

Appendix 1 – Oxfordshire Sub-Regional Banding Scheme (with differences identified)

Summary		Differences
Five Band Scheme		<i>OCC's is a Six Band Scheme</i>
Priority by Band (1 to 5)		<i>Priority by Band (A to F)</i>
Priority within Bands is by Registration Date		<i>Priority within Bands is by Effective Date – see Additional Notes</i>

Band 1		Differences
Exceptional cases	Any applicant awarded an exceptional (band 1) category by the agreed sub-regional protocol ('life and limb' cases; multiple composite need cases, 'place of safety' homeless cases and other exceptional cases)	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Under occupation by 2 or more rooms	Any social housing tenant applicants giving up family accommodation with 2 or more bedrooms in excess of their housing requirements	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Statutory overcrowding	Any application from a household that has been declared Statutorily Overcrowded in their current accommodation	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Prohibition or demolition order	Any application from a household where a statutory notice such as Prohibition Order or Demolition Order have been made by Environmental Health	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
<i>Overall, Sub-Regional Band 1 is the same as Oxford City Council's Band A, but with no provision for Successors or Decants (it is not the purpose of the sub-regional scheme to assist with these issues)</i>		

Band 2		Differences
Health /Disability award	Any applicant awarded a band 2 health/disability category by the agreed sub-regional protocol	<i>Same as for OCC (re Band B - HAHA)</i>
Additional Priority award	Any applicant awarded a band 2 priority award by the agreed sub-regional protocol (serious harassment cases, multiple composite needs cases not otherwise addressed through the banding system and any other urgent cases)	<i>Same as for OCC (re Band B ECP)</i>
Overcrowded 2 or more bedrooms short	Applicants that are two or more bedrooms short of their accommodation requirements as assessed through the originating Council's assessment criteria	<i>Same as for OCC</i>

Under occupation by 1 room	Any social housing tenant applicants giving up family accommodation with 1 bedroom in excess of their housing requirements	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Compound needs	Any applicant who meets 2 or more categories in Band 3	<i>Same principle as used in OCC's policy</i>
<i>Overall, Sub-Regional Band 2 is the same as Oxford City Council's Band B, but with no provision for Move-on's or Commitment to Re-house (it is not the purpose of the sub-regional scheme to assist with these issues)</i>		

Band 3		Differences
Health /Disability award	Any applicant awarded a band 3 health/disability category by the agreed sub-regional protocol	<i>Equivalent to OCC's Band D - HAAHA award</i>
Additional Priority award	Any applicant awarded a band 3 priority award for special welfare or hardship needs through the agreed sub-regional protocol (harassment cases, high priority cases, welfare and hardship cases, multiple composite need cases not otherwise addressed through the scheme)	<i>Same as for OCC (Band C - ECP award)</i>
Statutory homeless in temporary accommodation	Applicants to whom the originating district has accepted a statutory homeless duty and placed in temporary accommodation	<i>Same as for OCC (Band C - Homeless)</i>
Insecure Tenancies	Applicants whose private rented sector landlord has commenced court possession proceedings against them	<i>Equivalent to OCC's Band E – Insecure/Possession</i>
Tied accommodation	Applicants who are in tied accommodation relating to their employment (this can include service personnel), and who have received formal notice of termination of their employment and tenancy	<i>New criteria (for Sub-Regional only) – No priority in OCC's policy</i>
Unsatisfactory housing/ Lacking facilities	Applicants living in accommodation that the Environmental Health department has assessed under the HHSRS and is deemed to have a category 1 hazard where the most satisfactory course of action is the service of an Improvement Notice, or Applicants that lack either a bath/ shower, a toilet, cooking facilities, running hot water supplies, electric/gas, or adequate heating	<i>Same as for OCC (Band C)</i>
Compound needs	Any applicant who meets more than one category in Band 4	<i>Same principle as used in OCC's policy</i>

<p><i>Overall, Sub-Regional Band 3 is the same as Oxford City Council's Band C but with Insecure Tenancies (from Band E); Health (from Band D) and Tied Accommodation (new criteria) added</i></p>		
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Band 4		Differences
Health /Disability award	Any applicant awarded a band 4 health/disability category by the agreed sub-regional protocol	<i>Same as for OCC (Band E - HAAH award)</i>
Additional Priority award	Any applicants awarded a band 4 priority welfare award by the agreed sub-regional protocol	<i>Same as for OCC (Band D - ECP award or Band E – ECP award)</i>
Homeless (non statutory)	Applicants who are deemed to be homeless, but to whom the originating Council has not accepted a full homeless duty	<i>Same as for OCC (Band D – Homeless/ NFA)</i>
Overcrowded – 1 Room Short	Applicants that are one bedroom short of their accommodation requirements as assessed through the originating Council's assessment criteria	<i>Same as for OCC (Band D – Overcrowding)</i>
<p><i>Overall, Sub-Regional Band 4 is similar to Oxford City Council's Bands D & E combined, but no provision is made for Unsatisfactory Housing (Minor); Lacking Facilities (Minor); Gender Overcrowding; or Children at Height (Band E). Insecure Tenancies and Band D Health have been dealt with in a higher Sub-Regional Band</i></p>		

Band 5		Differences
Adequately housed	Applicants who are adequately housed	<i>Implied in OCC's lowest Band – Band F</i>
Sufficient financial resources	Applicants who have sufficient financial resources to secure alternative accommodation	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Nil priority	Applicants who do not fall into the above bands or who have been given a "nil priority award	<i>Same as for OCC – see below</i>
<p><i>Overall, the approach used for Sub-Regional Band 5 is the same as Oxford City Council's Band F – i.e. Nil Priority or not falling into a higher band – albeit the other bands being calculated differently in the sub-regional scheme</i></p>		

Additional Guidance		Differences
Time Limited Priority	In certain cases, placement in a band will be time limited. For example: the Exceptional Circumstances awarding body may decide to extend an award for a limited period. In all cases the applicant will be given a reasonable amount of time to bid for alternative accommodation, though the length of time will depend on the availability of accommodation needed by the applicant	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Change Of Circumstances	If a applicant is moved into a different priority group due to a change in circumstances, their application will retain its registration date	<i>The OCC policy is more refined, in that it uses an 'effective date'. Applicants moving up a band will be given the date of the new need as this date, instead of their original registration date</i>
Additional Priority Awards	An award based on exceptional circumstances/ welfare cannot be compounded with another need to qualify for higher band as the award already takes all the applicant's circumstances into account	<i>Same as for OCC</i>
Local Connection (General Needs)	Priority will be given to applications from the other sub-regional districts over applications from the district which has the void	<i>This is proposed in order to ensure that there is an emphasis of helping sub-regional mobility for those property allocations</i>
Local Connection (Sheltered & Disabled Adapted)	Applicants that have a local connection to that district will be prioritised over those that do not	<i>This is different to the approach taken for general needs, as 100% of this stock is to be allocated through this method</i> <i>Effectively the same approach as currently used by OCC for allocations</i>