

Local Connection Criteria

- 1.0 The Applicant (or member of the applicant's household) must have lived within Torbay for 5 years.
- 2.0 Applicants who are not currently resident in the district/area but who can demonstrate a strong association to the local area will be able to qualify (e.g. through family association or employment). This is defined as:
 - 2.1 Need to work in Devon. The Local Government Association guidelines define this as employment other than of a casual nature. For the purposes of this policy this will be defined as having had permanent work with a minimum of 16 hour contract per week for the previous 6 months, and without a break in the period of employment for more than three months.
 - 2.2 Have family connections in Devon. The Local Government Association guidelines define this as immediate family members (Parents, siblings, and non-dependent children) who have themselves lived in the area for at least 5 years.
 - 2.3 Exceptions to the 5 year residency test will be:
 - a. Members of the armed forces and former service personnel, where the application is made within five years of discharge;
 - b. Bereaved spouses and civil partners of members of the armed forces leaving service family accommodation following the death of their spouse or partner;
 - c. Serving or former members of the reserve forces who need to move because of a serious injury, medical condition or disability sustained as a result of their service;
 - d. People who are assessed as being within the reasonable preference categories – Bands A, B, Emergency and High Housing Need as per the Devon Home Choice policy;
 - e. Applicants requiring sheltered Housing.