

Annex 3 - Selection Criteria for Prospective Tenants

1. Applicants will not be discriminated against on the grounds of; age, gender (including gender reassignment), sexual orientation, religion and belief, ethnicity, marital status, disability, pregnancy and maternity.
2. Measures will be taken to ensure applications from the armed forces community will not suffer disadvantage when being considered as prospective tenants.
3. In the case of holdings where farming is the main activity, applicants should be able to fulfil the minimum statutory requirement, i.e. 5 years' full-time practical farm work which may include up to 3 years attendance at a full-time course in agriculture.
4. Where the holding is small and the main enterprise proposed is non-agricultural, the applicant should be able to show sufficient experience in the proposed enterprise.
5. Preference may be given to prospective tenants who are able to show satisfactory evidence of some formal agricultural training.
6. Prospective tenants will be expected to provide documentary evidence of sufficient working capital to run the holding and, where their own resources are inadequate, will be expected to make their own arrangements to make up any shortfall.
7. No undue preference will be given to applicants resident in the County at the date of submission of an application and the Council shall reserve the right to select an applicant irrespective of their present place of residence.
8. Whilst due regard will be had for the level of rental offers submitted, the Council shall reserve the right not to accept the highest or any offer made.
9. Prospective tenants will be expected to indicate their commitment to progressing from the County Farm system during the currency of their occupation of the holding.
10. Applications from persons who are already established farmers in their own right and who intend to run the County Farm as an extension to their existing business, will not be considered.
11. No application will be entertained from applicants who are already in occupation of a holding unless a written commitment is given that their interest in that holding will be surrendered upon taking up occupation of the subject holding, unless it is in the interest of the Council.
12. The rent payment record of existing tenants will be taken into account when and if they apply for another holding on the Estate.
13. Applicants who can demonstrate direct employment generation potential from their proposed business enterprise will have an enhanced likelihood of success.