

Housing Manager Report on the Selection of Londonderry Corporation Council Tenants

This file contains a one page report submitted by the Housing Manager to the Housing Sub-Committee of the Londonderry Corporation which met on 26 February 1953. It outlined the method by which houses were allocated.

The same report was reconsidered by the Housing Sub-Committee on 5 June 1958 and the method of selecting tenants was deemed to be satisfactory.

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A copy of the housing points scheme used by the Londonderry Corporation can be found at:

<http://analogical.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/points.pdf>

Dr Paul Kingsley

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To/
The Members of the Housing Sub-Committee

Gentlemen,

Report on Selection of Council Tenants

As instructed at last Meeting I submit this general report on method of selection of Council tenants.

Every salient feature of each case is recorded on application form, which gives details of applicant's family - sex, age, accommodation and other essential information. From the housing register, and information supplied by interview or correspondence, files are continually revised, and following investigation a "priority pool" is compiled of those cases which are considered to warrant priority. I should point out here that I endeavour to prevent undue weight being given to cases who constantly call at this Office, or contact members of the Council.

When houses become available for letting, from the "priority pool" I prepare a list of those applicants to whom, in my opinion, allocations can be justified. In drawing up such list regard has to be given to number of bedrooms contained in the dwellings available. Whilst "points" awarded in accordance with scheme approved by Corporation are the guiding factor, (a most necessary piece of administrative machinery), consideration is given to other aspects, VIZ., number of children in family, sex, age - length of time on waiting list - period of residence in City, and most important factor - housing need. The prepared list is then discussed at length by Mayor and Housing Manager and selections agreed.

Since my appointment I have enquired from Officers in other Local Authorities as to their methods of allocating houses. I remain convinced that no scheme, however devised, will give satisfaction to those who still await rehousing. I feel that the success of any method must be judged by the extent to which it ensures that the applicants selected are those in the greatest need of a house.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Signed: D. A. S. MURPHY

HOUSING MANAGER

Dated this 25th day of February, 1953.