

If an applicant moves in with a council or housing association tenant and the property becomes overcrowded, the applicant can apply to the Housing Register in their own right. In such cases overcrowding priority may not be awarded and alternative housing options should be considered.

### **Family members who are not currently living with the applicant**

Anyone who is part of the immediate family can be included in the application, even if they do not currently live with the applicant:

- If members of immediate family live abroad, they can be included on the application, but the Council will not award priority for them until the family have the right to reside in the UK
- If members of the immediate family live elsewhere in the UK, they can be included on the application, but we encourage families to consider applying to be rehoused where they live, especially if the demand for housing is lower there
- Children of a shared residence order can only be included on one application, with the parent who is the main care provider. This means that the children live with the applicant for more than half the week (four nights or more). We will require evidence of this.
  - Any consideration of a larger home in the context of a shared residence order will also take account of affordability. Where the applicant claims welfare benefits, welfare benefit regulations enable only one of the parents, the designated 'main carer', to receive additional benefit for extra bedrooms required.

### **General Points**

If an applicant wishes to include people not in their immediate family on their housing application, they must explain on their application why it is necessary for them to live with the applicant. The applicant may also be required to provide evidence such as: a court order, benefit entitlement, a social services or occupational therapy assessment. If an applicant has not had a care assessment for a relative, we may require the applicant to arrange one. If the person coming to live with the applicant is moving from abroad, we will require evidence that they have recourse to public funds or a sufficient sponsorship undertaking in place.

If the applicant has priority for housing and assessed as requiring a one bedroom or studio home and have children who visit on a regular basis, they will be assessed as requiring a one-bedroom property rather than a studio.

Anyone included on the application must not have a legal interest in any other property. The applicant or any member of their household cannot be included on more than one live housing register application at any one time.