

Cheshire West & Chester Council
West Cheshire Homes

Advice on No Recourse to Public Funds



Introduction

Did you know that those people who are classed as having no recourse to public funds are unable to join the housing register?

This brief guide aims to give an overview of what is meant by no recourse to public funds (NRPF) and what practical help is available to individuals who have been given this classification.

Joining the housing register

Everyone can apply to join the register but there are some groups of people who, by law, cannot join the register regardless of their housing need or circumstances.

These are people who:

- 1) Come under the Government's persons from abroad eligibility rules and cannot lawfully be given housing help;
- 2) Do not live habitually in the Common Travel Area (UK, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland) for tax purposes and finally;
- 3) Do not have the right to live in the UK.

What does this mean?

To clarify, the Council cannot allocate a tenancy or nominate you for housing if you are a person who is:

- Ineligible for an allocation of housing accommodation by virtue of being subject to immigration control or
- prescribed as ineligible and as such shall not be allocated housing accommodation under Section 160ZA (1), (2) and 4).

The relevant regulations that the Council applies are:

- 1) Regulations 3 and 4 Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Eligibility) (England) Regulations 2006, SI 2006/1294
- 2) All subsequent amendments including The Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Eligibility) (England) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/861).

Do you need further support and advice?

The rules are complicated and anyone who is impacted or believes they may be impacted by these rules can speak to a member of our team via the email address below:

westcheshirehomes@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

You may also wish to seek independent legal advice by contacting Citizens Advice as follows:

<https://www.citizensadvicecw.org.uk/>

Telephone: 0344 576 6111

The website below can give you specific advice on accessing welfare benefits:

<https://www.unity-project.org.uk>