

Allocations size criteria

Current Policy

A couple and lone parents need one bedroom
Two children (whatever gender) under 10 years old can share a bedroom.
Two children (same gender) under 16 years old can share a bedroom (unless the age gap is over 10 years).
Two children of opposite gender where at least one is 10 years old or over need a bedroom each.
Each person over 16 years old needs their own bedroom
Expected babies are counted as a person from the six month of pregnancy.

The proposed rules allow 1 bedroom for:

every adult couple (married or unmarried)
any other adult aged 16 or over
any 2 children of the same sex aged under 16
any 2 children aged under 10
any other child (other than a foster child or child whose main home is elsewhere)
children who can't share because of a disability or medical condition
a carer (or team of carers) providing overnight care

One spare bedroom is allowed for:

- an approved foster carer who is between placements, but only for up to 52 weeks from the end of the last placement
- a newly approved foster carer for up to 52 weeks from the date of approval if no child is placed with them during that time

Rooms used by students and members of the armed or reserve forces will not be counted as 'spare' if they're away and intend to return home. In addition, you may be entitled to additional bedrooms if you have recently suffered a bereavement in the household.