makes 'reasonable' offers of housing to the applicants assessed as being in most housing need. This an offer of the type of property the applicant has asked for in their chosen area. This property will be suitable for the size of their family and their assessed health needs. At the moment, because of the demand for council housing, the allocations policy limits the number of offers we make to any housing applicant. If the applicant refuses three reasonable offers of housing, their application is suspended for 12 months. However, as demand increases, we think that there is a need to limit the number of offers even further. Analysis shows us that on average an applicant receives 1.5 offers before they accept a property. So, we propose to make this change to the current policy: \* two reasonable offers to general needs/transfer applicants (if these offers are made and refused, the application will be suspended for 12 months). \* one reasonable offer to an applicant who has been given homeless priority (offers would then be based on the applicant's remaining level of housing need. If a subsequent offer is made and refused, the application would be suspended for 12 months). Do you feel that this is the right approach?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		78.1%	1,068
No		21.9%	300

Please make any additional comments here. 314

answered question	1,368
skipped question	44

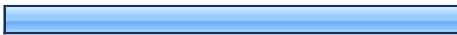

**4. OFFER ACCEPTANCE.** Currently, once an offer of housing has been made to an applicant, they are given three working days to respond to us and arrange to view the property - this timescale is not to accept or decline the offer but simply to arrange to view it. Exceptions can be made depending on the applicant's circumstances, for example, they may be in hospital and unable to respond to an offer. We do this to minimise the rent lost whilst the property is empty. Do you think this is reasonable amount of time to let us know whether the applicant would like to view the property?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.8%	1,096
No		20.2%	278

Please make any additional comments here. 330

<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,374</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>38</b>

**5. NEEDS FACTORS.** The Allocations Policy uses 'needs factors' to work out an applicant's priority for housing. Each needs factor has a points level attached to it. An applicant will receive a certain number of points for their various needs and housing circumstances. The Allocations Policy also includes the reasons for homelessness as defined by homelessness legislation as needs factors. Feedback tells us that the points we give to vulnerable applicants leaving prison, who have been risk assessed and need to be rehoused, are too high. Applicants in these circumstances are awarded 80 points. There are only few instances of these points being awarded since 2007 We are proposing to reduce the weighting/points given to this group so that they are given similar weight to people in the situation of having lost their private rented accommodation, which is 40 points. Do you agree with this proposal to award applicants leaving prison 40 points for housing needs?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		73.0%	988
No		27.0%	366

Please make any additional comments here. 387

answered question 1,354

skipped question 58

**6. REGISTERED SOCIAL HOUSING TENANTS.** East Lothian Council is talking to housing associations about the possibility of social housing tenants being treated as transfer applicants. This would increase mobility in the social housing sector. Do you agree with this approach. If you have answered no, please give your reasons.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		93.9%	1,224
No		6.1%	80

Please make any additional comments here. 156

answered question 1,304

skipped question 108

## 7. Your Comments:

	Response Count
	448
answered question	448
skipped question	964

## 8. Please tell us which of the groups below best describes you. This will allow us to provide information and advice to different interest groups.

	Client Group	Rating Count
Elected Member	100.0% (10)	10
Tenants & Residents Group member	100.0% (54)	54
Council Tenant	100.0% (788)	788
Other	100.0% (8)	8
Applicant for housing	100.0% (586)	586
	Please make any additional comments here	149
	answered question	1,357
	skipped question	55