

Summary of Common Allocations Policy relating to the consideration of applications by the Local Housing Panel for suspension into 'no preference band'

- Where a recoverable housing related debt to a Local Authority or Registered Social Landlord (RSL) is in existence, the applicant will have to make a minimum of thirteen (13) consecutive payments, at an agreed, affordable level, and repay a minimum of 25% of the debt before they will be considered for housing. This will only apply to debt over £500. Applicants will be placed in the '*No Preference band*' for either six (6) or twelve (12) months. The applicant will be referred back to Panel once this period ends for further consideration.
- Lump sum repayments of 25% or over will not apply unless the thirteen (13) week minimum period has been followed.
- Applicants with debts under £500 will be considered for housing immediately providing they are actively following and maintaining a repayment plan for thirteen (13) weeks.
- The Panel will also have the authority to place applicants in the 'no preference' band for periods of six (6) or twelve (12) months for unacceptable behaviour. They will be referred back to Panel once the period has elapsed for further consideration, based on their ability to demonstrate an improvement in behaviour.
- Until the aforementioned process(s) are complete, the applicant will be placed in the '*no preference*' band and will be unable to bid for any houses advertised through *Housing Choice*.