



GPI POLICY – COUNCIL HOUSING

Rationale

Providing short or long-term government built and funded Council Housing enables the GPI to ensure its community has access to adequate housing at all times, particularly in times of financial stress or domestic emergency. The GPI currently has a stock of 1 Council House.

Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to provide best practice allocation and review of GPI Council Housing on Pitcairn.

Property Details

The property is built on government allocated land in Adamstown. The building is a basic two-bedroom house which includes a kitchen, lounge, bathroom, an additional small room, gas heated hot water, accessibility for wheelchairs, and adaptations in bathroom/toilet to support elderly or disabled residents. The property and surrounding land can be maintained independently or via the Pitcairn Island Public Service. The property is fully furnished.

Criteria for Admission & Tenancy

Any person requiring Council Housing is required to complete a Council Housing application form (Annex A) and submit it to DM Community Development. The DM Community Development will meet with the applicant to discuss options and call a Housing Committee (see below) Meeting.

Applicants are free to have a support person accompany them if required.

Tenants are required to sign a GPI Council Housing Tenancy Agreement (Annex B)

The criteria for access

1. To provide housing to an elderly person while their house is being adapted to assist their needs.
2. To provide housing to a person whose home has fire or storm damage and will need to be vacated during repair.
3. To provide housing to any such person whose home is deemed unfit for habitation/condemned until a time when a replacement home is sourced.
4. To provide housing to an islander requiring alternate accommodation due to domestic issues.

Date Policy last reviewed: 16th February 2022

Date Policy due for next review: July 2022



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5. To provide housing to an islander who suffers an injury and cannot live in their own home until they have recovered.
6. Consideration to other situations can be raised with the DM Community Development

Costs

Unless otherwise arranged with the Housing Committee, person/s living in GPI Council Housing are required to contribute 5% of their monthly income towards the running costs of the house. Tenants are responsible for their own power, telephone and internet charges.

Property Care and maintenance

The GPI is responsible for reasonable repairs and maintenance of the property. The Tenant is responsible for minor maintenance and day-to-day cleaning, if they are physically able to do so. The Tenant may be charged for the repair or replacement of fixtures or fittings if the Housing Committee deem it appropriate, for example due to negligence or deliberate damage by the Tenant.

Time Period

A Council House can be made available for an initial period of up to 6 months, with review. At the end of six months a review will be made and, if required the Housing Committee may grant an extension. A clear plan must be provided at this point outlining the long-term solution to the tenants housing needs.

Housing Committee

The Housing Committee will comprise the DM Community Development, the Family and Community Adviser, the Administrator and the Mayor.

Housing Committee meeting notes will be taken, shared with the applicant and filed accordingly.

Annex A Council Housing Application Form

Annex B Council House Tenancy Agreement

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