



**Dalmuir Park Housing Association**  
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## A Guide to Medical Priority

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We are committed to equality and diversity, valuing people's differences and aim to provide a service to all of our customers. We are happy to make any of our information available in other formats and languages. If you need this information in Braille, on audio tape, in large print or in a different language, please let us know. We will also be happy to arrange a sign or language interpreter on request. If you need any more help or advice, our staff will be happy to help.



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Housing Association



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### **Awarding medical priority points**

If your present home is unsuitable because you, or a member of your family, have a health problem, you can apply for medical points to assist your prospects of being rehoused to more suitable accommodation.

Medical points are only awarded when the applicant's present housing conditions are adversely affecting their health. For example if you have a mobility problem and are staying in a property above the ground floor or have a number of stairs to the entrance to your home.

People who are housed in accommodation that is suitable for their medical condition will not be awarded medical priority points.

### **How to apply for medical points**

If you think you may qualify for medical points you should approach the Association for an Application for Medical Points Form. In this form you should clearly state your medical condition and why your present house is affecting your health along with details of the medical condition. There is no need for your GP to complete the form although there may be some circumstances where it may assist our understanding of your medical condition to contact your GP or other health professional.

Completed forms should be returned to the Association. The form should be completed in full in order that your application can be assessed properly.

### **What happens when a medical application form has been submitted?**

The Housing Officer compares details of your present accommodation e.g. the size, design, location and condition of the house as well as the type of housing you are requesting.

The application form is then assessed by the Housing Services Manager who will make a judgement on whether your current property is unsuitable for your medical condition.

Should there be any queries about your form the Association may send it to a Medical Adviser, who will assist in determining whether medical points should be awarded. The Medical Adviser may sometimes contact your Family Doctor or Hospital Specialist for more information on your health problem.

The Association will then be notified of the outcome of the assessment and whether or not medical points have been awarded. We will normally let you know the outcome within 14 days of receipt of the form.

### **What happens when the medical points are awarded?**

Depending on the severity of your illness and your need for rehousing your medical application will be graded and the appropriate points, as shown below, will be awarded to your Housing Application.

A - 100 points                      B - 50 points

C - 25 points                        D - 0 points

Only in exceptional cases will an applicant be considered for housing other than on the ground floor.

### **What if I don't wish the type of housing that the doctor recommends?**

If an applicant refuses to comply with the Medical Adviser's recommendations with regard to the type of house to be offered this will result in any medical points being withdrawn. You will only be able to use your medical points to get accommodation which is medically suitable e.g. if the Medical Adviser recommends a ground floor flat. You will have the right to choose whether or not to use your medical points.

### **Can I apply for medical points to move closer to a relative with a medical problem?**

Medical points will not normally be awarded in these circumstances. It is the person with the health problem who should apply for medical points. We may however consider awarding points under "Relative in Need" rules.

### **How soon can I re-apply for medical points?**

You should only re-apply for medical points where there has been a material change in your circumstances or you feel you have good reason to be dissatisfied with your award of medical points.

If you are not satisfied with the Medical Adviser's decision, you can contact the Association in writing for a further explanation.

### **Are there any other circumstances where medical priority points will not be awarded?**

Medical priority points will not be awarded where:

- The application has been submitted because of problems with neighbours, overcrowding, or inability to keep a garden.
- The application is for a friend or relative to be rehoused near the applicant.
- The Medical Adviser is of the view that the applicant's medical condition is not serious or alternatively is serious, but is being unaffected by the applicant's present accommodation.

For further information please contact a member of the Housing Staff at our office.