

APPENDIX III

Arguments for and against a point system and a banding system

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible • Rewards those in the highest need • Rewards those with a local connection • Tried and tested system at UDC • Able to give discretionary points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people have been unhappy with how many points they've been given and have asked us to review their case, and some have changed their circumstances to get more points • gives a perverse incentive to applicants to become homeless as a way of being re-housed more quickly • Only households with very high points have a realistic chance of successfully bidding for long-term housing • It isn't clear to those with fewer points how likely they are to bid successfully for a home because their points are still 'high'. This has caused unrealistic expectations • When someone applies for housing, they are awarded points and will be added to the housing register above people with fewer points, even if the point difference is just one • People in very similar circumstances may be awarded different amounts of points • Applicants constantly 'chase' additional points in order to improve their priority rating • Variable • Discretionary [points open to challenge • Difficult to administer
BANDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More transparent for applicants and the wider public to see how social housing is allocated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person at the top of the list may not necessarily be the one in the most need • Not open to discretionary

Allocations Policy

Item 8 Appendix 3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prevents people from 'chasing' points• Easier for applicants to understand• Easier to administer• Makes applicants who have been on the Housing Register for an extended period of time a higher priority• Recognises that local people should be a priority• sensitive to the different levels of need that exist across the district• Static• No incentive for people making themselves homeless• Makes better use of existing stock by prioritising in a higher band those who are under-occupying• Not open to discretionary points	points
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