

NOTES TO HELP YOU

We must be able to answer 'Yes' to ALL of the following questions before we can offer housing under the Homelessness Legislation. We are required to look at each question in order from 1 to 4 and if the answer to any of them is 'No', any questions that follow will not be answered. The questions are:

1. Are You Homeless?

You are homeless if there is no accommodation in which you are legally entitled to live OR if it is not reasonable for you to continue to live in your present accommodation.

Examples are:

- 1 You have lived in accommodation tied to your work and you no longer work for that employer. (Farm workers can find themselves in this situation)
- 2 You have been in privately rented accommodation and your landlord has taken the correct legal steps to end the tenancy.

2. Are You Unintentionally Homeless?

This means that you have become homeless through no fault of your own.

If you have taken any action, such as not paying rent, and that has resulted in you becoming homeless, then the reasons for this will have been investigated.

This may mean that we could not answer 'Yes' to Question 2.

3. Do You Have A Local Connection with East Lothian?

A Local Connection means that you have normally lived in the district for 6 months out of the last 12 months, or 3 years out of the last 5 years OR that you have close family (parents, sons, daughters, brothers or sisters) living in East Lothian and they have lived there for a period of 5 years.

(There may be special circumstances where you have no local connection with any authority. In that case East Lothian Council may accept you).

N.B. Any authority providing housing under the Homelessness Legislation has to be satisfied that you are not at risk of violence in the area. In that event, restrictions may have to be put on the area chosen for housing.

Help us to help you by giving us as much information as possible about these questions