



# Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

# Choice Based Lettings

## A new way to find an affordable home

During March, we will be bringing in a new way to apply for and find affordable housing within the Borough. If you are already on the Council's Housing Register, then you should have already received some details and a new form to complete.

With choice based lettings, it will be for you to decide which empty properties you want to be considered for – we will then offer it to the person or family who has the most pressing needs.

## Here is how it works ...

### Step 1 – Register to join the scheme

You can do this by contacting the Council and asking for an application form. You can also apply on-line – [www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk](http://www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk). If you are already on the Council's Housing Register, then you should have had a new form – please return this if you have not already done so.

### Step 2 – Finding out which properties are available

Every fortnight, we will advertise details of the properties that we have available for letting. These will be on our website and in a newsletter, which is available at our offices, customer services centres and libraries. Some properties may only be open to certain people (for example, bungalows are normally reserved for older people without children).

### Step 3 – Making a bid

This is all about letting us know which property you want to be considered for. It is not making a bid for money – just registering your interest. You can make bids on-line, by phone or by text. You will get to know straight away where your bid sits in the queue. Before the fortnightly closing date, you can always change any bid you have made.

### Step 4 – Deciding who should have the property

With more people applying for homes that we have available, we have to decide who has the most urgent need to move. We do this by putting every application into one of four 'bands'. These range from a low band (where there is no urgent need to move) through to the priority band, (for example, families who are homeless). We then put all applications into date order within each band. A property will be offered to the bidder who is in the highest band and has been waiting the longest. We will also give priority to people who have a local connection to the Borough

### Step 5 – Getting feedback

Every fortnight, we will publish details of the band and the length of time spent waiting for people who have been successful (but not the name or any personal details). From this, you will be able to get a better idea of the likelihood of being successful when you bid again.

**This is only a quick summary of how the new system will work. For further details, please call into any of our customer service centres or telephone 0116 2572 609. You can also look on-line – [www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk](http://www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk)**