

Points Schemes Compared

This file contains a table comparing the points schemes used by the Londonderry County Borough Council (Londonderry Corporation), the Northern Ireland Housing Trust, and the Belfast County Borough Council (Belfast Corporation) to allocate council houses from 1946 until the end of the 1960s. They are very similar. The Housing Trust built many houses at the request of the Londonderry Corporation and was responsible for their allocation. In view of the similarity of the points schemes which the Housing Trust and the Corporations used, it is not reasonable to single out one of them for undue criticism, or to suggest that the Belfast Corporation points scheme was in some way significantly better than that used in Londonderry.

The full points schemes are available as follows:

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

Northern Ireland Housing Trust http://analogical.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/NIHT_Points.pdf

Belfast Corporation http://analogical.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Belfast_Corporation_Points.pdf

Just a note about the Overcrowding section of the points schemes. Terms such as “number of rooms required” and “minimum standard” are used. They refer to the number of rooms required by families of various sizes according to regulations made under Northern Ireland’s Housing Act 1945. These regulations are explained in the first page of Londonderry Corporation’s points scheme (see link above).

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Comparison of Londonderry Corporation, NIHT and Belfast Corporation Points Schemes

	Londonderry Corporation	NI Housing Trust	Belfast Corporation
Service in HM forces	Max 6 points	Max 4 points	Max 4 points
Permanent disablement due to war service	None	1 point	None
Loss of home by enemy action	1-4 points	None	Max 4 points
Overcrowding	Points = number of rooms required minus number of rooms occupied and add 50%	Points = number of rooms required minus number of rooms occupied and multiply by 2	Points = minimum standard minus rooms actually occupied and add 50%
Size of family	Each adult = 1 point; each child under 10 = half a point	Families sharing a house = 2 points; each child up to 16 years of age = 1 point	Each child in excess of two under 16 years = 1 point, max 3 points
Tuberculosis	Each person living at home confirmed case = 2 points; each suspected case undergoing treatment = 1 point. Max 4 points per family	Each person of applicant's family living at home - confirmed case = 2 points	Each person living at home confirmed case = 2 points; each suspected case undergoing treatment = 1 point. Max 4 points per family.
Person with prolonged disease or impairment	None	1 point	None

	Londonderry Corporation	NI Housing Trust	Belfast Corporation
Poor conditions	Insanitary conditions = max of 3 points; house unfit for human habitation = 4 points	No WC = 1 point; WC common to 2 or more tenants = 1 point; deficient ventilation or lighting = 1 point; excessive dampness = 1 point; no water supply inside house = 1 point	WC common to more than two families = 1 point
Evacuation	No guidance	No guidance	Evacuation in consequence of war conditions and living outside City of Belfast = 2 points
Discretionary points	None	None	Max 5 points
If equal points	Date of first application	No guidance	Date of application