Eligibility Policy - Social Housing (QLD)

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the eligibility rules for social housing in Queensland.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all HOME in PLACE (Queensland) Limited (HOME in PLACE QLD) social housing tenants and applicants for housing.

3. Policy Statement

HOME in PLACE QLD provides social housing to vulnerable people who are not able to access and sustain housing in the private market. As a registered Community Housing Provider, HOME in PLACE QLD must apply the Social Housing Eligibility criteria.

Eligibility

In accordance with the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy's (Queensland Government) social housing eligibility criteria, an applicant for housing assistance needs to either be:

- An Australian citizen;
- A permanent resident of Australia;
- Have a Permanent Protection Visa or a Resolution of Status Visa;
- Qualify for permanent residency status through agreements between Australis and another country;
- Have a Bridging Visa and have applied for a Protection Visa or A Resolution of Status Visa; and
- On a Bridging Visa if you previously held a Temporary Protection Visa which has expired.

(If an applicant has applied for permanent residency, Permanent Protection Visa or a Resolution of Status Visa, but is not yet a permanent resident, they may apply for social housing.)

Applicants must also:

- Reside in Queensland (an exception may apply if the applicant lives in another state or territory and can provide evidence that they are moving to Queensland);
- The applicant or other household members must not own or part own property in Australia or overseas; and
- Meet the assets, independent income and household income limits.

Information about asset and income limits can be found at www.qld.gov.au/housing

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Applicants will need to provide information about their current housing situation and why it does not meet their household's needs, they will also need to demonstrate why they are unable to independently access and sustain stable housing.

Need to move reasons may include:

- Being homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Unsuitable location of current housing
- Physical amenity of current housing does not meet the household needs
- Current rent is unaffordable.

Complex wellbeing factors may include:

- Being long term unemployed or experiencing periods of unemployment, being unable to work with high living expenses, or being employed and earning within the income eligibility limits for the household
- Currently experiencing homelessness or have a history of being homeless on at least one other occasion within the last 3 years
- Have had a tenancy that ended due to being evicted two or more times in the last 3 years, and/or
- Have had multiple unsuccessful private rental applications, and/or
- There is no supply of appropriate housing in the private rental market

Ongoing Eligibility Criteria

Once housed, tenants must continue to meet the ongoing eligibility criteria which includes:

- Housing income limits
- Property ownership
- Household need and match to property

Review of Decisions

If a tenant or applicant is dissatisfied with a decision about their application for housing, they should first discuss this with staff at HOME in PLACE.

4. Definitions and Acronyms Glossary

For clarification of any definitions or acronyms contained within this document, please click on the Glossary for information.

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